

City of Milwaukee

City Hall 200 East Wells Street Milwaukee, WI 53202

Meeting Minutes

LICENSES COMMITTEE

ALD. JOCASTA ZAMARRIPA, CHAIR
Ald. Lamont Westmoreland, VICE-CHAIR
Ald. Scott P. Spiker, Ald. Andrea M. Pratt, and Ald. Peter
Burgelis

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Friday, July 12, 2024

9:00 AM

Room 301-B, Third Floor, City Hall

Special

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am

Present 6 - Zamarripa, Spiker, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, Jackson

Excused 1 - Westmoreland

1. <u>240408</u>

Motion relating to the recommendations of the Licenses Committee relating to licenses.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

PATRICK, Tyrone, Agent for "TIES HOME IMPROVEMENT LLC", Home Improvement Contractor's License Application for "TIES HOME IMPROVEMENT" at 3756 N 13TH St.

The applicant was present.

Individuals also present:

Mr. Cooney said that the License Division received the letter from DOC stating that the license will not be in violation of his probation.

Ald. Jackson asked how he is going to be working without a driver's license.

The applicant said that he has a couple nephews driving him around and that he is working towards getting the occupational driver's license.

Ald. Zamarripa asked about the battery charges and citations related.

The applicant said that he filed a restriction order against a woman that he was dating and those charges were result of a retaliation from her and that he has paid the citations.

Ald. Burgelis moved approval with a warning letter based on the police report. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. BURGELIS that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Spiker, Pratt, Burgelis, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Moore

02 PATEL, Viral, Agent for "Sri Adya LLC", Class A Malt & Class A Liquor License Application for "Silver Spring Sentry" at 6350 W SILVER SPRING DR.

The applicant was present and said that he is operating a food license at this establishment.

There were no neighbors present to testify.

Individuals also present:

Ald. Spiker asked how the applicant would stay away from trouble after the OWI citation on the police report and selling alcohol.

The applicant said that he has taken all the steps and that he has not had any issues since then.

Ald. Burgelis asked if the surveillance cameras are working now.

The applicant said that they are working and that MPD has hooked them up.

Ald. Chambers said that he has met with the applicant and that there is an agreement about 2 beer coolers been replaced for perishable foods.

Mr. Cooney confirmed that the change on the floor plan and operations has been filed. There were no neighbors present to testify.

Ald. Chambers said that he has no objections.

Ald. Pratt moved approval. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. A. PRATT that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Spiker, Pratt, Burgelis, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Moore

08 RIVERA, William, Agent for "LA PICA #3, LLC", Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises License Renewal Applications Adding Bands and Battle of the Bands as Types of Entertainment for "LA PICA CARR 3 BAR & HALL" at 3427-31 W LINCOLN Av. (Expires 7/29/2024)

The applicant was present and said that when the shooting went off, he had his jukebox on and could not hear a thing. He added that he offered MPD to check the surveillance system. He also said that he tries to do his best, that he always cooperates and that he is not doing any changes to the license.

There were no neighbors present to testify.

Individuals also present:

Ald. Pratt said that the application reflects changes.

The applicant said that he wants to leave the license the way it is.

Ald. Jackson moved removal of the bands and battle of the bands request from the application. There were no objections.

There were no neighbors present to testify.

Ald. Zamarripa asked the applicant to keep an eye on the garbage on the back that it has been reported by the neighbors and to keep a successful business as he has done it over the years.

Ald. Zamarripa moved approval as amended. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. ZAMARRIPA that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Ave 5 - Zamarripa, Spiker, Pratt, Burgelis, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Moore

08 MUSTAFA, Aseel, Agent for "Ice Cream & More LLC", Food Dealer License Application for "Ice Cream & More" at 2134 W National Av.

The applicant was not present.

There were no neighbors present to testify.

