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2 CITY OF MILWAUKEE  
3 LICENSES COMMITTEE  
4 \*\*\*\*\*  
5 In the Matter of the Class "A" Malt renewal  
6 application for:  
7 PARSHOTAM SINGH  
8 "AK FOOD MART"  
9 2305 South Howell Avenue  
10 \*\*\*\*\*  
11 COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
12 ALD. JAMES BOHL - Chair  
13 ALD. ROBERT PUENTE  
14 ALD. ASHANTI HAMILTON  
15 ALD. T. ANTHONY ZIELINSKI  
16  
17 ALD. NIK KOVAC  
18 LICENSING DIVISION by REBECCA GRILL  
19 POLICE DEPARTMENT by SEARGENT CHET ULICKEY  
20 OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY by ATTORNEY BRUCE SCHRIMPF

16 Proceedings had and testimony given in  
17 the above-entitled matter, before the LICENSES  
18 COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE, on  
19 the 3rd day of November, 2008.

1 we - -  
2 MR. MAISTELMAN: I just wanted to get  
3 an idea.  
4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: All right. Why don't  
5 we - - Everyone - - Everyone who is here to  
6 provide testimony, if you could raise your right  
7 hands. And it's everyone who is raising their  
8 wrong left hand, if you could raise your right  
9 right hand. Okay. We'll swear you in all at  
10 once here.  
11 (Whereupon those present were sworn.)  
12 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. Thank you. If  
13 you could all take your seat. I'll need the  
14 applicant's name and address for the record  
15 please, here.  
16 THE APPLICANT: Parshotam Singh. 2305  
17 South Howell Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207.  
18 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. Thank you. And,  
19 Mr. Singh, do you acknowledge receiving notice of  
20 today's meeting with the possibility that your  
21 application could be denied? On the cover sheet  
22 outlining your letter should have been a - - a  
23 range of neighborhood objections to loitering,  
24 littering, loud noise, parking and traffic  
25 problems, criminal activity, prostitution,

1 PROCEEDINGS  
2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Parshotam Singh, Class  
3 "A" Malt application for "AK Food Mart" at 2305  
4 South Howell Avenue.  
5 MR. MAISTELMAN: Good morning, Mr.  
6 Chair. Or, good afternoon.  
7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: It's morning somewhere,  
8 Mr. Maistelman. How are you?  
9 MR. MAISTELMAN: I'm doing well.  
10 Attorney Mike Maistelman appears on behalf of AK  
11 Food Mart and Mr. Singh, who appears in person  
12 today.  
13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. Very good.  
14 Thank you. Mr. Singh, and Alderman Zielinski,  
15 and sir, I think that you, as well, too. I  
16 assume you're here because you intend to provide  
17 testimony. If we could have each of you raise  
18 your right hands, we will swear you in. Let me  
19 just -- This is cited for neighborhood objections.  
20 Are there residents here to provide testimony on this  
21 matter of AK Food Mart?  
22 MR. MAISTELMAN: Just, Mr. Chairman.  
23 Could everybody stand up who supports this? And  
24 who wants to testify in support of this? Okay.  
25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: All right. Why don't

1 trespassing, public urination, vandalism, so on  
2 and so forth, including that - - that the  
3 potential type of business being conducted at  
4 this location as a filling station is prohibited  
5 by 90-4.7 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances and  
6 conduct detrimental to the health, safety and  
7 welfare of the neighborhood?  
8 MR. MAISTELMAN: Mr. Chairman, we do  
9 acknowledge receiving that. I would like to make  
10 a - - a brief objection to, if I may.  
11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Please proceed.  
12 MR. MAISTELMAN: I was going to say  
13 your Honor. I've been in court all day.  
14 Chairman Bohl, the allegations just outlined by  
15 you are not substantiated in the licensing  
16 committee's file. Both my client and I went down  
17 to the licensing department and photocopied and  
18 reviewed the file. The only objection in there  
19 is from a neighbor who we couldn't identify where  
20 they - - where they lived, but stating that they  
21 thought that this - - this - - the grocery store  
22 would be - - a more appropriate use for it would  
23 be condominiums. I found no evidence,  
24 whatsoever, for example, of this is a filling  
25 station. In fact, the notes in your file says

1 it's not a filling station. I found no evidence  
 2 of prostitution in the file or any criminal  
 3 activity. In fact, and Sergeant Ulickey will  
 4 probably state this, the police report doesn't  
 5 show one centile of evidence of any criminal  
 6 activity. And I might be incorrect, but that's  
 7 what I found in looking at the police report.  
 8 And as the Sergeant just stated with the previous  
 9 applicant, they are making more of an effort to  
 10 try to get as much information on these reports  
 11 now than they were in the past. Now I - - I may  
 12 stand corrected, but the record that I copied  
 13 from the licensing department had none of those  
 14 allegations in it. And so, I'm - - I'm a bit - -  
 15 in respect, a little outraged that the committee  
 16 could sit here and publish it on - - on the TV  
 17 that these acts are going on in my client's  
 18 grocery store when, in fact, there's not a  
 19 centile of evidence in your file, other than the  
 20 one e-mail from one person objecting to it, that  
 21 would give rise to any of these allegations.  
 22 Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And I - - And I  
 24 appreciate that, Mr. Maistelman. As you know,  
 25 there are times in which the license division

1 concerns that this may occur, for whatever it is  
 2 worth.  
 3 MR. MAISTELMAN: My concern, because  
 4 this is a quasi judicial body, and it's my  
 5 obligation to adequately and vigorously represent  
 6 my client, how can I prepare for allegations that  
 7 are listed against him if there is nothing in the  
 8 record to support that. And I just wanted to go  
 9 on the record and - - and make that statement.  
 10 Thank you.

11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And that - - that is  
 12 duly noted. Thank you. We'll just see if there  
 13 are, new license, Ms. Grill, any holds?

14 MS. GRILL: The Department of  
 15 Neighborhood Services has a hold for occupancy.  
 16 We were able to verify with the Health Department  
 17 on October 23rd that there is not a filling  
 18 station license at this location.

19 CHAIRMAN BOHL: There is not.

20 MS. GRILL: That's correct.

21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. All right. We  
 22 have no police report here. We'll hear from you  
 23 first, Mr. Maistelman, if you just want to let us  
 24 know what is being applied for here. Is there a  
 25 question that this, at one point, was the site of

1 will have a discussion with a local alderperson,  
 2 and based on it being a new application, there  
 3 - - there may be things that are substantiated.  
 4 There may be times where there's just a request  
 5 for sort of a boiler-plate, can you cover the  
 6 gamut, there may be residents who are coming to  
 7 testify on something.

8 MR. MAISTELMAN: But the - -  
 9 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And I - - And I  
 10 understand where the implication is is when you  
 11 get to the point where you start reading that  
 12 into the record, do you start saying, the feeling  
 13 is though you're implicated on something where  
 14 there may be no testimony. Usually when a new  
 15 application comes forward, it's one thing. The  
 16 hope is if it's a renewal application, that there  
 17 is something to substantiate such a - - such a  
 18 complaint, or the potential of a neighborhood  
 19 witness who would come forward and say, I've had  
 20 these concerns expressed. It being a new  
 21 license, I don't know that anyone is insinuating  
 22 that - -that this is occurring at a location  
 23 that maybe has not been licensed before, but I  
 24 think that the concern was the potential that  
 25 somebody may want to come forward and say, I have

1 a filling station?

2 MR. MAISTELMAN: There are allegations  
 3 and an e-mail from a neighbor, allegedly a  
 4 neighbor, who we still have not been able to  
 5 track down, making an allegation that this was a  
 6 service station. According to the file and the  
 7 research done by your - - your people, it is not  
 8 currently and was never a filling station. Is  
 9 that correct, Mr. Singh? It's not a gas station?

10 THE APPLICANT: No, sir.

11 MR. MAISTELMAN: No. I've been there.  
 12 It's a grocery store where people come to buy  
 13 diapers, Gatoraid, water, soda, chips, not gas.  
 14 Like - -

15 CHAIRMAN BOHL: The license being  
 16 applied for is to sell beer?

17 THE APPLICANT: Yes, it is.

18 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay.

19 MR. MAISTELMAN: I think it's clear  
 20 that there are no allegations in the file of any  
 21 criminal activity. There is no criminal activity  
 22 as - - as found by the City of Milwaukee Police.  
 23 We have nothing here. We have a room of maybe 35  
 24 supporters that have taken off from their day to  
 25 come down here to support this. I know we're

1 going to hear, you know, there's going to be  
2 testimony on the other side saying well, there's  
3 prostitutes there, and I've seen them, or, you  
4 know, and we'll - - we'll try to address those,  
5 even though I haven't had that opportunity before  
6 today, because it's not in the file, and it's not  
7 in the police report. So I can't verify that on  
8 my own, but - - We have nothing else to say at  
9 this point until we hear from the other side.

10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. All right. Of  
11 - - Of the residents who were sworn in here, are  
12 there any who are here in opposition to the  
13 issuance of this license? Okay. I do see four,  
14 five. Okay.

15 What we're going to do is we're going  
16 to hear from you. I understand that there may  
17 have been some snafu in - - in notice to a couple  
18 individuals who - - who may - - maybe were  
19 informed that this hearing was - - is - - was  
20 going to be held at 2:45. If they do come in  
21 late, I will provide the ability to - - to hear  
22 from them, as long as we do not have to hold the  
23 matter. And I think that, given all the  
24 witnesses we have, this will take some period of  
25 time, and we'll have the ability to raise that.

1 protocol is to hear from those in objection  
2 first. So, Alderman Zielinski, did you want me  
3 to hear from neighbors first, or did you want to  
4 provide some type of opening at this point here?

5 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: No, I'll - - I'll  
6 reserve my comments for later.

7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. Thank you. Sir,  
8 we'll take you.

9 THE WITNESS: Kelly Durian, D-U-R-I-A-  
10 N. The address would be 2211 South Robinson  
11 Avenue.

12 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. And - -

13 THE WITNESS: Approximately about a - -  
14 less than a block from the location.

15 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. Please  
16 proceed.

17 THE WITNESS: I came down here today, I  
18 - - I happen to be the Blockwatch Captain for the  
19 Robinson Avenue area, which, like I said, is less  
20 than a block from the location. As well as my  
21 wife has served on the Bay View Neighborhood  
22 Association Safety Chair Committee for about a  
23 year. She doesn't anymore. But - - And we take  
24 kind of a proactive approach to the neighborhood.  
25 And as such, we've heard from, I guess, our own

1 Of those individuals who are here and raised your  
2 hand in opposition, I would ask that you take the  
3 front here. Unless somehow you physically are  
4 unable, in which case I would ask that you be  
5 able to take a seat at the table. Otherwise, I'm  
6 going to ask that you utilize the standing  
7 microphone. What we will do is we will need your  
8 name; and this applies to even those who will  
9 come to speak in favor of the license; we will  
10 need your name and your address for the record.  
11 If you have a difficult spelling to your name, if  
12 you could, for our court reporter, please clarify  
13 that by spelling that out word for word. It  
14 would also be helpful if you would provide an  
15 indication to the committee, after you provide  
16 your name and address, how close approximately  
17 you are to the - - to the establishment that is  
18 seeking the license. So, sir, you are - - you  
19 are not here as a neighbor.

20 THE WITNESS: I am a neighbor.

21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: You are a neighbor here  
22 in opposition?

23 THE WITNESS: No, I'm for it.

24 CHAIRMAN BOHL: You're - - You're for  
25 it. Okay. We're going to - - We - - The

1 constituents in the neighborhood about items of  
2 note that were listed, I think, on the - - the  
3 notice, such as possible prostitution and - -

4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And here's the thing.

5 MR. MAISTELMAN: Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: That is hearsay  
7 testimony, if you are telling me you heard from  
8 others and those persons are not here to provide  
9 that testimony to the committee.

10 THE WITNESS: All I can testify to then  
11 is like excessive loitering out front. I don't -  
12 - I can't say that there's been, you know, I  
13 don't actively do surveillance on the location.  
14 So, you know, I know that there's excessive  
15 loitering. I don't know that there's  
16 prostitution going on. I just know what my  
17 people are telling me.

18 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. And - - And I  
19 think you - - you can appreciate this being a  
20 quasi judicial body, if residents have that  
21 strong of a concern, they do have to make an  
22 effort to try to be here for us to receive that  
23 testimony from them if they see other things.  
24 But - - So you - - you, yourself have witnessed  
25 loitering on the - - on the grounds?

