



MINUTES OF THE BLOOMINGTON  
LIQUOR COMMISSION MEETING  
April 9, 2019; 4:00 PM

**1. Call to Order.**

The meeting of the Liquor Commission was called to order by Commissioner Renner at 4:00 P.M.

**2. Roll Call.**

Present: Commissioners Tari Renner and Jim Jordan. Staff present: George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel; Asst. Police Chief Greg Scott; Ashley Lara, Legislative Assistant; and Leslie Yocum, Interim City Clerk.

**3. Public Comment.**

Commissioner Renner opened the meeting to receive public comment. There was no public comment offered.

**4. Consideration of approving the Liquor Commission minutes of February 12, 2019 and March 12, 2019.**

Commissioner Jordan made the motion for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Renner.

**Ayes: Commissioners Jordan and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion Carried.**

**5. Public Hearing on the Change of Ownership Application of Snyder Brickyard Hotel LLC d/b/a Doubletree Hotel & Conference Ctr., located at 10 Brickyard Drive, currently holding a Class RAS liquor license, which allows the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.**

No one attended the meeting to speak on behalf of the Company.

The LLC is owned 100% by Snyder Properties Trust. One of the three members of the Trust, Steve Snyder, has elected to retire. The remaining two long-time members, David Fedor and Chares Farner have acquired his interest; each will have 50% interest in the Trust. No operational changes are planned.

Commissioner Renner approved the item without a motion.

**6. Public Hearing on the Change of Ownership Application of Eastland Suites - Bloomington, LLC d/b/a Eastland Suites, located at 1801 Eastland Drive, currently holding a Class RAS**

liquor license, which allows the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.

No one attended the meeting to speak on behalf of the Company.

The LLC is owned 100% by Snyder Properties Trust. One of the three members of the Trust, Steve Snyder, has elected to retire. The remaining two long-time members, David Fedor and Chares Farner have acquired his interest; each will have 50% interest in the Trust. No operational changes are planned.

Commissioner Renner approved the item without a motion.

7. Public Hearing on the Change of Ownership Application of Gill Street Group LLC d/b/a Gill St Sports Bar & Restaurant, located at 3002 Gill St Bldg. B, currently holding a Class RAS liquor license, which allows the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.

Scott Brown, representative of Gil Street Group, LLC, spoke on behalf of the item.

Ownership remains the same, except one owner has been removed and the percentages of the remaining three owners has shifted. There will be no operational changes.

Commissioner Renner approved the item without a motion.

8. Public Hearing on the request by the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University d/b/a Illinois Shakespeare Festival, whose event will be held at the Ewing Cultural Center, located at 48 Sunset Rd., requesting a Class LB liquor license, which allows the sale of beer and wine by the glass for consumption on the premises on the date of the event.

Molly Briggs and Janet Wilson, representatives of the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, spoke on behalf of the item.

Ms. Wilson stated the Festival is on its 42<sup>nd</sup> season.

There are no concerns from police.

Mr. Boyle stated this is a Class L license based on it being a civic/charitable organization. Legal has not had any issues that would be problematic.

**Commissioner Jordan made the motion for approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Renner.**

**Ayes: Commissioners Jordan and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion Carried.**

- Public Hearing on the request by the Bloomington-Normal Jaycees, whose event will be held at Miller Park Zoo, located at 1020 S. Morris Ave., requesting a Class LB liquor license, which allows the sale of beer and wine by the glass for consumption on the premises on the date of the event.

Megan Bruner, representative of the Bloomington-Normal Jaycees, spoke on behalf of the item. Ms. Bruner stated this is the fourth year of the event and they are expecting a high attendance this year.

Police and Legal have no concerns.

**Commissioner Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Renner to approve the item.**

**Ayes: Commissioners Jordan and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion carried.**

- Public Hearing on the application of Seoul Mama, INC d/b/a Seoul Mama, located at 2103 N. Veteran's Parkway, requesting a Class RBS liquor license, which would allow the sale of beer and wine by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.

Ji-Eun Park and Yongau Lee, representatives of the establishment, spoke on behalf of the item.

Ms. Park stated all employees who will be serving alcohol will be BASSET Certified.

There are no concerns from police.

Ms. Park stated some servers have prior experience working in an establishment with alcohol.

**Commissioner Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Renner to approve the item.**

**Ayes: Commissioners Jordan and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion carried.**

- Consideration of the Request from WGLT for Suspension of Portions of Chapter 6 of the Bloomington City Code Prohibiting Possession of Open Alcohol in Public for an Outdoor Summer Concert on Saturday, June 8, from 3 P.M. to 10 P.M. The request will Close Center St. from Washington St. to the alleyway before Monroe St., and Jefferson St. from Main St. to the alley after the Illinois House, and Main St. from Washington to Jefferson.

Melissa Libert, representative of the WGLT Festival, attended the meeting to speak on behalf of the item. This is an event that has been held in Downtown Bloomington for several years. No significant changes are planned. The beer and wine will be sold by Maguire's on a secondary license. There may also be sales by Nightshop on a secondary license.