Ald. Burgelis moved denial based on the fact that the application was amended with a transfer of stocks and change of agent after it was denied administratively and that the applicant chose not to be here. He added that this application is not worthy the committee's time and that the applicant can file a new and clean application again. Ald. Spiker moved to hold the application to the call of the chair just to be consistent with being the first nonappearance. (Prevailed 3-2)

A motion was made by ALD. SPIKER that this Motion be HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 3 - Spiker, Pratt, and Jackson

No 2 - Zamarripa, and Burgelis

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Moore

01 JABBAR, Nael N, Agent for "HOT SPOT SUPERMARKET, LLC", Class A Malt & Class A Liquor and Food Dealer License Renewal Applications for "I SHOP SUPERMARKET" at 2643 W ATKINSON Av. (Expires 8/14/2024)

The applicant was present along with Atty. Jeff Guerard who said that his client received the notice two days ago and that they are objecting to the fact that his client was not notified with seven days in advance.

Mr. Cooney said that the notice was dated July 1, 2024.

Atty. Guerard confirmed the mailing address on file.

Ald. Pratt moved to hold the application to the call of the chair since there are no neighbors present as well. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. A. PRATT that this Motion be HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Spiker, Pratt, Burgelis, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Moore

01 WILKS, Anthony T, Agent for "JACKS LOUNGE LLC", Class B Tavern, Public Entertainment Premises and Food Dealer License Renewal Applications for "Jack's Executive Bistro" at 4923 W VILLARD Av. (Expired 7/7/2024)

The applicant was present and said, regarding the noise complaints on the police report, he is doing the best he can keeping the door closed. He also said that the surveillance cameras did not catch the angle where the shooting from December 31 occurred. He added that the security guard shot in self defense and left the scene but that he handed the name of the guard and the security company to MPD. He mentioned that DTS Security Company was the previous security company and that he

is working now with United Security.

Individuals also present:

Ald. Pratt said that the applicant did not cooperate immediately after the incident. The applicant said that he did not answer the phone because it was 4am; that he was sleeping but that he provided everything that MPD needed the next day.

Ald. Burgelis asked the applicant if he has changed the angle of the surveillance system since the shooting.

The applicant said that he has not.

Ald. Burgelis asked if anyone from the staff can access the surveillance system.

The applicant said that he is always cooperative with those requests.

Ald. Spiker asked the applicant who was shot.

The applicant said that it was a patron who was also a relative of an employee.

Ald. Spiker asked which part of the body was shot.

The applicant said that he believes it was in the leg.

Ald. Spiker asked if he remembers what did he said to MPD on that day.

The applicant said that he does not remember because it happened months ago. Ald. Spiker read the report that says the applicant told the police that the patron was shot somewhere else and ran into his business.

Individuals in objection:

Valerie Benton – 5159 N 49th St – said that this establishment is located in a neighborhood with homes around it, that it is very noisy and loud and that she has contacted MPD, Ald. Pratt's office on different times/dates for incidents and noise nuisances and that nothing has been done. She added that MPD shows up but at very late hours when the establishment is closed and that her health has declined because the lack of sleep. She also said that she has recorded and documented everything. Dynasty 5402 N 38th St – victim of the shooting – said that she was inside the establishment, that she was caught in the middle of the shooting when she came out of the bathroom with her aunt, that the establishment was open still and that she fell on the ground because both of her legs were shot and that no one helped her except for her aunt who happens to be a nurse. She added that no one reached out to her after the incident, that she still upset and attending therapy because she suffers post-traumatic stress. She also mentioned that she was the one who contacted the business owner and that he was rude to her and did not even apologize. Ald. Pratt said that she just had two walks yesterday and that neighbors complained

about the garbage, the noise, loud patrons and that definitely this business has brought discomfort to the neighbors. She added that she agrees that it is a residential area and that neighbors deserve respect and peace.

The applicant said that he is doing what he can, that he is all up for learning and that he never heard anything from the neighbors before.