1 THE WITNESS: Oh, yeah, certainly.  
 2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Is there a parking lot  
 3 here or are they outside out front on - - on the  
 4 sidewalk or where - - where are we seeing the  
 5 loitering?  
 6 THE WITNESS: There's no parking lot,  
 7 per se. I know next door there's an apartment  
 8 complex and there's a driveway. But it can be  
 9 anywhere from out front to right to the side of  
 10 it, extends to the corner, because the AK Mart  
 11 also is adjacent to the Mexican restaurant on the  
 12 corner. So anywhere from the corner to the  
 13 apartment complex we'll see a lot of loitering,  
 14 but especially like right in front of the AK  
 15 Super Mart.  
 16 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And what - - Are these  
 17 typically kids that are waiting to get in, or  
 18 buying their candy and just hanging around eating  
 19 the chips there and chatting, or what - -  
 20 THE WITNESS: What was - - When I  
 21 thought about this the other day when I was  
 22 driving past it, you know, there was a group of,  
 23 you know, eight kids, give or take, around there  
 24 about, you know, six to eight kids, you know,  
 25 just kind of sitting around there for an extended

1 the ability to do one of two things. One, a  
 2 license location could be triggered based on it  
 3 falling within - - within a square mile or within  
 4 the parameters established by a previously - - by  
 5 a previous map that would have triggered another  
 6 establishment as over-concentrated. Or there  
 7 could be a new submission that is made at the  
 8 table here, an individual alderperson could  
 9 request the Legislative Reference Bureau to  
 10 establish a location that wasn't previously  
 11 licensed as - -  
 12 MR. MAISTELMAN: So I can't rely on the  
 13 file before I came to the hearing?  
 14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Correct.  
 15 MR. MAISTELMAN: Okay.  
 16 CHAIRMAN BOHL: You can - - You can  
 17 rely on the fact that the notice tells you that  
 18 there's a possibility that it - - that there may  
 19 be a submission.  
 20 MR. MAISTELMAN: But the fact - - But  
 21 the fact it tells is no.  
 22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: It also - - It also  
 23 allows, Mr. Maistelman, it also allows for an  
 24 individual neighbor to come forward and say as  
 25 part of their testimony, we've already got five

1 period of time. We were across the street at a  
 2 organization across the street. So we could see  
 3 it the whole time. But it can be - - It ranges  
 4 in age, as well. It's not just kids or anything  
 5 like that. It's just people tending to hang out  
 6 out front.  
 7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. Thank you. Any  
 8 questions by committee of this witness?  
 9 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Mr. Chair, before we  
 10 get too far along in this. Is there going to be  
 11 a concentration map provided?  
 12 MR. MAISTELMAN: I looked in the file.  
 13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Remains to be seen.  
 14 MR. MAISTELMAN: If I may, Mr.  
 15 Chairman. I looked at the file and it did not  
 16 seem to be an issue. Initially, I think it was,  
 17 but on the file it said, is this a concentration  
 18 issue, and it said, no.  
 19 ALDERMAN KOVAC: I know that area  
 20 pretty well. There's a lot of bars.  
 21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: No, there could be - -  
 22 there could be a submission of one here at the  
 23 table.  
 24 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Oh, okay.  
 25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And we have - - We have

1 - - five bars in a two-block, three-block square  
 2 radius and I think that it's too many. I mean,  
 3 that - - It allows any - -  
 4 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Then I'm glad I  
 5 brought it up now, because I wanted to ask this  
 6 neighbor if he could explain from his own  
 7 personal experience how many Class "B" and Class  
 8 - - Like how many bars versus places to buy  
 9 liquor, carryout there are in the area.  
 10 THE WITNESS: Right across the street  
 11 on Lincoln and Howell is - - I can't - - I'm  
 12 sorry, I can't remember the name of the other  
 13 grocery mart there. The Hub, that's right. They  
 14 sell beer and - - and malt liquor there. And  
 15 then there's - - Well, Steve-O's is further down,  
 16 maybe a few blocks. But in that direct area  
 17 there's just Hub and then - - and then bars.  
 18 There's a handful of bars in the area, too.  
 19 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Could we put a map up?  
 20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And hold on. If we - -  
 21 If we may, sir, whoever else. I promise you - -  
 22 promise, promise, promise, and I hold my  
 23 promises, we'll hear from you. So if part of  
 24 your testimony later, you want to expound on what  
 25 the concentration is, we'll get to you. Okay.

1 You know, if - - if you need to rely in turning  
2 around here, we're going to ask you, just - - I  
3 can't answer that off the top of my head.

4 THE WITNESS: Okay.

5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: But now I'll need a  
6 clarification. When one person says about a  
7 handful of bars in the general vicinity, if you  
8 could expound on that and say, in about a half  
9 mile square radius. Because my definition of  
10 immediate area may be two blocks. Your  
11 definition may be a mile around, and I don't know  
12 that, unless we do have a map, that doesn't tell  
13 me - -

14 THE WITNESS: If you don't mind me, can  
15 I take the - -

16 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Sir, no. No.

17 THE WITNESS: In probably a four block  
18 square radius there's at least six - - six plus  
19 bars.

20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. Thank you.  
21 Alderman Kovac, floor still is yours if you want  
22 it.

23 ALDERMAN KOVAC: No. I just wanted to  
24 ask that question.

25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And that you would say

1 or four years ago or when?

2 THE WITNESS: That's just consistently  
3 throughout our meetings with him. We - - We kind  
4 of hit on these issues, and he addresses them and  
5 says that we're allocating resources here and  
6 there.

7 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Have you ever talked  
8 to the owner about these issues?

9 THE WITNESS: No, I don't believe so.

10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Why not? You talked  
11 to the police about it but not the owner?

12 THE WITNESS: I guess I just had more  
13 of a forum with the police, because I had a  
14 meeting set up with the blockwatch and stuff,  
15 that I never really thought to meet with the  
16 owner. It's never been - -

17 ALDERMAN PUENTE: I have a lot of  
18 blockwatch groups in my - - my area, and I - - I  
19 advocate that people try to work out among  
20 themselves. I mean, that's - - that's the whole  
21 essence, if you will, for blockwatch group, is to  
22 get to know their neighbors, for the neighbors to  
23 work with the businesses, and the businesses to  
24 work with the neighbors.

25 THE WITNESS: Um-hum.

1 that many bars and then two other places that  
2 you're aware of that sells alcoholic beverages.

3 THE WITNESS: Yeah.

4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions by  
5 committee at this time?

6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.

7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Puente.

8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Sir, how long have  
9 you lived at your address that you gave?

10 THE WITNESS: Four-and-a-half years  
11 now.

12 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Has this grocery  
13 store been there all that time you've been there?

14 THE WITNESS: I believe so.

15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And in the four - -  
16 four and a half years you've been there, have you  
17 seen this loitering all the time?

18 THE WITNESS: Very consistent,  
19 actually.

20 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. And has that  
21 been an issue before?

22 THE WITNESS: Well, just the ones that  
23 we brought up to the police liaison for - - who  
24 meets with us.

25 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And that was recently

1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: That's my theme. So  
2 whatever happens here, whatever in the future,  
3 you should really reach out and let them know  
4 there's an issue or a concern, if it's loitering.  
5 On the loitering issue, you mentioned kids. When  
6 do you see the most activity of this loitering?  
7 At what time of day, what day of the week? Is it  
8 right after school? Is it early morning, noon,  
9 what?

10 THE WITNESS: I'm generally not home as  
11 much around that school period ending time. But  
12 I definitely see it, like when I'm driving home  
13 in the evenings and such. I'll - -

14 ALDERMAN PUENTE: What time is that - -  
15 What time is that, sir?

16 THE WITNESS: About 5:00 to 6:30 or  
17 thereabouts.

18 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay.

19 THE WITNESS: And then on the weekends,  
20 during - - especially during the weekend evening  
21 hours, I see it.

22 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And you have not seen  
23 any type of prostitution or anything else.

24 THE WITNESS: I can't speak firsthand  
25 to it, no.

1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Do you know if this  
 2 store has, or you mentioned there's a restaurant  
 3 on the corner, what was that?  
 4 THE WITNESS: Yes, the Mexican  
 5 restaurant on the corner.  
 6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: All right. Have you  
 7 seen any type of "no loitering" signs on either  
 8 one of these establishments?  
 9 THE WITNESS: I haven't noticed any.  
 10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. And there,  
 11 again, if - - if you get to work with the  
 12 businesses, bring the stuff to their attention,  
 13 and the police never mentioned it, about getting  
 14 loitering signs on any of these businesses to  
 15 curtail some of this for you?  
 16 THE WITNESS: No. Unfortunately not.  
 17 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. How often do  
 18 you see it? Every day?  
 19 THE WITNESS: Whenever I notice. I  
 20 mean, not every day, no.  
 21 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay.  
 22 THE WITNESS: But significant enough  
 23 that I - - I've noticed it, as a pattern.  
 24 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And when you see  
 25 these young individuals out there, are they on

1 further questions.  
 2 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Mr. Chairman, I  
 3 have a question.  
 4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Zielinski.  
 5 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Do you ever - - Do  
 6 you or your wife ever shop in that - - It's a  
 7 convenience store. It's not a grocery store.  
 8 It's a convenience store. Do you ever shop  
 9 there?  
 10 THE WITNESS: No. I've shopped there  
 11 before once or twice, but not recently.  
 12 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: And can you tell  
 13 me the reason why you don't shop there?  
 14 THE WITNESS: Just don't have any need  
 15 to, I guess.  
 16 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Excuse me.  
 17 THE WITNESS: I don't have any need to,  
 18 I guess. It doesn't have any - - anything I need  
 19 there for the most part.  
 20 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. Okay.  
 21 Thank you very much.  
 22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you.  
 23 MR. MAISTELMAN: Where do you shop?  
 24 THE WITNESS: Pick 'N Save.  
 25 MR. MAISTELMAN: Do you have a car?

1 their bikes? Are they - - Are they moving around  
 2 from the corner back to the - - the alley? What  
 3 - - What are they doing? Are they just standing  
 4 there?  
 5 THE WITNESS: Standing there. And let  
 6 me - - Let me clarify. It's not always just  
 7 young people. It's people of all ages.  
 8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay.  
 9 THE WITNESS: But - - But, yeah.  
 10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: People of all ages.  
 11 What are they doing?  
 12 THE WITNESS: Standing there.  
 13 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Just standing there.  
 14 THE WITNESS: Just standing there.  
 15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. All right.  
 16 Thank you.  
 17 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions by  
 18 committee? Mr. Maistelman.  
 19 MR. MAISTELMAN: Sir, is there anybody  
 20 here in the audience that you recognize  
 21 loitering?  
 22 THE WITNESS: In this audience?  
 23 MR. MAISTELMAN: Yeah.  
 24 THE WITNESS: No, I don't believe so.  
 25 MR. MAISTELMAN: Okay. Thank you. No

1 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
 2 MR. MAISTELMAN: So you can drive to  
 3 Pick 'N Save.  
 4 THE WITNESS: Um-hnh.  
 5 MR. MAISTELMAN: Okay. Thank you.  
 6 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: I have a follow-up  
 7 question. If you didn't have a car, you could  
 8 walk to the Hub Market right across the street.  
 9 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
 10 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: And you can get  
 11 your beer there if you wanted it. Right?  
 12 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do go there.  
 13 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you.  
 14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. I think you were  
 15 playing pingpong. I just wanted to see if that  
 16 volley was going to be returned. Okay. Thank  
 17 you, sir. Our next witness, please. Sir, name,  
 18 address, again, spelling if you - - if it's a  
 19 difficult name.  
 20 THE WITNESS: Charles - - Charles  
 21 Stamschror, spelled S-T-A-M-S-C-H-R-O-R.  
 22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Address, please.  
 23 THE WITNESS: 2571 South Brisbane  
 24 Avenue.  
 25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And how close is that

1 to the applied for - - the place of application  
 2 here?  
 3 THE WITNESS: Maybe eight - - eight to  
 4 ten blocks away.  
 5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: All right. Thank you.  
 6 Sir, your testimony.  
 7 THE WITNESS: Yes. My wife and I - -  
 8 I'm a Milwaukee Firefighter, a Lieutenant, Engine  
 9 18. I work in the Riverwest area. I'm home  
 10 because of my shift, sometimes during the  
 11 daytime. It depends on the schedule. My wife  
 12 and I have two dogs, and we will, you know, walk  
 13 our dogs, take them out. Obviously, we've got  
 14 our bags for the things the dogs leave behind.  
 15 But there have been several occasions over the  
 16 last couple years, and we like to, you know, try  
 17 and keep our money in the Bay View area. That's  
 18 where I've lived for as long as I can remember.  
 19 And there have been people outside of AK Food  
 20 Market. And I didn't really associate them, you  
 21 know, I mean, maybe they were in - - in and out  
 22 of AK Food Market or - - or going in, but they're  
 23 - - they're not business people, professional.  
 24 Sometimes, you know, they're mumbling or, you  
 25 know, I think one time I was walking the dogs and

1 here, it is hearsay.  
 2 THE WITNESS: Okay.  
 3 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Whether it's your  
 4 daughter or your wife, it's hearsay. So, your  
 5 testimony is valid enough, what you've spoken of.  
 6 Anything else you want to add, firsthand  
 7 knowledge?  
 8 THE WITNESS: No. I mean, we've been  
 9 at that residence approximately four years, and  
 10 so I - - And I'd say it - - it's enough that I -  
 11 - it's something that was filed away in the back  
 12 of my head without ever, you know, really  
 13 consciously thinking about it.  
 14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Can I ask you a  
 15 question? You mentioned having concerns about  
 16 showing up at a location where individuals are  
 17 mumbling to themselves. Could you expound on  
 18 that for me?  
 19 THE WITNESS: Kind of like maybe  
 20 someone who is not mentally coherent or maybe  
 21 intoxicated. The kind of person if you're  
 22 walking down the sidewalk on your way to business  
 23 somewhere, and there's somebody dressed in some  
 24 old tattered clothes and they're kind of walking  
 25 around in a circle and maybe mumbling under their

1 some guy was picking some used cigarette butts up  
 2 off the street, and it's - - it just kind of gave  
 3 a little bit of an uncomfortable feeling,  
 4 especially to my wife. And it's - - it's just  
 5 not a place that I would actually go in to shop  
 6 in, and I do ride a bicycle in the area, and, you  
 7 know, I don't necessarily have to take a car to  
 8 go shopping. So it's - - But it's not something  
 9 that I would, you know, send it.  
 10 And here was one incident, I have a 13  
 11 year old daughter. My son and daughter went down  
 12 to, I think it was, Jimmy John's over the summer  
 13 to - - to get a sandwich. And my daughter said  
 14 that there was some strange man out there - -  
 15 MR. MAISTELMAN: I'm objecting.  
 16 THE WITNESS: Okay.  
 17 MR. MAISTELMAN: That's hearsay.  
 18 CHAIRMAN BOHL: It is.  
 19 THE WITNESS: Well, it's my daughter.  
 20 She's a minor.  
 21 MR. MAISTELMAN: I don't care.  
 22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: You still have to - -  
 23 Hold on.  
 24 THE WITNESS: All right.  
 25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Unless your daughter is

1 breath, I'm - - I'm sure, you know, you've seen  
 2 somebody standing like that at a bus stop, the  
 3 kind of person that - - that you may want to, you  
 4 know, walk across the street to avoid contact  
 5 with.  
 6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. Thank you.  
 7 Questions by committee?  
 8 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Mr. Chair?  
 9 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Kovac.  
 10 ALDERMAN KOVAC: You said you've lived  
 11 at that house for four years, but you've been in  
 12 Bay View most of your life?  
 13 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. I lived in a  
 14 different house in Bay View.  
 15 ALDERMAN KOVAC: How long has this  
 16 grocery store been there?  
 17 THE WITNESS: Hmm.  
 18 THE APPLICANT: 15 years sir.  
 19 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Oh, 18.  
 20 ALDERMAN KOVAC: And does your memory  
 21 go back about that far, too, in terms of this  
 22 loitering activity?  
 23 THE WITNESS: I used to live off of - -  
 24 of Pennsylvania and Oklahoma. So I - - It wasn't  
 25 something I would always come, you know, go past.

