



Jeff Pawlinski

Alderman, 13th District

CHAIR:
Utilities & Licenses Committee

COMMITTEES:
Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development
Steering & Rules
Anti Graffiti Policy
Administrative Review Appeals Board
Resolutions Committee - League
of Wisconsin Municipalities

November 25, 2002

To the Honorable, the Common Council

Dear members:

Re: Common Council File 020697

Attached are written objections to the renewal of a Class "B" Tavern with a 10-day suspension and nonrenewal of a Tavern Dance application of Charles E. Spahn based upon police report and neighborhood objections for the premises at 2800 W. Forest Home Ave. ("McGinty's") in the 8th Aldermanic District.

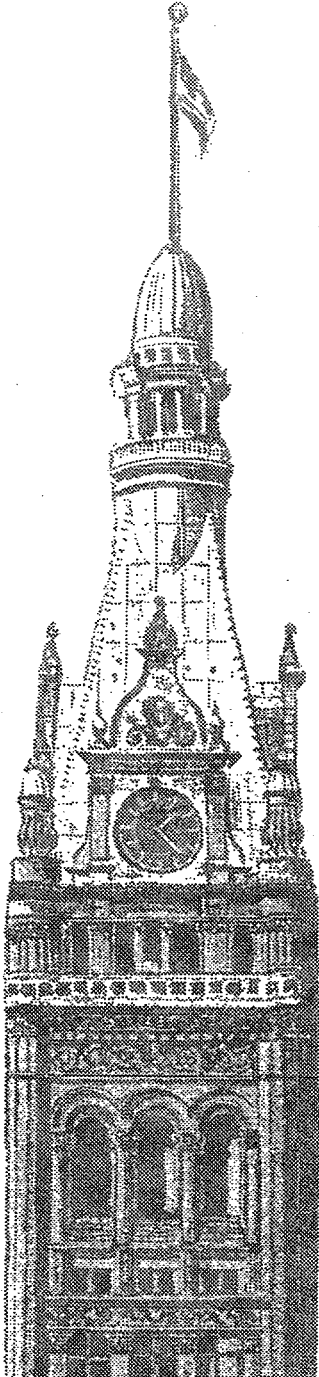
This matter will be heard by the full Council at its November 26, 2002 meeting. Pursuant to City Ordinances, a roll call vote will be taken to confirm that all members have read the attached objections.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey A. Pawlinski', written over a horizontal line.

JEFFREY A. PAWLINSKI, Chair
Utilities and Licenses Committee

cc: All Council Members
City Attorney's Office
Common Council/City Clerk – License Division
Milwaukee Police Department – License Investigation
CCFN 020697



McGinty's
2800 WEST FOREST HOME

I would ask that you reconsider the recommendation of 11-12-02 to suspend my liquor license and not renew my tavern dance license. I don't feel my thoughts were effectively communicated at the hearing. I was stunned by the recommendation from Alderman Donovan on 11-12-02 as our meeting on 11-07-02 did not preface it.

I feel I run my business in a responsible manner. The shooting was a serious and unfortunate situation which I do not take lightly.

Alderman Pratt recently had a shooting in his neighborhood. A law abiding citizen, well known to the community lost her life as a result. I ask you.. who is to blame for this tragedy? Is it the owner for being at home? Of course not. It's the perpetrator who doesn't know the meaning of respect. It's the individual who doesn't care his negative actions alter the lives of others forever. The same goes for the shooting this past weekend in Alderman Donovan's district at a church gymnasium, three blocks from my property.

For several years I have and continue to take measures for patrons entering my establishment. We search patrons and use a metal detector wand. I have drastically reduced the hours that I am open for business. I am open Friday and Saturday nights from 8 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.---that's only 13 hours per week. That's why I am perplexed about some of the items mentioned in the neighborhood objections. There is a great probability that they did not happen during this 13 hour window. Despite taking flyers door to door yearly and explaining my existing routine of business, I nor my establishment received a single phone call throughout the year. Alderman Donovan did not receive a call from November through July when he received three calls, actually four because I called him as well. My call was not returned.

The utilities and licensing committee stated they would base their decision on the police report only and not the neighborhood objections because neighbors were not present. The letter from the office of the city clerk states neighborhood objections were taken into account. How can I address problems if I don't know they exist? One person sent in a postcard to Alderman Donovan which listed the majority of the complaints. No dates, no times, no calls. Again, my establishment is only open for 13 hours and my establishment is blamed for problems for the other 155 hours.

At the u&l hearing, Alderman Donovan said he received numerous complaints from his postcard mailing to all the surrounding neighbors. He received only 8 back, 3 for and 5 against. I spoke with Donovan's secretary and asked Jil Thomas why he stated it was numerous at the U & L hearing when it was only 5 and she said quote " That's open for interpretation". Again, if my license was based only on the police report, why was Alderman Donovan's recommendation at the U & L hearing based on neighborhood complaints? Because neighbors were not present, this info should not have been mentioned and discarded as hearsay.

I ask that you reconsider the recommendations made by the U & L committee. I do not see how patrons not being able to dance will solve anything. I am not irresponsible and I care about the community. I have owned the property which includes the establishment for the past seven years.

Thank-you for your time and consideration.

Charles E. Spahn
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