Ald. Moore asked the applicant how much time had passed after the shooting when the victim reached out to him.

The applicant said after 2 months.

Ald. Moore asked the applicant if he did any diligences to reach out to the victim before she did reach out to him.

The applicant answered "no".

Ald. Pratt moved nonrenewal based upon the preponderance of the evidence in the police report, neighbors, applicant and aldermanic testimony that demonstrates the operation results in a threat to health, safety or welfare of the public and the history of the disciplinary actions. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

Note: Ald. Spiker left the meeting and Ald. Moore joined it while this application was discussed.

A motion was made by ALD. A. PRATT that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Ave 5 - Zamarripa, Spiker, Pratt, Burgelis, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 1 - Westmoreland

15 ADAS, Mohammad, Agent for "Vitamin & Supplements MKE LLC", Secondhand Dealer's and Weights & Measures License Applications for "Hemp Dispensary" at 3432 W Vliet St.

The applicant was present and explained that his business plan is to sell hemp and supplemental products and; buy/sell used items such as gold, tools, anything that anyone wants to get rid of. He added that it is basically a pawn shop and that he has been doing retail for 25 years.

Individuals also present:

Ald. Moore asked for the hours of operations.

The applicant said that he wants to do business from 7am to 11:59pm.

Mr. Cooney said that they received an amendment for the hours.

Ald. Burgelis asked the applicant if he is pawning.

The applicant said that he is not pawning only buying and selling, like cash for gold.

Mr. Ellzey (LAS for Ald. Stamper) said that the office supports the application. Individuals in support:

There were 9 persons in support.

Mr. Sherman Cooley – 3420 W Vliet St - said the applicant runs a good business and gives back to the community.

Mrs. Cooley – 3420 W Vliet St- said that the applicant is uprising the community with his business and that she has known him for over 2 years.

Ms. Grice – 3927 W Cherry St – said that she has been employee for three years and that he has supported her in more ways than a corporate job does and; that he also supports her the community in different ways as well. She added that the street has come a quieter and cleaner place and that there are other businesses following his lead.

Mr. Stokes - 928 N 29 — said that he has been part of the community for his entire life and that he has seen many changes since this store opened. He added that he gives opportunities to people and that he is been working with him for over a year now. Mr. Rouse - 1905 N 58th St — said that he has seen changes on Vliet St since the applicant is there, that his girlfriend works for the applicant and that he is always uplifting people.

Ald. Burgelis said that he is happy that such a good businessman is involved with the neighborhood association and the area in general and moved to amend the application including precious metal & gem dealer. There were no objections.

Mr. Ellzey asked the applicant if he is willing to close at 10pm because all the stores except for the gas station close at 10pm.

The applicant said that he is fine amending the closing hours.

Ald. Moore moved to amend the hours of operation to close at 10pm everyday. There were no objections.

Ald. Burgelis moved approval as amended. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. BURGELIS that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

15 ABUASI, Hasan S, Agent for "Center Tobacco and Cell, LLC", Food Dealer License Application for "Center Tobacco and Cell, LLC" at 2672 N 35th St.

The applicant was not present.

Ald. Pratt moved to hold the application to the call of the chair. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

Ald. Pratt moved to reconsider the application at 11:07 am. There were no objections. Atty. Maistelman appeared on behalf of the applicant and said that he would like to request to hold the application in order to continue conversations with Ald. Stamper who is not in support at the moment.

Mr. Ellzey said that Atty. Maistelman could try but that he does not think that Ald. Stamper would change his mind.

Individuals in objection:

Mrs. Smith - 3460 W. Center St - said that they never had problems until this applicant moved in. She added that she cleans up the entire neighborhood by herself, that she has asked the applicant to have someone to clean up and that it has not happened.