1 I - - I think so. I - - It's one of those things  
 2 that kind of sticks out in the - -  
 3 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Okay. Thanks.  
 4 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.  
 5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Puente.  
 6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: How often do you walk  
 7 your dog or go by this location in a week?  
 8 THE WITNESS: Between myself and my  
 9 wife, you know, or just myself.  
 10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Just your testimony,  
 11 sir. So all I mean is you.  
 12 THE WITNESS: At least maybe three  
 13 times a month.  
 14 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Three times a month.  
 15 THE WITNESS: Walking the dogs. I mean  
 16 - - I mean - -  
 17 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Whatever you're  
 18 doing.  
 19 THE WITNESS: I would say at least - -  
 20 at least once a week, if I - - If I don't go down  
 21 towards Stone Creek for a cup of coffee or in the  
 22 summertime, Babe's Ice Cream is down there, so  
 23 we're down there. You know.  
 24 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Wintertime?  
 25 Wintertime do you go for these things?

1 is it always the same thing you see, as far as it  
 2 pertains to people mumbling, people loitering,  
 3 people picking up butts?  
 4 THE WITNESS: Excuse me. That was just  
 5 one - - one time with - - with where somebody was  
 6 actually mumbling when I walked by, where I, you  
 7 know, and one time where I saw a guy picking up  
 8 cigarette butts off the ground. The rest of the  
 9 time it's just loitering.  
 10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay.  
 11 THE WITNESS: I just - - I just  
 12 provided two examples. That was all.  
 13 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. So that's been  
 14 one time. What are they doing when you go by,  
 15 these other people that are loitering? Are they  
 16 just standing there?  
 17 THE WITNESS: Basically, yes.  
 18 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And are they standing  
 19 in that area that was prescribed - - or described  
 20 by the person who testified before you, from the  
 21 alley to the corner?  
 22 THE WITNESS: Actually, it's been my  
 23 experience it's almost more directly right in  
 24 front of the store.  
 25 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay.

1 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. I didn't hear  
 2 the question.  
 3 ALDERMAN PUENTE: During the winter, do  
 4 you go for these walks to these locations you  
 5 just mentioned?  
 6 THE WITNESS: I - - I'm - - I go past  
 7 that intersection at least once a week or twice a  
 8 week every day, whether it's a walk or if I'm - -  
 9 if I'm driving, yes.  
 10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. So now - - now  
 11 we're up to once or twice a week you go by - -  
 12 THE WITNESS: Once a week if - - I  
 13 mean, we walk the dogs a lot. They have to, you  
 14 know, you have to take them out, whether it's  
 15 winter or - - or summer, sir.  
 16 ALDERMAN PUENTE: What time does this  
 17 normally happen?  
 18 THE WITNESS: Afternoon, in the  
 19 morning.  
 20 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Various times.  
 21 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.  
 22 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Various days of the  
 23 week?  
 24 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.  
 25 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And when you go by,

1 THE WITNESS: I didn't actually recall  
 2 them, you know, standing on the corner.  
 3 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. And then, the  
 4 group of people that are there, are they young,  
 5 older people, adults?  
 6 THE WITNESS: To the best of my  
 7 recollection, it's usually been adults.  
 8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Have you seen any  
 9 other type of illegal activity there?  
 10 THE WITNESS: No. No, sir.  
 11 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Thank you.  
 12 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions by  
 13 committee members? Mr. Maistelman, anything?  
 14 MR. MAISTELMAN: Sir, have you ever  
 15 contacted the police about any of the issues that  
 16 you've seen there?  
 17 THE WITNESS: Actually - -  
 18 MR. MAISTELMAN: Yes or no.  
 19 THE WITNESS: About this - - About AK  
 20 Food Market, no.  
 21 MR. MAISTELMAN: Thank you. Is there  
 22 anybody in this room; please take your time and  
 23 look around; any of these people that are here,  
 24 whether they support us or not, were any of those  
 25 people, have you ever seen them mumbling in front



1 of this food store? Take a good look now. I  
 2 want to make sure.  
 3 THE WITNESS: No one that I know of.  
 4 MR. MAISTELMAN: Have you seen any of  
 5 these people here ever picking up butts in front  
 6 of the food store?  
 7 THE WITNESS: No one that I'm aware of.  
 8 MR. MAISTELMAN: What did the person  
 9 who picked up the butts do with them?  
 10 THE WITNESS: He was looking at it to  
 11 see if he could smoke it, if there was anything  
 12 left.  
 13 MR. MAISTELMAN: Did you see him smoke  
 14 it?  
 15 THE WITNESS: I saw him pick it up and  
 16 put it to his face like this, and then put it in  
 17 his shirt pocket like I'm going to keep it.  
 18 MR. MAISTELMAN: But he didn't smoke  
 19 it, though. Okay. I have no further questions.  
 20 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Mr. Chairman.  
 21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Zielinski.  
 22 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. Are you  
 23 active in the community, for example, are you a  
 24 blockwatch captain?  
 25 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. I just took

1 30, or 20 by 30?  
 2 THE WITNESS: Blocks? No, no. I'm  
 3 saying it's maybe like four blocks by about ten,  
 4 I believe.  
 5 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. And this is in  
 6 - - within that four to ten block radius, sir?  
 7 THE WITNESS: I - - I don't believe so,  
 8 no.  
 9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Thank you.  
 10 MR. MAISTELMAN: One last question. As  
 11 the blockwatch captain, have you approached my  
 12 client and informed him of some of your concerns?  
 13 THE WITNESS: Your client specifically,  
 14 no, sir. But I would like to add one thing.  
 15 After speaking with the police about other  
 16 matters with our - - as a blockwatch captain, we  
 17 have been instructed as - - as we've been talking  
 18 with the police liaison at the blockwatch  
 19 meetings, if there is a problem property, any  
 20 property in general, they have asked us  
 21 specifically, the police department, do not  
 22 confront that person, that business or - - or  
 23 whatever it is. Contact the police department  
 24 and let the police handle that. Because they  
 25 don't want to have any type of escalation or - -

1 over as the Brisbane Area Blockwatch Captain from  
 2 Chris Allen, who has been our blockwatch captain  
 3 for the last couple of years.  
 4 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. Great. And  
 5 how long have you been a firefighter?  
 6 THE WITNESS: Approximately 18-and-a-  
 7 half years.  
 8 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you. Thank  
 9 you very much.  
 10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.  
 11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Puente.  
 12 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Your blockwatch, what  
 13 - - Because you said you - - eight to ten blocks  
 14 away from this location, what area does your  
 15 blockwatch or your neighborhood watch cover?  
 16 THE WITNESS: From Brisbane Avenue,  
 17 where it dead-ends to Deer Place, and I believe  
 18 it extends almost down to - - I'm trying to think  
 19 of the street. There's Clarence and there's  
 20 another street, and then it expands over.  
 21 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Approximately how  
 22 many blocks?  
 23 THE WITNESS: Maybe 20 to a 30 square  
 24 block radius, I would - - I think.  
 25 ALDERMAN PUENTE: 20 by 20, or 30 by

1 or retaliation or - - or anything else. So  
 2 that's actually one of the reasons why I wouldn't  
 3 do anything, because that - - the police  
 4 department has asked us not to take that action  
 5 into our own hands.  
 6 MR. MAISTELMAN: But isn't your  
 7 testimony earlier that, if that's correct, that  
 8 you did not contact the police regarding my  
 9 client's store. Right?  
 10 THE WITNESS: That is - - That - -  
 11 MR. MAISTELMAN: Despite the advice  
 12 from the police saying don't go talk to your  
 13 neighbor, call the police if you have problems.  
 14 It's - - What you said earlier, it was your  
 15 testimony that you did not contact the police,  
 16 though. Correct? Yes or no?  
 17 THE WITNESS: I'm not following your  
 18 question.  
 19 CHAIRMAN BOHL: He's - - If I may. On  
 20 the instance where you expressed concerns about  
 21 maybe individuals loitering, or picking up  
 22 cigarette butts, whatever else, he wants to know  
 23 if you've ever had reason to contact the police  
 24 department for instances that you - - that you  
 25 testified to.

1 THE WITNESS: No, sir. To the best of  
2 my knowledge, it's not in my blockwatch area. I  
3 -- I didn't --

4 MR. MAISTELMAN: And so why are you  
5 here today again?

6 THE WITNESS: It's still a part of Bay  
7 View. It's part of my community.

8 MR. MAISTELMAN: Okay. So you didn't  
9 contact my client to tell him about the problem.  
10 You didn't contact the police. Thank you very  
11 much. I have no further questions.

12 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair, I do

13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Puente.

14 ALDERMAN PUENTE: I just want to  
15 clarify the instructions that you gave. This is  
16 televised. With the police saying not to  
17 confront anybody. I agree with that. You do not  
18 confront. You do not want to get into arguments  
19 or confrontations. However, there's nobody  
20 that's going to tell me that you cannot call an  
21 individual and treat them with respect, as far as  
22 your concerns are with that establishment, or  
23 even that -- your neighbor. I mean, if you got  
24 a neighbor who you got a problem with a dog, why  
25 does the police want every call to come to them.

1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: The police -- The  
2 police telling you that this individual would be  
3 confrontational and not to contact him.

4 THE WITNESS: No, sir. The police --

5 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you. I just  
6 don't want the wrong message to go out.

7 THE WITNESS: No, sir. I understand  
8 that.

9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And what you're  
10 saying is not a total hundred percent true.

11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I would agree. I don't  
12 think that there's anybody over on this side of  
13 the -- of the table, and with all due respect,  
14 probably even though you are a blockwatch  
15 captain, I'd be willing to venture to say that  
16 any alderman who has been an alderman for almost  
17 a decade has been to more blockwatch meetings  
18 than an individual who used to be -- who is a  
19 blockwatch captain. Because I was a former  
20 blockwatch captain, both before and during while  
21 I was alderman, in addition to having gone to  
22 probably at least over the past decade a 100  
23 plus, well over a century's worth of, meaning  
24 100, blockwatch meetings, I will tell you I've  
25 never heard that. What I will tell you is I --

1 I'm going to tell you, they don't. Okay. If it  
2 can be resolved through your neighborhood  
3 blockwatch, or you can call your neighbor or talk  
4 to your neighbor in an adult way, non-  
5 confrontational, that's what you should do. If  
6 it's a business, the same thing. But if you  
7 can't, if you're going to start screaming and  
8 yelling and you can't do it in a civil way, well,  
9 then, yeah, then don't do it. Then contact the  
10 police. But I will advocate that for the police  
11 department, they don't want to be called for  
12 every little thing that can be resolved in an  
13 adult way.

14 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. I agree with  
15 that 100 percent. But that depends on both  
16 parties acting in an adult way. And if the  
17 police have urged us, they said, if there's any  
18 concern that -- that the person that -- that  
19 there's an issue which is going to not react in  
20 an adult way or -- or in --

21 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And was that -- Was  
22 that the case in this incident, sir? I'm talking  
23 to the gentleman up at the mic.

24 THE WITNESS: The individuals that were  
25 out front of the business?

1 And don't -- don't mince words. I can tell you  
2 that the liaison officers would tell you if you  
3 see somebody loitering out, that you shouldn't  
4 necessarily walk up to the people loitering and  
5 confront them and say, hey, why are you loitering  
6 in front of this store. You need to get the heck  
7 out of here, as opposed to literally going back  
8 to your home or walking into the store or going  
9 home and calling the store and saying, hey, you  
10 know, I'm a blockwatch captain from the area and  
11 I have concerns that I see a lot of people  
12 loitering in your area, as the blockwatch club  
13 coordinator. We're hoping for your assistance in  
14 rectifying this. The two are different. And to  
15 me, you were sort of co -- commingling when  
16 asked the question about contacting the owner of  
17 the store. I believe it's very different than  
18 saying confront individuals who are loiterers. A  
19 prudent person doesn't confront individuals on  
20 the street who may -- who may create problems.  
21 I think a prudent blockwatch captain, at least,  
22 tries to establish a dialog with a business to  
23 make them aware of things and ensure that they're  
24 doing things properly. That -- That's my two  
25 cents, but that's only me with almost a decade's

1 experience as an alderman.  
 2 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair, real  
 3 quick.  
 4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Go ahead, Alderman  
 5 Puente.  
 6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You can communicate  
 7 through letters, too.  
 8 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Yeah, absolutely.  
 9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: A lot of my  
 10 blockwatches do that and businesses. I'll leave  
 11 it at that.  
 12 MR. MAISTELMAN: Are you saying that  
 13 you didn't approach my client because you had a  
 14 prior altercation with him that made you afraid  
 15 to talk to him?  
 16 THE WITNESS: No, sir, I'm not. I - -  
 17 MR. MAISTELMAN: Well, okay. Because  
 18 that's what it sounded like. It sounded like the  
 19 police told you not to approach somebody if you  
 20 think that there could be a problem. And have  
 21 you ever tried to approach my client?  
 22 THE WITNESS: What you just said. The  
 23 police said if you felt there was going to be a  
 24 problem, to contact the police. And - -  
 25 MR. MAISTELMAN: What would lead you to

1 Because I thought that I gathered that from your  
 2 testimony.  
 3 THE WITNESS: Correct.  
 4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: If I may.  
 5 MR. MAISTELMAN: You may. You're the  
 6 Chair.  
 7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Because I'm going to  
 8 anyway.  
 9 MR. MAISTELMAN: I know. I'm not going  
 10 to object.  
 11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: What we have applying  
 12 before us - - Your - - Your testimony then, and  
 13 I'm going to just surmise this, and you correct  
 14 me if I'm wrong. Is your belief is is with the  
 15 addendum of having a license to sell beer, that  
 16 this place would potentially be worse. Because  
 17 ultimately you've never made a complaint. Even  
 18 if they don - - aren't granted this license, they  
 19 are still operating as a convenience store, which  
 20 means the very same issues that you are here  
 21 testifying is a problem, frankly still may go on.  
 22 Am I incorrect on that?  
 23 THE WITNESS: No, sir, I think you're  
 24 correct.  
 25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. And if it is a

1 believe to think that there was going to be a  
 2 problem, I guess? What knowledge in your mind  
 3 would lead you make the assumption, uh-huh, this  
 4 guy could be dangerous, I'm not going to call  
 5 him, I'm not going to call the police?  
 6 THE WITNESS: Some of the people - -  
 7 MR. MAISTELMAN: I'm going to show up  
 8 at a licensing hearing. What went on in your  
 9 head?  
 10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Hold on. Let him  
 11 answer the question, please.  
 12 THE WITNESS: Some of the people that  
 13 were standing outside were of a character or a  
 14 disposition that made me uncomfortable, made - -  
 15 and I wasn't going to go in the store and talk to  
 16 this individual.  
 17 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay.  
 18 THE WITNESS: I didn't know what the  
 19 relationship with the people outside was with the  
 20 store owner.  
 21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: If - - If I may, if  
 22 that is the case, the question I think that would  
 23 beg is, you never have contacted the police  
 24 department, though, based on those issues in  
 25 front of the store, though. Is that correct?