Assistant Chief Scott stated there are no concerns from police.

**Commissioner Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Renner to approve the item.**

**Ayes: Commissioners Jordan and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion carried.**

12. Consideration of the Request Of Ortiz, Norma d/b/a Tony's Tacos Downtown for Suspension of Portions of Chapter 6 of the Bloomington City Code Prohibiting Possession of Open Alcohol in Public for its Cinco De Mayo event on Saturday, May 4, 2019 from 1:00 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. The request will close of the first two parking spots on Front Street, past the Main and Front Street intersection in front of 105 W. Front Street.

Jerry DePaz, representative of Tony's Tacos Downtown, attended the meeting to speak on behalf of the item. Mr. DePaz stated the closure of the two parking spaces is for overflow of patrons within the establishment.

Asst. Police Chief Greg Scott stated the only concerns police have is that the parking spaces are well marked off to keep customers away from traffic. Mr. DePaz stated this would be done.

Commissioner Jordan clarified there should be a clearly marked entrance and exit where IDs will be checked as people come in and out. Mr. DePaz stated this would also be done.

**Commissioner Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Renner to approve the item.**

**Ayes: Commissioners Jordan and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion carried.**

13. First appearance for Violation Citation of TwoStep, Inc., Inc., d/b/a Elroy's, 102 W. Washington Street, for violating Section 27(b) of Chapter 6 of the Bloomington City Code prohibiting any person under the age of 21 years of age to be or remain in the portion of any licensed premises where alcoholic liquor is drawn, poured, mixed or otherwise served

for consumption on the premises and for violating Section 26(a) of Chapter 6 of the Bloomington City Code prohibiting the sale of alcohol to a minor.

Mr. Boyle stated there have been preliminary discussions and agreements made and will hopefully come to a resolution. In the event a resolution is not made, this item will appear on the May 14, 2019 Liquor Commission Meeting at 4 PM.

**Commissioner Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Renner to table this item to the next meeting.**

**Ayes: Commissioners Jordan and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion carried.**

14. First appearance for Violation Citation of Europe, Inc., Inc., d/b/a Chasers, 110 W. Washington Street, for violating Section 27(b) of Chapter 6 of the Bloomington City Code prohibiting any person under the age of 21 years of age to be or remain in the portion of any licensed premises where alcoholic liquor is drawn, poured, mixed or otherwise served for consumption on the premises.

Mr. Boyle stated there have been preliminary discussions and agreements made and will hopefully come to a resolution. In the event a resolution is not made, this item will appear on the May 14, 2019 Liquor Commission Meeting at 4 PM.

**Commissioner Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Renner to table this item to the next meeting.**

**Ayes: Commissioners Jordan and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

**Motion carried.**

15. Consideration of recommending to the City Council an Ordinance amending Chapter 6 of the Bloomington City Code to alleviate quarterly billing and update license expiration language.

Commissioner Renner clarified the wording on the agenda is meaning to *eliminate* quarterly billing and not *alleviate*. Ms. Yocum agreed.

Ms. Yocum stated there was discussion regarding the Town of Normal and their process of quarterly billing. They do not offer quarterly billing; they offer semi-annual and annual only. Because of this, it will not push us out of the market.

Eliminating quarterly billing will free up staff resource time. We currently have 56 license holders who utilize quarterly billing. There are about 200 license holders total, so quarterly takes up about 25-30%.

We are not looking to change semi-annual and annual. We are only looking to eliminate quarterly billing.

Commissioner Renner asked how the changes would take effect billing cycles and amounts. Mr. Boyle stated that quarterly billing is the annual license fee divided by four and for semi-annual it is divided by two.

Ms. Yocum stated there is a lot of staff resources that go into billing and processing on the license holder side. Currently, timing is very important because it would allow us to move to semi-annual this year. Otherwise, the changes would take effect next year.

Commissioner Renner asked when the change would be effective because there is concern about notice.

Ms. Yocum stated the City Clerk Department no longer accepts payments in office. The Water Cashier counter accepts payments of credit cards, which could provide additional financing options if needed.

Mr. Boyle stated the current wording is confusing to business owners as to when payments are due and with grace period between an expiration date and when the license is invalid. The confusing language is cleared up with the proposed changes.

Ms. Yocum stated the ordinance also ends licenses on the day of expiration at midnight. There is currently ambiguity that the license would run 5 days or however long after it actually expires.

**Commissioner Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Renner to recommend this item to the City Council and to eliminate quarterly billing.**

**Ayes: Commissioners Jordan and Renner.**

**Nays: None.**

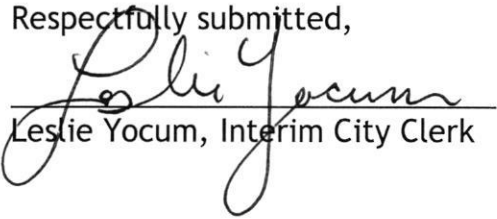
**Motion carried.**

**16. Adjourn.**

**Commissioner Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Renner to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.**

**Motion carried. (Viva Voce)**

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Leslie Yocum, Interim City Clerk