Atty. Maistelman offered Ms. Smith to talk after about the issues to get them solved. Ald. Pratt moved to hold the application to the call of the chair. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. A. PRATT that this Motion be HELD TO CALL OF THE CHAIR. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

15 ABOHADBA, Yasser, Agent for "Brother Plus Grocery LLC", Food Dealer License Application for "Brother Plus Grocery" at 4020 W NORTH Av.

The applicant was present along with his wife Dominique Abohadba who said that they are planning offering perishable foods with different hours to accommodate different schedules.

Individuals in support:

Melissa Stuart – said that she has been 30 years there and people likes the applicant because he gives them credit and because he will be offering fresh food options. Individuals also present:

Mr. Ellzey said that Ald. Stamper is in support because the applicant has done everything to be part of the community.

Ald. Burgelis moved approval. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. BURGELIS that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

15 ROSE, Angelia P, Agent for "Chocolate Rose Lounge LLC", Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises License Renewal Applications for "Chocolate Rose Lounge" at 4443 W Lisbon Av. (Expires 8/17/2024)

The applicant was present and did not want to speak about the item on the police report.

Individuals in objection:

Terry King – said that she has lived there always but that things have changed lately with trash (bottles, cans), people speeding and burning wheels and that she is been waking up every night with people fighting and yelling. She added that she has no problems with the bar being there but she wants her peace back.

Individuals also present:

Mr. Ellzey said that Ald. Stamper has no problems with this license.

The applicant said that Mrs. King has asked her for a job before and that she has a good relationship with neighbors and community.

Ald. Moore asked the applicant who is the owner and who is the manager in regards of the objection on record.

The applicant said that she is the owner and Mr. Malone is the manager.

Ald. Pratt moved approval. (Prevailed 4-1)

A motion was made by ALD. A. PRATT that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 4 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Moore, and Jackson

No 1 - Burgelis

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

06 SINGH, Jasjeet, Agent for "J S PETROLEUMS, LLC", Extended Hours Establishments, Filling Station, Food Dealer and Weights & Measures License Renewal Applications for "LOCUST GAS & FOOD MART" at 1432 W LOCUST St. (Expired 7/11/2024)

The applicant was present along with Atty. Maistelman who said that he would like to say that they always provide the videos to MPD and that his client has over 20 high tech surveillance cameras. He also explained that for item 23 on the police report, the employee was fired and that the applicant retrained the employees.

There were no neighbors present to testify.

Individuals also present:

Ms. Dantzler said that Ald. Coggs asked the applicant not to chase someone who is caught stealing but to call the police instead. She added that Ald. Coggs has no objections and recommended approval with a warning letter.

Ald. Pratt moved approval with a warning letter. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. A. PRATT that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

06 BEG, Kalim M, Extended Hours Establishments, Filling Station, Food Dealer and Weights & Measures License Renewal Applications for "LOCUST BP" at 232 W LOCUST St. (Expires 9/22/2024)

The applicant was present and said that he always call police and that the store was remodeled last year.

There were no neighbors present to testify.

Individuals also present:

Ms. Dantzler asked the applicant if the people troubling the store are always the same. The applicant said that often times are the same but that he must have an address in order to file a restriction order. He added that these people don't have a residency. Ms. Dantzler asked the applicant to continue working with the police and said that Ald. Coggs recommends approval.

Ald. Jackson moved approval. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. JACKSON that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

07 HAMILTON, Anton L, Agent for "US OR NOTHING INVESTMENTS L.L.C.", Food Dealer License Transfer Application with Change of Agent, Removing Stockholder and Transfer of Stock for "Stilz Got the Munchies!" at 3371 N 27th St.

The applicant was present and said that the items on the police report are in the past and that he has been working building his future.

Individuals also present:

Ald. Jackson said that he talked to the applicant, that he has no issues and wished him good luck.

Ald. Jackson moved approval. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. JACKSON that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

07 SINGH, Harmandeep, Agent for "56 BURLEIGH BEER & FOOD LLC", Class A Fermented Malt and Food Dealer License Application for "FULL HOUSE GROCERY" at 5602 W BURLEIGH St.