1 real issue, here's what I'm going to urge you to  
 2 do. If that is a real issue, it should be an  
 3 issue whether or not they have a liquor license.  
 4 Now maybe you can say that you believe that this  
 5 may compound the problem. But if it is a real  
 6 issue that it actually brought you, living eight  
 7 blocks away, to this location, I would encourage  
 8 you to provide your - - your name and/or phone  
 9 number to deal with this issue and establish a  
 10 dialog with this gentleman, if it is a problem  
 11 that it would be bring you eight blocks away.  
 12 I'm just - - That's my two cents, but that's me,  
 13 as an - - as an alderman who deals with neighbors  
 14 who have legitimate concerns. But if you have a  
 15 legitimate concern that it brings you here, my  
 16 guess is is you probably will want to resolve it,  
 17 and/or maybe you'll want to go up to him and  
 18 shake his hand and show that you - - you don't  
 19 bite.  
 20 MR. MAISTELMAN: Go shake his hand.  
 21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: No, not right now here.  
 22 THE APPLICANT: It's okay.  
 23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: But it is - - If it's a  
 24 real issue, it's something you're aware of.  
 25 You're aware you have concerns in the

1 neighborhood. I think a good business - -  
2 prudent business owner makes those steps, takes  
3 those steps to productively deal with it. Other  
4 questions by committee at this time? Alderman  
5 Zielinski.

6 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Now, your  
7 blockwatch, the northern boundary is Smith  
8 Street, which is about a block or two blocks  
9 away.

10 MR. MAISTELMAN: A map.

11 THE WITNESS: I believe that's correct,  
12 yes.

13 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: And so the - - the  
14 northern edge of the blockwatch is a block or two  
15 away. Is your blockwatch concerned about  
16 activity at - - at a location like this, a block  
17 or two out of its - - Did they discuss that  
18 because they're concerned about it?

19 THE WITNESS: Yes, we have had  
20 concerns.

21 MR. MAISTELMAN: Discussions regarding  
22 - - Come on.

23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: It is - -

24 MR. MAISTELMAN: Not only is it a  
25 leading question.

1 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And how close is that  
2 approximately?

3 THE WITNESS: About four blocks away.

4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. Please  
5 proceed.

6 THE WITNESS: I go by this  
7 establishment every day on my way to work, and  
8 every day without fail on my way back from work.  
9 I also do my banking at Maritime Bank, so I am  
10 there pretty frequently. I can see what's going  
11 on. I reiterate what a lot of people have  
12 already said, that I see loitering a lot of the  
13 time. I certainly see it between 4:00 and 5:00  
14 when I'm coming back from work, 5:00 and 6:00  
15 maybe sometimes. I hear a lot of noi - - loud  
16 noise in that area. I see cars parked to the  
17 intersection, and I have complained to parking  
18 about this before the attorney asks me his  
19 spectrum of questions that don't apply.

20 MR. MAISTELMAN: Argumentative.

21 THE WITNESS: I can tell him - - I can  
22 tell him that I have called about parking,  
23 because I don't like it when I can't see oncoming  
24 parking - - or oncoming traffic because people  
25 are parked literally to the end of the

1 CHAIRMAN BOHL: He can - - He can speak  
2 for himself, as - - as the person who heads the  
3 blockwatch.

4 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. Do you feel  
5 that the issuance of a beer license will  
6 exacerbate the existing problems at that  
7 location?

8 THE WITNESS: At the AK Food Market, I  
9 think so.

10 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. And now,  
11 where is the closest place in relation to this  
12 where you can buy beer right now?

13 THE WITNESS: I believe Hub Supermarket  
14 is there.

15 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Is that like 15,  
16 20 feet away?

17 THE WITNESS: It's across the street.

18 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Across the street.  
19 Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. If there are no  
21 further questions, thank you, sir. Next witness,  
22 please?

23 THE WITNESS: My name is Vera Pawlak,  
24 P-A-W-L-A-K. My address is 902 East Homer  
25 Street.

1 intersection. There is no place to park there.  
2 If you have a beer license there, it's going to  
3 make it even worse. To ask - - answer some of  
4 the questions about whom do I see there. Well, I  
5 see young men, kind of, just kind of vagabonds,  
6 just kind of hanging out. They're loud. They're  
7 raucous, they're, you know, what this gentleman  
8 just said and the previous man, I - - I  
9 reiterate. I'm a long time Bay View resident.  
10 My family lived in the neighborhood, my parents,  
11 for 11 years, and we love our community. And we  
12 - - we think it's a great community. And we're  
13 interested, we have a vested interest in our  
14 neighborhood. We don't want particularly  
15 establishments like this even in our  
16 neighborhood. Before you ask me, Alderman  
17 Zielinski, if I do my shopping there, no, I don't  
18 - - I don't shop at places that are dirty. And  
19 I'm sorry if that's insulting. But it's a dirty  
20 store. It's unkempt. I don't like the kind of  
21 people hanging out there, and - - and maybe I'm  
22 sounding like world class conscious right now,  
23 but, you know, I would - - I would bet my last  
24 dollar that most people here aren't going to go  
25 into a store if that's what they see in front of

1 the store. And that's not being class conscious.  
 2 That's being - - That's being just smart, street  
 3 smart, okay.  
 4 One of the biggest problems, as I said,  
 5 is the parking, is that I - - I can't tell you  
 6 how many times I've come home, and I come down -  
 7 - I come up east on Lincoln every single night  
 8 from where I work, and I make a right turn going  
 9 south on Howell. I can't tell you how hard it is  
 10 so often to cross that intersection because of  
 11 people parking to the end of the intersection.  
 12 Well, if you have a beer license, you have a lot  
 13 more people there, okay. There are a lot of bars  
 14 in the area. There are a lot of places to get  
 15 your liquor, if that's what you're looking for,  
 16 so that's - - that's - - We don't need that  
 17 again.  
 18 I'm trying to think if I have anything  
 19 else here. City of Milwaukee claim 15, ten, 15  
 20 years ago, quality of life. If you want to keep  
 21 the right kind of people, again, let's not sound  
 22 class conscious, but you know what I'm talking  
 23 about, if you want to have good home owners in  
 24 the area, you got to have quality of life. Okay.  
 25 And whether that's a rental property or that

1 me, so that we can remember that I do have a - -  
 2 a legitimate record.  
 3 We don't need another liquor license at  
 4 this address. If you're talking - - If you  
 5 really believe in quality of life issues, you're  
 6 not going to give that - - You're not going to  
 7 issue that license.  
 8 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. Thank you,  
 9 Ms. Pawlak. And I appreciate that you're here,  
 10 and I know that you're a concerned resident who -  
 11 - who is more active, because you've appeared  
 12 before this committee before, and I - - and I  
 13 give you credit for that, as well, too.  
 14 MS. PAWLAK: I'm taking off work, also.  
 15 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I - - And I appreciate  
 16 that. And I - - And I do know - - I do believe  
 17 that you do care about your community, because  
 18 you wouldn't do otherwise. I - - And I - - I  
 19 know it may not have come out the way that you  
 20 intended it, but I - - I will just say  
 21 personally, I believe, for the record, and I like  
 22 to think that you believe, as well, as a self-  
 23 described Christian, as I would describe myself,  
 24 that there are poor people in this community who  
 25 love this community, as well, too.

1 that's a bar, whether that's a grocery store, the  
 2 kinds of things that the complainants here  
 3 expressing is exactly the kind of thing we don't  
 4 want in our neighborhood. Why? Because of  
 5 quality of life. I have a child. I believe, as  
 6 a Christian, as a person who is - - who has got  
 7 her own personal philosophy about the city, that  
 8 - - that the city should be redeemed. You  
 9 shouldn't just leave the city to poor people and  
 10 uneducated people. The city should be occupied,  
 11 also, by those who care about the city and love  
 12 the city and love their neighborhoods. And I  
 13 don't have anything against Mr. Singh, but I  
 14 would like to see him clean up his place and - -  
 15 and since - - If the question has been raised,  
 16 why haven't some people contacted the .. or  
 17 whoever, all right, then let this - - let this  
 18 community meeting today galvanize the  
 19 neighborhood. We will start to complain. We  
 20 will start to make documentation. We will start  
 21 - - I'm going to start to write down numbers  
 22 where I could park - - when I call daily. From  
 23 now on, I'll call daily about the parking  
 24 situation. And I will write down the numbers,  
 25 the numbers that the - - the parking agent gives

1 THE WITNESS: Oh, I didn't mean to  
 2 sound the words, but we need to protect the  
 3 community - -  
 4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I know. I'm just - -  
 5 I'm saying - -  
 6 THE WITNESS: - - for them.  
 7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: You know what?  
 8 THE WITNESS: We need to protect - - We  
 9 need to protect the community for them.  
 10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I - - I know. And  
 11 that's why I wanted to clarify that, and what I  
 12 will also say, as myself, only speaking for  
 13 myself, as a self-described Christian, or  
 14 identify myself as a Christian, that I also  
 15 believe that individuals, with all due respect,  
 16 those who have mental incapacities that may speak  
 17 themselves are God's children, as well, too.  
 18 That's - -  
 19 THE WITNESS: Well, I'm - -  
 20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: - - my personal  
 21 philosophy, and you know what? It - - It's - -  
 22 Sometimes - - And I understand that, as well,  
 23 too. Sometimes there are individuals that make  
 24 our - - that are a little different from us, and  
 25 frankly I think that that's God's way of

1 challenging us to sometimes question our own  
2 insecurities, as well, too, to accommodate  
3 individuals who are not always the same - -

4 THE WITNESS: Well all - - And also,  
5 Alderman, that we ought to live by the ordinances  
6 that the metropolis establishes - -

7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Absolutely. I - - I  
8 agree.

9 THE WITNESS: - - because - - because  
10 in doing, though, in doing that, we - - we - - we  
11 cause ourselves to protect those who maybe can't  
12 speak or protect themselves.

13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I - - I - - I do concur  
14 with that, that we do have laws that - - that  
15 ought to be abided by. But I'm just saying, I  
16 just - - There have been some comments that have  
17 been made, and what I will say is, is that I just  
18 want to be very careful with - - with that. And  
19 - - And I don't mean to - - to imply anything. I  
20 think that your comments are certainly well  
21 intended and - - and probably can be misconstrued  
22 in a way that is not necessarily the way that you  
23 intended. I just wanted to clarify that.

24 Alderman - -

25 ALDERMAN KOVAC: I just really want to

1 THE WITNESS: Right.

2 ALDERMAN KOVAC: And so I think we  
3 should stick to that topic of how a liquor  
4 license, how people being allowed to buy carryout  
5 beer at this location is going to affect the  
6 neighborhood, and I think we should keep it  
7 specific to that.

8 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Yeah, and I concur. I  
9 mean, it - - what it should be more so, is  
10 concerns that are expressed based on what you  
11 believe the liquor license applied for will do.  
12 And - - And the reason I say that is if you're  
13 expressing concerns about there being individuals  
14 who are loitering or doing things that you  
15 believe are not law abiding, it's not going to  
16 change the fact that that existing business still  
17 has the proper zoning and is operating and will  
18 continue to operate, and, you know, it's  
19 encouraged that you work with that. You know,  
20 the - - that - - that is the case, and, you  
21 know - -

22 THE WITNESS: I don't think anybody is  
23 saying that.

24 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay.

25 THE WITNESS: I don't think anybody is

1 thank you for saying that, because I think  
2 probably we're just misconstruing the comments.  
3 I don't think she meant it that way, but I do  
4 want to state emphatically, you know, that the  
5 poor and the uneducated love this city, too, and  
6 - -

7 THE WITNESS: Yes, they do. And we  
8 need to protect them.

9 ALDERMAN KOVAC: What makes a great  
10 city - - We all need to protect each other. And  
11 what makes a great city is - - is diversity of  
12 occupations or lack of occupations, of education,  
13 of all kinds of diversity.

14 THE WITNESS: What makes a great city  
15 is law abiding citizens.

16 ALDERMAN KOVAC: I think - - I just - -  
17 I'm worried, because you're not the only person  
18 who has brought up this class conscious versus  
19 street smart issue. I - - I think we should nip  
20 this in the bud. We're not - - We're not going  
21 to plan Bay View. We're not going to do the  
22 southeast side plan here and do a development  
23 plan for the whole area. We're talking about one  
24 area, and we're talking about the qualify of life  
25 in that area. We're not - -

1 saying shut down the business. But to answer  
2 your question, there will be more loitering,  
3 there will be more loud music, there will be more  
4 parked cars parked illegally, there will be more  
5 teens and young people hanging out. That's what  
6 you're going to get.

7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And that's - - And  
8 that's your reasonable fear and belief, and  
9 that's fine.

10 THE WITNESS: I think that is a very  
11 logical - -

12 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Yeah. I don't think  
13 there - - I think there's a fair number of people  
14 who would - - who would - - who are potentially  
15 here with you on that. Any other questions by  
16 committee at this time?

17 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.

18 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Puente.

19 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Ma'am, you stated  
20 that on your way home you see loitering?

21 THE WITNESS: All the time.

22 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And that was 4:00 to  
23 5:00, and then you said 4:00 to 6:00. What about  
24 in the morning? What time do you see it when you  
25 go to work? What time is that?

1 THE WITNESS: I - - I usually come down  
 2 Howell and make a left turn on - - on - -  
 3 ALDERMAN PUENTE: What time, ma'am.  
 4 THE WITNESS: On - - That's about  
 5 quarter to nine. There's less in the morning.  
 6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And what time is  
 7 that, ma'am?  
 8 THE WITNESS: About quarter to nine,  
 9 8:45 a.m.  
 10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. And when you  
 11 say less loitering, you said you see a variety of  
 12 different young men?  
 13 THE WITNESS: It's mostly kids, teens,  
 14 and young men.  
 15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. And you did  
 16 state that you will be reporting this illegal  
 17 parking activity.  
 18 THE WITNESS: Yeah, since - - since,  
 19 you know - -  
 20 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Hold on.  
 21 THE WITNESS: Mister attorney here  
 22 keeps bringing this up, I think that, thank you.  
 23 Thanks for the advice. That's what I'm going to  
 24 do from now on. That's what all of us are going  
 25 to do. We'll make our point.

1 THE WITNESS: No.  
 2 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Is there  
 3 loitering at that liquor store across the street?  
 4 THE WITNESS: I haven't seen - - No, I  
 5 haven't really noticed it. I mean, you don't  
 6 notice things that are not noticeable. Right?  
 7 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Whatever. Okay. So  
 8 all the loitering you see in that area, not at  
 9 the, I believe, again, a Mexican restaurant on  
 10 the corner, liquor store across the street, i's  
 11 just the front of this supermarket?  
 12 THE WITNESS: That's right.  
 13 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Alley. Do you belong  
 14 to this blockwatch group that - -  
 15 THE WITNESS: No, I don't.  
 16 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Thank you very  
 17 much, ma'am.  
 18 THE WITNESS: Thank you.  
 19 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay.  
 20 MR. MAISTELMAN: Oh, don't go down,  
 21 ma'am. I've got a lot for you. Stand up.  
 22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Ms. Pawlak. Mr.  
 23 Maistelman.  
 24 MR. MAISTELMAN: Yeah, late night TV  
 25 got a lot with Sarah Palin, but - -

1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: As it pertains to the  
 2 loud music and the parking, can you attribute any  
 3 of those activities to this store?  
 4 THE WITNESS: Well, I see - - I see the  
 5 people right in front of the store. They're  
 6 right in front of the store.  
 7 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Did you see them get  
 8 out of their car and go into the store?  
 9 THE WITNESS: Well, you know - -  
 10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Yes or no, ma'am.  
 11 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
 12 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. The loud music  
 13 that you hear.  
 14 THE WITNESS: In front of the store.  
 15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. They're parked  
 16 in front of the store?  
 17 THE WITNESS: It's parked right in  
 18 front of the store.  
 19 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And it is not  
 20 attributed to - -  
 21 THE WITNESS: I do my banking right  
 22 across the street. I see it.  
 23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: That's fine. It is  
 24 not attributed to the liquor store across the  
 25 street?

1 CHAIRMAN BOHL: No, no, no, no, no. No  
 2 political comments - -  
 3 MR. MAISTELMAN: No, I - - I have a lot  
 4 here with this witness.  
 5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: - - here. Come on.  
 6 MR. MAISTELMAN: Okay. Ma'am. Look  
 7 around the room. You said you saw vagabonds.  
 8 First of all, could you define for the committee  
 9 what a vagabond is?  
 10 THE WITNESS: A vagabond is a person  
 11 who just kind of hangs out, probably unemployed,  
 12 just hanging out, talking to other people, just  
 13 loitering.  
 14 MR. MAISTELMAN: Okay. Do you see any  
 15 of those people here?  
 16 THE WITNESS: No. I wouldn't expect  
 17 them to come here. Would you?  
 18 MR. MAISTELMAN: The question is  
 19 directed to you, ma'am.  
 20 THE WITNESS: And now it's directed to  
 21 you. Would you expect them to come here?  
 22 MR. MAISTELMAN: Would you please  
 23 direct the witness - -  
 24 THE WITNESS: Would you expect a  
 25 vagabond to come here?

1 MR. MAISTELMAN: -- to answer my  
 2 questions? I am not a witness.  
 3 THE WITNESS: I answered with a  
 4 rhetorical question.  
 5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Hold on. Ma'am.  
 6 THE WITNESS: I don't think anyone  
 7 would expect them to show up to a U&L meeting.  
 8 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I -- Don't be  
 9 surprised. There's -- There -- There are --  
 10 We get every variety of individual coming before  
 11 here, so don't ever be surprised about anything.  
 12 Okay?  
 13 MR. MAISTELMAN: Answer my question.  
 14 Okay. Do not ask me questions. I'm asking you  
 15 questions.  
 16 CHAIRMAN BOHL: No. Hold on. You know  
 17 what? And, no, you're asking the Chair  
 18 questions, and the Chair is going to direct the -  
 19 - the witness to -- to respond to them, because  
 20 that's the way it is written in our -- in our  
 21 ordinances.  
 22 MR. MAISTELMAN: I stand corrected.  
 23 Could you please advise the witness, though, to  
 24 answer the questions.  
 25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: If you -- If you may,

1 MR. MAISTELMAN: So you -- you don't  
 2 know if inside the store is dirty or not.  
 3 THE WITNESS: Well, I -- I think I've  
 4 been in that store actually one time and -- and  
 5 along --  
 6 MR. MAISTELMAN: So, okay.  
 7 THE WITNESS: -- some time ago, and  
 8 it's -- I'm -- a couple years ago maybe, when I  
 9 went to the Mexican restaurant. And it's -- I  
 10 -- I probably walked -- I think I walked right  
 11 out. It's just -- It's not a very well kept  
 12 store.  
 13 MR. MAISTELMAN: What did you go to buy  
 14 at the store?  
 15 THE WITNESS: I don't remember.  
 16 CHAIRMAN BOHL: That's -- I don't know  
 17 that that's relevant.  
 18 MR. MAISTELMAN: When did you go --  
 19 When did you go to the store, ma'am?  
 20 THE WITNESS: Probably a couple years  
 21 ago. I went with my friend to the Mexican  
 22 restaurant.  
 23 MR. MAISTELMAN: How do you know that  
 24 the cars are not for the Mexican restaurant or  
 25 other establishments?

1 please.  
 2 THE WITNESS: I don't -- I can't  
 3 identify any of those people here, if they are  
 4 here today.  
 5 MR. MAISTELMAN: Have you ever  
 6 witnessed any of the people in the room here at  
 7 the store?  
 8 THE WITNESS: Not -- No, I can't say I  
 9 have, because I don't go in there, you know, I  
 10 don't go to that store.  
 11 MR. MAISTELMAN: You don't.  
 12 THE WITNESS: I don't go inside of the  
 13 store.  
 14 MR. MAISTELMAN: Okay. So, ma'am, you  
 15 -- you state -- you stated that the place is a  
 16 dirty store. Now, how does that jibe with what  
 17 you just said, that you've never been in the  
 18 store?  
 19 THE WITNESS: Just by looking in, from  
 20 the street, I can see --  
 21 MR. MAISTELMAN: Oh, okay.  
 22 THE WITNESS: -- that it's kind of  
 23 dirty and kind of not real well maintained. The  
 24 facade of the building is not maintained well at  
 25 all.

1 THE WITNESS: Because I see people  
 2 going into the store from their cars.  
 3 MR. MAISTELMAN: How long do you wait  
 4 outside when you were watching these activities  
 5 go on?  
 6 THE WITNESS: Well, I can say this. I  
 7 stop sometimes for the red light, and sometimes  
 8 I'm stopped for a while on the corner, because I  
 9 can't -- I literally can't turn on the corner,  
 10 because I can't see oncoming traffic. So I do  
 11 see people going from their cars into that store.  
 12 And I also go to the bank.  
 13 MR. MAISTELMAN: Could you explain the  
 14 quote that you stated, that these are not the  
 15 right kind of people. What does -- What does  
 16 that mean to you, ma'am?  
 17 THE WITNESS: Is that verbatim? Is  
 18 that verbatim?  
 19 MR. MAISTELMAN: Yes, it is.  
 20 THE WITNESS: I don't think I used that  
 21 kind of -- I don't think --  
 22 MR. MAISTELMAN: Well, then I'll ask  
 23 the --  
 24 THE WITNESS: I think that's your -- I  
 25 think that's your paraphrase of what you'd like



1 me to say. I don't think I said that's the right  
 2 kind of people.  
 3 MR. MAISTELMAN: I'll ask the court  
 4 reporter.  
 5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I - - She's not going  
 6 to be able to pull that up.  
 7 MR. MAISTELMAN: Okay. I recall you  
 8 saying that this is - - the store does - - does  
 9 not encourage the right kind of people to appear.  
 10 Okay, ma'am.  
 11 THE WITNESS: I - - I don't know if  
 12 that's what I said. See, I'm so - - You're - -  
 13 You're so intent on catching me, that I have to  
 14 be real careful to make sure that - -  
 15 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I'm not certain - -  
 16 THE WITNESS: - - I don't agree to  
 17 anything that you try to catch me on. No, that's  
 18 not true.  
 19 MR. MAISTELMAN: Mr. Bohl.  
 20 THE WITNESS: All I can say is that I  
 21 don't think - -  
 22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Hold on, please.  
 23 THE WITNESS: - - anybody - -  
 24 MR. MAISTELMAN: She's out of order.  
 25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Even Miss - - No, Mr.

1 encourage poor people.  
 2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Mr. Maistelman.  
 3 MR. MAISTELMAN: No. I'm making this  
 4 - - I'm a little outraged at this testimony from  
 5 her.  
 6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. I'm going to ask  
 7 you to ask valid questions. If - - If you were  
 8 personally offended at her testimony, you can  
 9 have the personal right, but you still must ask  
 10 valid questions here that are within - - within  
 11 confines of the testimony that should be  
 12 provided, raising legitimate questions for your  
 13 witness. And I think that even we're getting  
 14 beyond that. In fact, I know we're beyond that.  
 15 MR. MAISTELMAN: Chairman - - Mr.  
 16 Chairman, I believe that I'm allowed to cross-  
 17 examine her on statements that she's made. She's  
 18 made statements that she was, she was a  
 19 "Christian." Now, my client is not a Christian.  
 20 And she's making comments about how she doesn't  
 21 want vagabonds in the neighborhood. And my point  
 22 when this goes to the Circuit Court is to say the  
 23 witnesses that were - - the decision, if there  
 24 was a decision, it might have been based upon  
 25 somebody who is racist.

1 Maistelman. Both of you are crossing the line  
 2 here. Please, okay. I don't want to - - I don't  
 3 want to hit the gavel. If we could just one  
 4 after the other, a measure of respect. We may be  
 5 in disagreement over issues. We can deal with  
 6 that respectfully. I don't recall the specifics  
 7 of that, so I'll just - - I'll ask you to move on  
 8 to a different question, Mr. Maistelman.  
 9 MR. MAISTELMAN: What does it mean to  
 10 be a Christian, ma'am?  
 11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I'm going to rule that  
 12 out of order.  
 13 MR. MAISTELMAN: Well, no, I - - May I  
 14 make a - - a proffer of evidence, because my  
 15 client is not a Christian, okay. He's not a  
 16 Christian, and I'm concerned here that this  
 17 witness, after saying, talking about we don't  
 18 want to have these kinds of people around - -  
 19 THE WITNESS: I didn't say that.  
 20 MR. MAISTELMAN: Talking about  
 21 vagabonds, and saying that she's a Christian, I -  
 22 - I have problems, as a Jew, these - - this type  
 23 of a woman making these kind of allegations,  
 24 that's why all of you had to jump up and say,  
 25 whoa, whoa, whoa. You know, the city wants to

1 CHAIRMAN BOHL: But the decision isn't  
 2 made by Ms. Pawlak. The decision is made by the  
 3 aldermen sitting on this side of the table that  
 4 represent a community that represents a rainbow  
 5 of flavors, and you've already had two aldermen  
 6 on this side of the table stand up and even raise  
 7 question with some of the comments.  
 8 MR. MAISTELMAN: I have no further  
 9 statements.  
 10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: You're speaking to us  
 11 and not to her.  
 12 MR. MAISTELMAN: I have no further  
 13 statements.  
 14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: She's not - - She's not  
 15 your jury, Mr. Maistelman, okay.  
 16 MR. MAISTELMAN: Mr. Chairman, and I  
 17 appreciate both you and Alderman Kovac for  
 18 setting the record straight with this witness  
 19 about what - - what she said. I feel like I was  
 20 compelled to do similarly what you also did,  
 21 okay. And I'm - - I have no further questions of  
 22 this witness.  
 23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, Ms. Pawlak.  
 24 Unless, Alderman Zielinski, did you have any  
 25 follow-up?

1 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Yes. I just  
2 wanted to provide Ms. Pawlak an opportunity to  
3 - - to explain the - - what she meant by being a  
4 Christian. I'd like to offer that opportunity.