The applicant was present and said that he owns another location along with his dad. There were no neighbors present to testify.

Individuals also present:

Ald. Jackson said that he talked to the neighbors, that he walked through the CPTED and that the applicant has done his work.

Ald. Jackson moved approval. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. JACKSON that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

11 WALKER, Rose-Marie, Agent for "Little Caesar Enterprises, Inc.", Food Dealer License Renewal Application for "Little Caesars #302" at 3161 S 76th St. (Expired

7/1/2024)

Atty. Richard Donner appeared on behalf of the applicant and Paola Ramos (Marketing Director). Ms. Ramos said that she is been working with the company for 15 years, that she runs Miami, that she will running the stores in Wisconsin and that she knows the market because she ran the stores when they were number one in the country. She added that they have hired about 60 new employees (360 degrees change of staff). She also mentioned that she has started to make connections with Health Department (Jenny), that she has held 3 job fairs and that she is asking for a chance to show what they can do with the investment they are doing.

Individuals also present:

Ald. Zamarripa said that she is concerned about the surveillance systems incidences and she wants to make sure that this never happens again.

Ms. Ramos said that they have invested in a new surveillance system. Individuals in objection:

Brian Gemoll – 3170 S 77th St - said that he shares the corner of his backyard with this business, that he is not objection to the business but to the issue with people leaving garbage behind and the poor management. He added that he finds boxes of pizza sitting on his patio table, mailbox, window and all over his backyard. He added that the store is small and that people stand on the parking lot loitering and littering as well.

Ald. Burgelis asked about the screening process for employees because it seems that it has been an issue.

Ms. Ramos said that basically they were hiring anyone looking for a job and now they have to go thru interviews to move forward with the process, and that background checks are for people moving up the latter.

Ald. Burgelis said that the problem is that they do not do background checks on all the staff members and that they really do not know who they are hiring. He asked Ms. Ramos to explain what is she doing different than before.

Ms. Ramos said that the application is submitted online and that there are questions about being convicted, felony charges, etc. She added that HR forwards the screened applications to them in order to move forward with that individual because as a corporation, they are not allowed to make questions about backgrounds.

Ald. Burgelis asked who is responsible for maintaining the parking lot.

Ms. Ramos answered that they are.

Ald. Burgelis asked how often they monitor the parking lot.

Ms. Ramos said that they are doing checks 3x/day like at other stores and that they probably need to use a lock with a key bar code to avoid issues by the dumpster.

Ald. Burgelis asked how many surveillance cameras they have.

Ms. Ramos said that they have between 3 and 6 (360 degrees) cameras per store.

Ald. Burgelis asked if there is a camera on the parking lot.

Ms. Ramos said that they don't have an outside camera but that they can install one given the situations on the police report.

Ald. Burgelis said that he hopes that they can turn the stores around and moved approval with a warning letter. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. BURGELIS that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

14 WALKER, Rose-Marie, Agent for "Little Caesar Enterprises, Inc.", Food Dealer

License Renewal Application for "Little Caesars #307" at 2976 S Chase Av. (Expired 6/30/2024)

Atty. Richard Donner appeared on behalf of the applicant and Ms. Paola Ramos (Marketing Director) was present as well.

Ald. Zamarripa asked Ms. Ramos to read the police report herself because it is unacceptable, especially the item where manager left the store unattended.

Ms. Ramos said that she cannot speak for the items because there were previous her time but that she guarantees that the store has new employees and management. There were no neighbors present to testify.

Ms. Terri Williams said that most of the concerns were addressed with the previous application and that Ald. Dimitrijevic recommended approval with a warning letter. Ald. Jackson said that he wants to share Ald. Westmoreland sentiment about that he hopes the same is being done at the store on 9230 W Capitol Dr.