5 THE WITNESS: Well, I think by being  
6 Christian you - - you do what - - what are stated  
7 in the Judeo Christian ethic. I have great - - I  
8 have great re - - regard for many of my Jewish  
9 friends. If your Jewish Christian heritage - -

10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: You know, Alderman  
11 Zielinski, Ms. Pawlak, I appreciate that we - -

12 THE WITNESS: - - If I got what I need  
13 is that to defend - -

14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Ms. Pawlak.  
15 Five minute recess. Five minute  
16 recess, okay, please.

17 (Whereupon a recess was taken.)

18 CHAIRMAN BOHL: This is a resumption of  
19 the Common Council's licenses committee. I'm  
20 going to ask individuals - - We have testimony  
21 that's been provided. I do not need more  
22 extrapolation on areas here that - - that  
23 frankly, we need not go to. So, I don't even  
24 need to hear from residents who want to come  
25 forward later and say I was offended at that.

1 And I never met the - - the owner, and  
2 - - and I just want to say I have absolutely no  
3 personal disagreement. I just want to describe  
4 my perception of the place, which is pretty  
5 consistent with what was heard before, that there  
6 is a noticeable loitering, and which goes pretty  
7 much in - - in the area in front of the store,  
8 spilling over to right next to the store is an  
9 empty lot with nice, a very nice newly painted  
10 fence.

11 I seen people loitering there or - - or  
12 congregating there, different numbers, two to  
13 maybe four of different ages. I would not say  
14 that - - I would - - I could not say that it's  
15 always the same crowd. But it is very  
16 noticeable. As I drive in to my property, I  
17 almost always have to stop on the red. That is  
18 in front of the other store. So I have about  
19 maybe a minute to see the place. It's right in  
20 front of me. On my way back, often stop at the  
21 red light. I do my banking at the Maritime,  
22 which is across from the store. Occasionally  
23 walk down the street. So - - So that has been a  
24 problem that was pretty consistent. Actually, I  
25 do remember it as getting rather worse. When I

1 You can express that on your own on your own  
2 time, not on the taxpayer's time. I think  
3 everyone here wants to say that, you know, we can  
4 have differences of opinion and let's all rise  
5 above that. If - - If we can tighten our  
6 testimony here and our questioning, and I would  
7 appreciate that way if we can try to get through  
8 this - - this - - this day here expeditiously.

9 If we could, next witness here, sir,  
10 please. Again, name and address for the record.

11 THE WITNESS: Waldek Dynerman, W-A-L-D-  
12 E-K, D-Y-N-E-R-M-A-N.

13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And if you could speak  
14 up a little bit, sir, as well, too, please.

15 THE WITNESS: Okay. I own a property  
16 at 2379 South Howell. That's within the same  
17 block that the AK Mart, and I did not live there,  
18 but I do work in that building, and I am there  
19 almost every single day of the week. I own that  
20 property since 2001, seven years. I lived there  
21 for two years, and I worked there - - And I do  
22 work there consistently. So for the past seven  
23 years I've been in this. I traveled, excuse me,  
24 for that block twice or more times a day, five to  
25 seven days a week, for the past seven years.

1 go seven years back, I'm not sure if I can recall  
2 that clearly that this - - this occurring.

3 Maybe what I was most concerned about  
4 was that I did observe an individual that I'm  
5 pretty certain is a drug dealer, that I haven't  
6 seen for a couple of months now, that used to  
7 hang occasionally in front of my property, but  
8 very often at that particular corner, which would  
9 be either in front of the store or in front of  
10 the Mexican restaurant. Of course, that wouldn't  
11 be every day. I didn't keep any records. I  
12 would have recognized the individual if - - if I  
13 saw him. I did, in one of the blockwatch  
14 meetings, I did report that to the police. I  
15 reported to the police on a couple of different  
16 occasions various - - various drug dealing situa -  
17 - situations that I've seen on Howell, on Smith  
18 and in this particular block.

19 And I don't know that's relevant, but  
20 within that block, which is Howell, Lincoln,  
21 Austin and Smith there are - - there is a  
22 mixture. There is a very fragile balance of  
23 owner-occupied and rental properties, as well as  
24 three apartment buildings of which at least one,  
25 as I understand, is assisted living. And I would

1 like to be understood correctly here, but there  
 2 is - - there is - - There are - - There are  
 3 people living in this neighborhood that need a  
 4 decent grocery store. And I think we do need  
 5 one. By - - By which, and I must say that I'm  
 6 just - - the last time I've been to - - to your  
 7 store was probably four or five years ago, and -  
 8 - and then I just stopped going there. So maybe  
 9 things have changed. I'm not talking about  
 10 anything that goes - - goes on inside. It looks  
 11 very nice on the outside. I - - I understand  
 12 that, you know, I - - I see that, you know, there  
 13 were improvements to the facade. I - - I love  
 14 the Mexican restaurant on the corner. The matter  
 15 to the fact remains, though, that there is a  
 16 store that sells beer 20 feet away. There is a  
 17 bar across from your food store. And to me, it  
 18 feels like a liquor license there is - - it may  
 19 be - - Well, if - - if one wants to make their  
 20 business more profitable, maybe a way to look at  
 21 it would be to provide more decent groceries  
 22 rather - - rather than maybe sort of a  
 23 convenience store. But I - - I'm sorry. I  
 24 shouldn't be really speaking to that.  
 25 So - - So if I - - I guess this is

1 see that, you do need to take practical steps to  
 2 quell it, as well, too. Are there - - Are there  
 3 questions by committee members of this witness  
 4 here?  
 5 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Mr. Chair.  
 6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Kovac.  
 7 ALDERMAN KOVAC: You said that four or  
 8 five years ago you used to shop there. What made  
 9 you stop shopping there?  
 10 THE WITNESS: I - - At that time the  
 11 store carried the usual wrapped prepared junk  
 12 food type groceries that I just don't care for.  
 13 And another convenience store that is just across  
 14 from my property carries the same varieties. So  
 15 there isn't really a real grocery store in the  
 16 area.  
 17 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Did it have any fresh  
 18 produce or deli meat or?  
 19 THE WITNESS: I wouldn't remember this  
 20 point.  
 21 ALDERMAN KOVAC: So when you say that  
 22 the neighborhood, especially that neighborhood,  
 23 given the density of the population and the fact  
 24 that people maybe don't have a ton of money to  
 25 spend and so they need to get some nutritional

1 probably all that I have to say that I have  
 2 observed loitering. I have observed people  
 3 crossing through the traffic, blocking the  
 4 traffic from east to the left side of the street.  
 5 I seen people - - people going directly to the  
 6 store, cars double-parked and people getting out  
 7 to the store, and I could not - - I could not - -  
 8 I did not investigate on my own, obviously. I -  
 9 - All I have to say is what I have observed. So  
 10 I'm concerned that - - that this - - Maybe if I  
 11 can add one more thing. What makes me a little  
 12 - - What I would like to ask - - ask is that if  
 13 one sees consistent loitering in front of one's  
 14 own business, that - - that is not something one  
 15 can miss, and I haven't seen change to that part,  
 16 and that was pretty consistent, like I said, I  
 17 - - I go by that place five, six times a week,  
 18 drive by that place about twice - - twice a day,  
 19 various times of the day.  
 20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I - - I appreciate  
 21 that, and I - - Same thought was going through my  
 22 mind as - - as some of this testimony is being  
 23 stated by - - by neighbors, and that is  
 24 hopefully, as an owner, you're present at some  
 25 point or you're coming and going, and if you do

1 affordable food, what do you - - what do you  
 2 think the neighborhood needs?  
 3 THE WITNESS: Well, I can testify for  
 4 the convenience store that is right next to my  
 5 property, and what I see is over-priced junk  
 6 food, and the people in the - - in the  
 7 neighborhood very often do not have  
 8 transportation to go anywhere else. So, they  
 9 have to shop there.  
 10 ALDERMAN KOVAC: That's a problem in a  
 11 lot of neighborhoods.  
 12 THE WITNESS: Okay.  
 13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: But here's - - here's  
 14 the retort that I have. And I don't want to even  
 15 - - Because I don't know that that's a pertinent  
 16 question. The retort is if you think that  
 17 there's a viable space for an alternative, I  
 18 encourage you to open a fruit market and/or a  
 19 vegetable place yourself. If you believe that  
 20 there's a niche there or, you know, Alderman  
 21 Kovac, I'm sure there's some vacancies in the  
 22 area. I - - I certainly believe that Alderman  
 23 Zielinski would be happy to have alternatives in  
 24 the neighborhood, as well, too. And you know  
 25 what, I say that with all due respect, because I

1 think there's too much crap, as well, too. And,  
 2 you know, my desire is I don't buy the crap for  
 3 myself, and or my kids want the crap, I say no.  
 4 And too often we get to the point where we want  
 5 government to save us from ourselves. Government  
 6 prohibit us from having Zingers because I can't  
 7 stop myself from buying them and it will actually  
 8 make me put on weight.  
 9 MR. MAISTELMAN: Mr. Chairman.  
 10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: That's just the -- the  
 11 side commentary.  
 12 MR. MAISTELMAN: Mr. Chairman.  
 13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Literally it becomes  
 14 true what becomes so -- so absurd that -- that  
 15 we literally we have to legislate Zingers out of  
 16 -- out of business, or, you know, put a -- put  
 17 a major tax on Zingers, because if not, I'll want  
 18 to buy Zingers because they look rather yummy in  
 19 the -- Can I have those chips? My lunch chips  
 20 have not been eaten --  
 21 MR. MAISTELMAN: And your soda? And  
 22 your soda?  
 23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other -- Other  
 24 questions for this witness here, please.  
 25 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.

1 front of the store, handing out in front of the  
 2 store, yes.  
 3 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And did you call the  
 4 police then?  
 5 THE WITNESS: Not at that particular  
 6 moment, but I -- I called about that individual  
 7 more than once.  
 8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: How did you know this  
 9 individual was a drug dealer?  
 10 THE WITNESS: Well, that's only based  
 11 on my observation. I've seen him meeting other  
 12 people. I've seen small packets exchanging  
 13 hands.  
 14 ALDERMAN PUENTE: In front of this  
 15 store or somewhere else?  
 16 THE WITNESS: No, that would be more on  
 17 Smith Street. I could -- I could see it from my  
 18 property.  
 19 CHAIRMAN BOHL: But he also said the  
 20 guy hung out in front of his store, too.  
 21 ALDERMAN PUENTE: I understand that.  
 22 I'm trying to establish that these drug dealers  
 23 are not in one location.  
 24 THE WITNESS: And that's -- That --  
 25 That -- I would actual -- I would actually just

1 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman -- Alderman  
 2 Puente.  
 3 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You stated you do not  
 4 live there. Correct?  
 5 THE WITNESS: I -- I moved about -- I  
 6 lived there for two years. I owned the property  
 7 for seven. I'm there -- I'm there almost every  
 8 day. I work in the --  
 9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Do you live there,  
 10 sir?  
 11 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry?  
 12 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You do not live  
 13 there.  
 14 THE WITNESS: I do not live there, no.  
 15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you. Okay.  
 16 The drug activity that you've seen in the  
 17 different blocks that you've mentioned, do you  
 18 attribute all those drug activities to this  
 19 store?  
 20 THE WITNESS: No, I --  
 21 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Did you see any drug  
 22 activity in front of this store?  
 23 THE WITNESS: I saw --  
 24 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Yes or no.  
 25 THE WITNESS: I saw the drug dealer in

1 -- just observe him through the window and --  
 2 and I -- I would spend -- I mean, I'm -- I'm  
 3 pretty certain that this is what he does. I  
 4 haven't seen him. I know where he lives. I  
 5 haven't seen him for several months now.  
 6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: When you see these  
 7 other people loitering in the area, you only see  
 8 them in front of this store. Is that correct?  
 9 They're not in front of the bank. I think you  
 10 believe, you said, some of it was in front of the  
 11 Mexican restaurant --  
 12 THE WITNESS: No, no. No, they --  
 13 ALDERMAN PUENTE: -- up through the  
 14 alley. Sir, let me finish my question, please.  
 15 THE WITNESS: Okay.  
 16 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And then you can  
 17 answer. Okay? Do you see any other loitering  
 18 besides in front of this store, other than your  
 19 testimony, I believe it was between the Mexican  
 20 restaurant and the alley, where there's a  
 21 beautiful fence, you said?  
 22 THE WITNESS: Within that block of  
 23 Howell.  
 24 ALDERMAN PUENTE: In that area, sir.  
 25 THE WITNESS: You would have to be more

1 specific. What do you mean by "this area?" You  
 2 mean - -  
 3 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Within a block  
 4 radius. How about the other liquor store? You  
 5 mentioned the other grocery store down by - -  
 6 THE WITNESS: The other liquor store is  
 7 20 feet away.  
 8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Do you see  
 9 loitering there?  
 10 THE WITNESS: No.  
 11 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Thank you. Do  
 12 you see loitering in the bank?  
 13 THE WITNESS: No.  
 14 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. So you said  
 15 there was another grocery store or correction, a  
 16 convenience store; even though you say, you used  
 17 the word, grocery; convenience store down by  
 18 where your business is?  
 19 THE WITNESS: Correct.  
 20 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And that's where you  
 21 shop now.  
 22 THE WITNESS: That's - -  
 23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Is there loitering  
 24 over there?  
 25 THE WITNESS: Yes.

1 What - - What have you done?  
 2 THE WITNESS: Well, the - - the  
 3 loitering is not on my property. It's on the  
 4 property of somebody who owns that store and owns  
 5 the gas station that's - - it's together. I talk  
 6 to their employees. I talk to the owner. The  
 7 owner told me this is my property, I can do as I  
 8 wish. That was how far I got with the owner of  
 9 that property. I - - But like I said, I'm too -  
 10 - I was just too busy with .. to be able to do  
 11 more about that.  
 12 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. That's fine,  
 13 sir. I got that you're a very busy man.  
 14 THE WITNESS: Okay.  
 15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. As it pertains  
 16 to double-parking. The only place in that block  
 17 radius, the only place they double-park is in  
 18 front of this store?  
 19 THE WITNESS: I wouldn't be able to say  
 20 yes. I would not be able to say. I don't know.  
 21 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You don't know.  
 22 THE WITNESS: Because I drive - -  
 23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Have you - -  
 24 THE WITNESS: When I move from that  
 25 area, I drive, so.

1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: There is. As a  
 2 business owner, have you or would you not prefer  
 3 somebody to come and talk to you about if there  
 4 was a problem in your business?  
 5 THE WITNESS: I have attempted that  
 6 with the owner of the gas station and convenience  
 7 store across from my property - -  
 8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: What about this - -  
 9 What about this individual?  
 10 THE WITNESS: I - - I never had a  
 11 pleasure to - -  
 12 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You never went to - -  
 13 THE WITNESS: - - to meet the owner.  
 14 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Why is that, sir?  
 15 THE WITNESS: Just working two jobs,  
 16 being very, very busy. And taking care of my  
 17 adjacent corner, and I've been trying to take  
 18 care of the loitering problem in front of my  
 19 property.  
 20 ALDERMAN PUENTE: So then there is a  
 21 loitering problem in front of your property, too.  
 22 And do you know how - -  
 23 THE WITNESS: It has been managed.  
 24 ALDERMAN PUENTE: - - difficult it is  
 25 to address that then, because you've been trying?

1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Have you seen double-  
 2 parking at the other liquor store when you stop  
 3 there for the red light?  
 4 THE WITNESS: There cannot be double-  
 5 parking, because there is a bus stop in front of  
 6 the other store.  
 7 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Oh, that would be  
 8 illegal.  
 9 THE WITNESS: To park or double-park  
 10 would be illegal. That's why - -  
 11 ALDERMAN PUENTE: But double-parking is  
 12 illegal, too. Just because it's a park - - a bus  
 13 stop area does not mean people couldn't stop  
 14 there. Have you ever seen a car parked there in  
 15 front of the bus stop illegally, in front of that  
 16 other liquor store?  
 17 THE WITNESS: I did not. I fail to see  
 18 your point.  
 19 ALDERMAN PUENTE: So at the gas station  
 20 down by your business, have you seen any illegal  
 21 parking over there?  
 22 THE WITNESS: Yes, I did.  
 23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Have you seen illegal  
 24 parking by the bank across the street from this  
 25 establishment?

1 THE WITNESS: I don't know. I wouldn't  
 2 -- I couldn't say.  
 3 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Have you seen any  
 4 other illegal activity in front of this place,  
 5 other than you saw a drug dealer in front of  
 6 this? Any -- Any prostitution? Any -- Any  
 7 other illegal activity?  
 8 THE WITNESS: I'm aware of one person  
 9 that, again, based on what I observed --  
 10 observed, was a prostitute, and I have seen there  
 11 -- her walk down in that direction. That's all  
 12 I can say. I don't know if she went to the  
 13 store. I never saw her hang out in front of the  
 14 store.  
 15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Thank you, Mr.  
 16 Chairman.  
 17 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. Mr.  
 18 Maistelman.  
 19 MR. MAISTELMAN: I have nothing.  
 20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Zielinski.  
 21 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: That convenience  
 22 store across the street from where you live,  
 23 you've testified at a previous meeting about  
 24 their 24-hour license. Correct?  
 25 THE WITNESS: That was somebody else

1 witness, please.  
 2 THE WITNESS: Thank you.  
 3 THE WITNESS: My name is Chris Allen.  
 4 C-H-R-I-S, A-L-L-E-N. I live at 2525 South  
 5 Brisbane Avenue.  
 6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And the proximity to  
 7 the --  
 8 THE WITNESS: That's one thing I do  
 9 want to point out right away. Mr. Chuck  
 10 Stamschor, the -- the first gentleman to  
 11 testify, he -- he is not eight to ten blocks  
 12 away, because I live just down the block from  
 13 him. We are four blocks away.  
 14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay.  
 15 THE WITNESS: So I want to make a point  
 16 of that.  
 17 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Very good. Thank you.  
 18 THE WITNESS: That our neighborhood is  
 19 four blocks away from the -- from the business.  
 20 I originally grew up in Bay View. After my  
 21 parents had been experiencing some issues with  
 22 the neighborhood in the mid '80s, we moved out to  
 23 the suburbs. We moved to Franklin. 20 years  
 24 later I've specifically chosen to live in Bay  
 25 View, to buy a home in Bay View. I want to raise

1 testifying, but I -- I -- I expressed my -- my  
 2 complaints.  
 3 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Did they lose  
 4 their -- Did they lose their 24-hour license for  
 5 loitering?  
 6 THE WITNESS: They did, yeah.  
 7 MR. MAISTELMAN: Point of order. I'm  
 8 not following the questioning. What are talking  
 9 about?  
 10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I -- I think that  
 11 we're talking about a 24 hour license stop right  
 12 at a convenience store.  
 13 MR. MAISTELMAN: That's not the ..  
 14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I understand. He -- I  
 15 think what he's saying is that there were  
 16 problems and they're being addressed.  
 17 MR. MAISTELMAN: Oh ..  
 18 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I'm just kind of -- in  
 19 that area that neighbors are proactive when there  
 20 are other concerns in the immediate vicinity.  
 21 MR. MAISTELMAN: I apologize. I just  
 22 didn't follow it.  
 23 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Exactly. That's  
 24 precisely my point. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
 25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, sir. Next

1 my family. I want to be able to own a home where  
 2 I don't have to worry about people attracted to  
 3 this area from whatever kind of convenience  
 4 stores or whatever kind of businesses are in this  
 5 area.  
 6 Two years ago our neighborhood  
 7 experienced a pretty significant increase of  
 8 criminal activity that's going on in the  
 9 neighborhood. What I did is I formed a  
 10 neighborhood watch. Heard a lot about  
 11 blockwatches. I formed the neighborhood watch.  
 12 This watch extends from Deer Place on the south,  
 13 to Lincoln Avenue on the north, Howell -- Howell  
 14 Avenue on the -- I'm sorry -- Howell Avenue on  
 15 the east, to Greeley Street on the west. This  
 16 area is bordered by three convenience stores,  
 17 all on Howell Avenue, all within one block. So  
 18 far with our neighborhood watch, we've taken care  
 19 of some nuisance properties, we've taken care of  
 20 some criminal activity that's taken place in our  
 21 neighborhood. We've learned to protect  
 22 ourselves. Because of the successes I've had in  
 23 putting this neighborhood blockwatch together,  
 24 I'm now the Safety Chair of the Bay View  
 25 Neighborhood Association. So what I've seen,

1 what I've done, has had improvements, and I want  
2 to make sure that these improvements continue to  
3 take - - to take place.

4 While each of us take precautionary  
5 measures on our own properties, we, as a  
6 community, must also take precautionary measures  
7 for our own neighborhood as a whole. Because we  
8 care about our neighborhood, we're looking to  
9 decrease the criminal activity in the  
10 neighborhood, get rid of the criminal activity  
11 that these stores attract. And, therefore, I'm  
12 opposed to granting a liquor license to this  
13 establishment. Again, as I mentioned, there are  
14 three convenience stores within one block.  
15 That's more than enough, more than we need to  
16 see.

17 If you approach the intersection of  
18 Howell, Lincoln and KK at virtually any time of  
19 day, you are likely to see any of the following  
20 occurring from these stores' clientele, public  
21 intoxication - -

22 MR. MAISTELMAN: I would object. I  
23 would ask, is he testifying to this? It sounds  
24 like he said you might see or you would see. Is  
25 - - Is this testimony from - - that he actually

1 MR. MAISTELMAN: Okay.

2 THE WITNESS: Correct. Again, the  
3 clientele that these stores attracts affects the  
4 neighborhood directly - - directly surrounding  
5 them. As I, myself, and neighbors - - Let me  
6 point out it is me, myself, have seen people  
7 stumbling around drinking cans of beer and  
8 bottles of liquor, throwing them down on my  
9 street, requesting money, as well as kids  
10 loitering around the block and onto private  
11 properties instead of attending school.

12 I realize that this isn't all coming  
13 from one specific business, but this is a  
14 collection of businesses that are attracting a  
15 problem that we're looking to take care of. To  
16 reinforce this type of activity is not the type  
17 of commerce that myself, my neighbors, are  
18 looking to bring into our neighborhood. We're  
19 looking to attract quality retail and restaurants  
20 with well thought out business plans that reflect  
21 the values of our community and not detract from  
22 our values. I worked very hard over the past two  
23 years on taking a bigger step now with the  
24 Neighborhood Association to - - to bring things  
25 back to where they should belong as a

1 witnessed himself?

2 THE WITNESS: Yes.

3 MR. MAISTELMAN: Thank you.

4 THE WITNESS: Approach at any - - at  
5 any - - virtually any time of the day and you may  
6 likely see any of the following: public  
7 intoxication, public consumption of alcohol, drug  
8 deals, consistent loitering, and kids coming in  
9 and out of these stores buying junk food, smoking  
10 cigarettes, not only before school and after  
11 school, but I'm talking about during the day, as  
12 well. The clientele that these stores attracts  
13 impacts the surrounding neighborhoods directly.

14 MR. MAISTELMAN: Point of  
15 clarification.

16 CHAIRMAN BOHL: No. Just let him - -  
17 let him finish.

18 MR. MAISTELMAN: What store is he  
19 talking about?

20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Just the three stores  
21 in the immediate area. And I'm going to believe,  
22 including the one going here.

23 THE WITNESS: Correct.

24 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Just - - Just please  
25 let him finish here.

1 neighborhood. If we continue to grant a - - a  
2 liquor license to yet another establishment, I  
3 don't know what's going on here. So that's what  
4 I got to say. Now, eat me up now, because I'm  
5 expecting it.

6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Do you - - Can you tell  
7 the committee, because I don't know, offhand, how  
8 many of these convenience stores - - there's one  
9 before us. Do either of the other convenience  
10 stores have liquor licenses attached to them?

11 THE WITNESS: Yes.

12 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Both of them or one of  
13 the two? One of the two do.

14 MR. MAISTELMAN: Where's the listing  
15 from the licensing clerk? Wouldn't she know?

16 CHAIRMAN BOHL: No. You know what?  
17 The question was answered to me, and we'll trust  
18 that that is correct.

19 MR. MAISTELMAN: I don't think the  
20 problem is - - Do we have a record of that?

21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Mr. Maistelman, I  
22 haven't recognized you. So if you would please  
23 refrain here at this point.

24 MR. MAISTELMAN: Sure.

25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: The - - The follow-up

1 question, I guess I would have, is look, I  
 2 understand your concerns that you're expressing.  
 3 The extrapolation has to be that the sale of  
 4 alcohol is going to make the matter worse,  
 5 because I - - I guess, I, as an outsider, it can  
 6 be taken two ways. You know, you talk about the  
 7 type of individuals that these stores attract.  
 8 My guess is and my hunch is these store - - these  
 9 stores are attracting people from your  
 10 neighborhood. You know, if, again, raising the  
 11 issue if the comment, and not specifically yours,  
 12 if they're attracting individuals that are less  
 13 than desirable, then you choose to live in a  
 14 neighborhood with people that you believe are  
 15 less than desirable, which would, you know, raise  
 16 the question if you don't desire to live there,  
 17 there's other pastures that you may deem greener  
 18 elsewhere. I'm not telling you where to live,  
 19 but I'm just saying, whether this is applied for  
 20 or not, you're describing a scene of problem,  
 21 problem, problem, problem, with just this being a  
 22 legitimate grocer on the corner or convenience  
 23 store where this is still going on.

24 The other legitimate issue, and I do  
 25 not - - just as I'm not trying to provide a side

1 granting more. I'm just saying if we're true and  
 2 honest with ourselves, I think we recognize those  
 3 things.

4 THE WITNESS: I do understand that not  
 5 everyone who is attending - - or coming to these  
 6 establishments are strangers to our neighborhood.  
 7 I realize that they are neighbors in our  
 8 neighborhood, which I believe creates - - leads  
 9 to another issue that to some degree these stores  
 10 are preying on our own residents. Residents that  
 11 don't have money. Residents that don't have  
 12 their kids in schools. They're creating these  
 13 opportunities and attractions to keep these - -  
 14 this kind of activity coming back, this - - this  
 15 shopping coming back.

16 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I - - You know what? I  
 17 disagree with that, because you know what? Trick  
 18 or Treat is preying on our children then if  
 19 that's the case here. We ought to stop  
 20 officially sanctioning it here. We ought to  
 21 prohibit it, because when my kids run around,  
 22 they come back home with a - - with a whole boat  
 23 load of crap that they don't need. True or not  
 24 true. You know, we can take that to ad nauseam.  
 25 I - - As I said, I get real tired of saying

1 commentary, but I will say is that I don't know -  
 2 - I don't know, as a whole, because it's just a  
 3 general truth. If individuals in that  
 4 neighborhood are looking to buy liquor, whether  
 5 it's from this gentleman or a place across the  
 6 street, I honestly don't know that one other  
 7 place selling beer is going to cause there to be  
 8 more or less public consumption; that, generally  
 9 speaking, the general people who are shopping in  
 10 the neighborhood are going to buy the same amount  
 11 of beer. They just may spread their beer  
 12 purchase potentially.

13 Currently you may find somebody who  
 14 goes to his store to buy cigarettes and food, and  
 15 if they ever want a six-pack of beer, they may go  
 16 across the street. I don't know that there are  
 17 going to be any more or any less. If we're  
 18 honest with ourselves, if there's public  
 19 consumption of alcohol, I don't know that there  
 20 will be any more or any less if he's granted a  
 21 license than if the place across the street still  
 22 continues to sell. If there are people who are  
 23 going to imbibe and walk around drunk, I'm not  
 24 certain that it's going to be more or any - - or  
 25 less. I'm not saying that that's a reason for

1 people thinking that government needs to protect  
 2 us from ourselves. Alderman Kovac.