Ald. Pratt moved approval with a warning letter. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. A. PRATT that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

Individuals also present:

02 CATALDO, Jeno J, Agent for "JC CAPITAL SAINT BIBIANA LLC", Class B Tavern, Public Entertainment Premises, Food Dealer, Sidewalk Dining License Renewal Applications for "St. Bibiana/St. Bibi" at 1327 E BRADY St. (Expired 4/29/2024)

The applicant was present and said that there was a special situation this time due a sort of plumbing emergency but that they keep receipts physical and digitally so the employee could not reproduce the digital file because it was not scanned yet regarding the items on the police report. About the contaminated liquor he explained that the DOR checks the bottles with a flash light and that anything, even a fruit fly is considered contamination and that they removed the bottles.

There were no neighbors present to testify.

Individuals also present:

Ald. Brostoff said that noise has been an issue in general on Brady St and asked if the applicant wants to speak for it.

The applicant said that he has no patio and never have had an issue with the police. He added that his business sits in the middle of Brady street where there are patios, loud bikes with music, three wheelers, lots of cars and that he does not know how his little business could be pinned out for noise when the premises are insulated. He also said that he was born in the community, that he cares about the community and that he is a good business owner and neighbor. He requested Ald. Brostoff to forward him any complaints against his business in order to address them properly.

Ald. Brostoff said that he has no objections.

Ald. Pratt moved approval. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. A. PRATT that this Motion be AMENDED. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

Ald. Pratt moved approval of the file 240408 as amended. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

The meeting paused at 12:34 pm
The meeting reconvene at 12:54 pm

A motion was made by ALD. A. PRATT that this Motion be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, and Jackson

No C

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

11:00 AM

2. 240437

Motion relating to the revocation of the Extended Hours Establishment license of Angel Gutierrez Garnica, agent for "El Jalapeno Restaurant LLC" for the premises located at 2106 W National Av., doing as business as "El Jalapeno Restaurant LLC" in the 12th aldermanic district.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

The applicant was present along with his son, Angel Gutierrez Garnica.

The applicant asked for an interpreter. Mr. Cooney disclosed that our interpreters are not legally certified.

The applicant agreed.

The meeting paused to get the interpreter.

Joanna Polanco staffed the meeting and Yadira Melendez appeared as the applicant's interpreter per applicant's request.

Individuals also present:

Assistant City Attorney Theresa Montag presented the complaint filed by MPD involving the extended hours establishments license for serving alcohol after hours and the discharge of firearms outside the premises.

Officers offering testimony:

Officer Lomeli (District 2) said that he and other officers participated in an under cover operation on June 19, 2024 at El Jalapeno restaurant. He added that 2 under cover officers got into the establishment at 3:05am, that they ordered food and drinks and that they were served beer in plastic cups around 3:07am. He added that he and Officer Merritt (partner) were walking into the establishment, they observed the owner outside and opened the door while saying that the police were here and that the waitress removed the beers that the under cover officers already had obtained while saying that they were closed. He also explained that he proceeded to do the license check, that he explained the applicant that he was not supposed to be serving alcohol and that the owner replied that he was allowed to stay open until 4:00am everyday. Officer Lomeli asked the owner to revise his license and the owner apologized for the mistake. He added that they took photos and interviewed other staff members present there.

Ald. Zamarripa asked Officer Lomeli if the owner that he is talking about is the same

person that is here, Mr. Gutierrez Garnica.

Officer Lomeli said that it is the same person.

Officer Powell (District 2) said that he and Officer Corner were working in an under cover capacity arriving at "El Jalapeno" restaurant around 3:05am, ordering tacos and beer and that the beer was brought immediately in plastic cups. He added that at that moment, they communicated with the uniformed officers informing them that they got the alcohol and that they were waiting for the food. He continued saying that as the officers were approaching, the waitress removed the beers and told them that they were closed and that they were asked to leave which is what they did.

Ald. Zamarripa asked Officer Powell if he was wearing plain clothes.

Officer Powell answered "yes".

Ald. Zamarripa asked what kind of drinks they ordered.

Officer Powell said that they ordered "Corona" and they were brought in plastic cups. Ald. Burgelis asked if it is a common practice for MPD to conduct operations like this one.

Officer Powell said that his training is mostly to criminal and drug cases but that is not limited to those. He added that he has responded to incidents at "El Jalapeno" and also has received complaints from other bar owners about this establishment serving alcohol after hours and that is how they started this investigation.

Ald. Burgelis asked if there were more patrons at the same time of the under cover operation.

Officer Powell said that he counted about 11 other people and that they all had food and drinks at their tables.

Officer Kilwine (Distrcit 2) said that he responded to a call of shots being fired at 2100 W National Av. and that the call was unfounded due the lack of evidence. He explained that while on the scene, a gentleman named Kyle L Saffold (black male 30 40 yrs of age) approached him and told him that he wanted to file a complaint against "El Jalapeno" at 2106 W National Av because it is known by serving alcohol after hours. Mr. Saffold told Officer Kilwine that he went there at 3:15am and that he ordered and was served 7 tequila shots around 3:35am which is when the police arrived and the waitress returned him the cash, removed the drinks and told him not to say a word about the drinks. Officer Kilwine said that Mr. Saffold provided all his contact information for follow up.

Ald. Zamarripa asked Officer Kilwine if he was part of the under cover operation. Officer Kilwine answered that he was not and that this was a separated incident. There were no neighbors present to testify.

Individuals also present:

Ald. Moore asked who has access to the operation of the security cameras besides the staff

Mr. Gutierrez said only his daughter.

Ald. Moore asked is she part of the daily staff.

The applicant answered she is not.

Ald. Moore asked how MPD would have access to the cameras.

The applicant said that his daughter would provide him with the password.

Ald. Moore noted that there must be a correction to the file because the time is listed as the officers arrived at 3:05PM throughout the report and that it is supposed to be 3:05AM instead.

Mr. Gutierrez apologized for all of these incidents and said that he has been in this business for 25 years and this is the first time that he is before a situation like this. He added that those plastic cups are used for all sorts of drinks and that he is not sure why the waitress served alcohol on those. He added that regarding the incident cited by Officer Kilwine, they do not sell tequilas; only beers like corona, modelo and tecate and that this complainant left angry because there was a problem with his food. Ald. Burgelis asked the applicant if he is certain that it was beer served.

The applicant explained that the patrons might offer a better tip to the waitress, so that could be why they were serving alcohol after hours. He added that he cannot be at each table checking what the waitresses are serving.

Ald. Zamarripa said that she has received complaints over the years about alcohol being served after hours at "El Jalapeno", that she always trusted the applicant because there was no evidence before.

Ald. Zamarripa moved revocation of the Extended Hours Establishment based upon the preponderance of the evidence in the police report included on the complaint filed by MPD, the applicant, aldermanic and significant testimony from the police officers that demonstrates the operation results in a threat to health, safety or welfare of the public for failure to comply with the approved plan of operation. There were no objections. (Prevailed 5-0)

A motion was made by ALD. ZAMARRIPA that this Motion be RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

3. <u>240405</u>

An ordinance repealing security personnel license requirements and related provisions.

Sponsors: THE CHAIR

Jim Cooney presented. Gunnar Raasch was present.

A motion was made by ALD. A. PRATT that this Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR PASSAGE. This motion PREVAILED by the following vote:

Aye 5 - Zamarripa, Pratt, Burgelis, Moore, and Jackson

No 0

Excused 2 - Westmoreland, and Spiker

The meeting adjourned at 1:47 pm

Yadira Melendez Staff Assistant

This meeting can be viewed in its entirety through the City's Legislative Research Center at http://milwaukee.legistar.com/calendar.