3 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Yes. I just wanted to  
 4 say quickly I do think areas with the higher  
 5 concentration of carryout alcohol tend to have a  
 6 higher concentration of people drinking that  
 7 alcohol. And you're right that overall maybe  
 8 it's not going to change the equation that much,  
 9 but most - - take a poll, most people in the city  
 10 wouldn't want three Class "A" licenses on their  
 11 block. I don't think you would want that on your  
 12 block.

13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: No. No, I - - I  
 14 definitely concur. What - - What my point is, is  
 15 if it's a problem in that neighborhood, it's  
 16 occurring because there is - - there is a problem  
 17 in that neighborhood. And I don't know that - -  
 18 I'm not saying that it's a reason for adding  
 19 more. I'm just saying that I don't know that  
 20 it's detracting when it's already being described  
 21 as a constant problem. I - - I don't know that  
 22 you're going to add more consumption because you  
 23 add one more place of business, is what I'm  
 24 saying.

25 THE WITNESS: We're taking - -



1 CHAIRMAN BOHL: If it's a problem, it's  
 2 a problem, probably notwithstanding. It's not  
 3 necessarily a reason for adding more.  
 4 THE WITNESS: We're taking precaution  
 5 to prevent things like that from - -  
 6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: The only - - The only  
 7 difficulty I have with that comment is - - is  
 8 that we've had testimony from other neighbors  
 9 here talking about things that they deem as  
 10 problems, loitering, so on and so forth. Yet,  
 11 nobody's contacting the police, nobody's  
 12 contacting the business owners. There's - -  
 13 There's been really no precaution, really I think  
 14 is truly legitimately valid, other than the fact  
 15 that you're trying to stop this one individual  
 16 from getting a license, frankly does nothing to  
 17 undo all the problems that everybody's been  
 18 testifying to that nobody is ever taking to those  
 19 business owners or contacting the police for.  
 20 THE WITNESS: I have, again, as the - -  
 21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I'm not - - And I'm not  
 22 speaking to you. I'm speaking to three other,  
 23 four other individuals who testified - -  
 24 THE WITNESS: I understand. Every  
 25 watch coordinator, this issue comes up every time

1 were any problems there. Now you're telling me  
 2 there is a problem there. Is that correct?  
 3 THE WITNESS: I - - I - -  
 4 ALDERMAN PUENTE: That you personally  
 5 witnessed?  
 6 THE WITNESS: Yes. Yes.  
 7 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. What was it  
 8 then?  
 9 THE WITNESS: I've seen public  
 10 consumption of alcohol. I've seen, you know, the  
 11 - - the "L" word, loitering. I see that all the  
 12 time. Again, the kids, in and out of there,  
 13 whether it's during the school hours, whether  
 14 it's not, buying cigarettes for friends.  
 15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Now, we're not  
 16 talking about this gentleman's place.  
 17 THE WITNESS: Well, you're asking about  
 18 the Hub supermarket, the one that sells the  
 19 liquor.  
 20 ALDERMAN PUENTE: I just want to  
 21 clarify that.  
 22 THE WITNESS: Yeah.  
 23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. That's where  
 24 the liquor store is.  
 25 THE WITNESS: That's what I see

1 every monthly meeting, is these three convenience  
 2 stores. We have talked to the police liaison. I  
 3 understand now from previous discussions that  
 4 residents should be taking their - - their  
 5 concerns directly to the business owners. But  
 6 let me point out that I've invited this store,  
 7 among many - - all the - - all the other three  
 8 convenience stores to attend our blockwatch  
 9 meetings, and none of the three have ever  
 10 attended.  
 11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. And I appreciate  
 12 that, because that is something being collective.  
 13 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Mr. Chairman.  
 14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: One second, Alderman  
 15 Zielinski. Are there any other questions by  
 16 committee?  
 17 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.  
 18 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Puente.  
 19 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Sir, the other  
 20 convenience store that has the liquor license,  
 21 the other three people before you testified  
 22 they've never seen any loitering there and - -  
 23 THE WITNESS: I have.  
 24 ALDERMAN PUENTE: - - really never,  
 25 really never has made any testimony that there

1 happening in front of that liquor store.  
 2 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Hub.  
 3 THE WITNESS: There - - In the front of  
 4 Hub.  
 5 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Right.  
 6 THE WITNESS: I also see problems in -  
 7 - in front of AK Food Mart.  
 8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: How often do you see  
 9 the problems?  
 10 THE WITNESS: Every day.  
 11 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Every day.  
 12 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
 13 ALDERMAN PUENTE: All the time?  
 14 THE WITNESS: I go to work in the  
 15 morning. I come home at night. Sometimes I walk  
 16 back and forth with my son. We go out to eat.  
 17 I'd say probably every day, at least two times.  
 18 Sometimes three or four.  
 19 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Do you see them  
 20 loitering or any illegal activity in front of the  
 21 Mexican restaurant?  
 22 THE WITNESS: Which Mexican restaurant?  
 23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: The one that I've  
 24 been referring to all day, the one - -  
 25 THE WITNESS: The one on the corner.

1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Between the two of  
 2 convenience stores, there's one right on the  
 3 corner between them.  
 4 THE WITNESS: And what's the question?  
 5 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Did you see any  
 6 loitering there?  
 7 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
 8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Do you see any  
 9 illegal activity there?  
 10 THE WITNESS: In, specifically in front  
 11 of the Mexican restaurant on the corner?  
 12 ALDERMAN PUENTE: That is correct.  
 13 THE WITNESS: Have I seen ill - -  
 14 illegal activity there? Yes, I have.  
 15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Thank you.  
 16 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Do they have a liquor  
 17 license there? Maybe you ought to have the  
 18 neighbors - -  
 19 ALDERMAN KOVAC: I've had a Margarita  
 20 there.  
 21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: You know, coming  
 22 forward on the renewal of the license there.  
 23 THE WITNESS: Before you came here?  
 24 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I'm just saying. You -  
 25 - You see the point.

1 THE WITNESS: In a nutshell would this  
 2 increase the activity?  
 3 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Yes.  
 4 THE WITNESS: Yes, absolutely.  
 5 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: End of questions,  
 6 thank you.  
 7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Mr. Maistelman?  
 8 MR. MAISTELMAN: Sir, you said that you  
 9 want to attract certain types of people into this  
 10 community that have the same values as - - as you  
 11 and the community. What does that mean?  
 12 THE WITNESS: It means I'd like to see  
 13 a business plan that has something to offer the  
 14 community.  
 15 MR. MAISTELMAN: What are the values of  
 16 your community? You said that you want to  
 17 attract people that have the values of your  
 18 community. And since you're coming from  
 19 Franklin, I'm just curious what are the  
 20 values - -  
 21 THE WITNESS: I don't live in Franklin  
 22 now.  
 23 MR. MAISTELMAN: You came from  
 24 Franklin. Correct?  
 25 THE WITNESS: As a child, I grew up - -

1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You don't have to  
 2 answer that.  
 3 MR. MAISTELMAN: He's not your lawyer.  
 4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Zielinski, go  
 5 ahead.  
 6 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: In terms of  
 7 loitering and these other issues, what particular  
 8 establishment, if you had to pick one, has the  
 9 highest concentration of loitering and these  
 10 other problems that you discussed?  
 11 THE WITNESS: Right now, it's - - it is  
 12 AK Food Mart. You have - - You have Hub that's  
 13 across the street.  
 14 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Is that what you  
 15 said? AK is the - -  
 16 THE WITNESS: I'd say, yeah, AK.  
 17 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: So that answers my  
 18 question. Is your concern that given the fact  
 19 that the AK Market is the biggest problem in the  
 20 area in terms of loitering and these other  
 21 issues, that the issuance of a license will  
 22 exasperate the - - exasperate the existing  
 23 situation with respect to loitering and drug  
 24 dealing and all these other concerns that you  
 25 have?

1 MR. MAISTELMAN: Right. Right. So,  
 2 I'm curious, what are your values of the  
 3 community - - What are you referring to?  
 4 THE WITNESS: Neighbor - -  
 5 MR. MAISTELMAN: Are you referring to  
 6 diversity or a business plan? I'm not sure. I  
 7 want to hear it from you.  
 8 THE WITNESS: You have to repeat your  
 9 question.  
 10 MR. MAISTELMAN: What do you mean by,  
 11 "I want to attract people to the neighborhood  
 12 that share the same values as - - as the  
 13 community does." What does that mean? And - -  
 14 And it's in context of what you stated earlier  
 15 that, you know, you were coming from Franklin,  
 16 which is; I don't know; that's someplace else,  
 17 not in the City of Milwaukee.  
 18 THE WITNESS: In a nutshell, your  
 19 question is what values do I want. Is that  
 20 correct?  
 21 MR. MAISTELMAN: No. Well, you - - You  
 22 said it, I want to attract people that share the  
 23 values of your community, and I'm - - I'm trying  
 24 to figure out what does that mean. Do you want  
 25 diversity or do you want a business plan?

1 THE WITNESS: Can I answer? Can I  
 2 answer? I'd like the community where neighbors  
 3 talk to each other. That community with values  
 4 is one where, whether a business owner, whether a  
 5 resident, whether a homeowner, whether you're not  
 6 even in the neighborhood, that you respect  
 7 another person, their - - their sense of space,  
 8 their sense of sound, that you don't invade that  
 9 - - that privacy. I think it's important that a  
 10 value that we find in our community is that  
 11 there, yeah, that there is diversity, that we do  
 12 enjoy and appreciate all that different diversity  
 13 that comes to our neighborhood.

14 MR. MAISTELMAN: Thank you. That was a  
 15 good response. Could you acknowledge, though,  
 16 you know, you said one of the things is people  
 17 communicating and talking, neighbors talking.  
 18 Right? Could you possibly have misinterpreted  
 19 people for loitering, for people, neighbors that  
 20 were actually talking in front of the sidewalk?

21 THE WITNESS: Not when I see them every  
 22 day.

23 MR. MAISTELMAN: Okay.

24 THE WITNESS: I talk to my neighbors  
 25 every day.

1 here's all the information, we'd really  
 2 appreciate it if you come.

3 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. And did you  
 4 give it to this individual?

5 THE WITNESS: I can't say.

6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: How long ago was  
 7 that, sir?

8 THE WITNESS: It was earlier this  
 9 summer.

10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Thank you.  
 11 But other than that, you did not communicate with  
 12 any of your concerns, other than invite him to  
 13 the blockwatch meeting. Correct?

14 THE WITNESS: Correct. Correct.

15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Not that convenience  
 16 store, not the other convenience stores.

17 THE WITNESS: Invited all of them, all  
 18 three.

19 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You invited them, but  
 20 you never brought up your concerns or issues with  
 21 those establishments?

22 THE WITNESS: Correct, because - -

23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you.

24 THE WITNESS: Because we had the  
 25 neighborhood watch meeting in which we had our -

1 MR. MAISTELMAN: Do you? Are you  
 2 loitering?

3 THE WITNESS: No. That's exactly what  
 4 I'm saying. That's not loitering.

5 MR. MAISTELMAN: Okay.

6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.

7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Puente.

8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You mentioned that  
 9 one of the things you would like to see your - -  
 10 your neighborhood do is communicate with each  
 11 other, with the neighbors and the businesses.

12 THE WITNESS: That's one of the values.

13 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Right.

14 THE WITNESS: Is people communicating  
 15 with each other, yes.

16 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Did you do that with  
 17 this owner?

18 THE WITNESS: As I mentioned - -

19 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You invited him to  
 20 your - -

21 THE WITNESS: Correct.

22 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And how did you do  
 23 that? How did you invite him?

24 THE WITNESS: I took a flyer to the  
 25 store and said we're having a blockwatch meeting,

1 - our police liaison there who served as the ..

2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Well, but let me - -

3 ALDERMAN PUENTE: How long - - How long  
 4 has your concerns been with these establishments?

5 THE WITNESS: Since the day I moved in.

6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: How long ago is that,  
 7 sir?

8 THE WITNESS: Three years.

9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Three years ago. And  
 10 so just this past summer is the only attempt  
 11 you've made, and that's by giving somebody a  
 12 flyer to attend your meeting. Is that correct?

13 THE WITNESS: Yes, because I just  
 14 started the neighborhood watch last summer.

15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: That's okay.

16 THE WITNESS: So for me to come a full  
 17 year and actually get a nice group of people  
 18 together and actually start distributing out  
 19 flyers - -

20 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You should be  
 21 commended for that.

22 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: I am not - - not - -  
 24 Blockwatch groups are great, and what you've done  
 25 is great. Okay. But all I'm saying, as an

1 individual, whether you're a blockwatch captain  
2 or part of a blockwatch, you could still go out  
3 and attempt to contact your neighbor, as you put  
4 it, and communicate with that neighbor. You  
5 don't have to be a blockwatch person to do that.  
6 Correct?

7 THE WITNESS: That's correct.

8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: All right. And the  
9 same thing is I'm saying with the businesses,  
10 that's all I'm trying to establish. Blockwatches  
11 are great. I comment you and your blockwatch and  
12 all the people who are involved in your  
13 blockwatch. That's what it's all about. But as  
14 the Chair has already said, not only to you, but  
15 to everybody in this room in this audience, there  
16 are certain things we have to look at when we  
17 judge whether or not to give this individual a  
18 license. Okay. And that's why we ask these  
19 questions. Okay. Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, Alderman.  
21 The - - The flyer that you dropped off,  
22 did it just announce a meeting, date, time, area  
23 blockwatch?

24 THE WITNESS: Yes.

25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Any other who, what,

1 would put it in writing and say, hi, I'm Joe  
2 Smith, head of the blockwatch group. I want to  
3 alert you to the fact that several in our  
4 blockwatch have concerns about loitering and  
5 other activities that are occurring at some of  
6 the businesses here. We hope to make this a  
7 discussion at our meeting. If you are unable to  
8 make this meeting, we would still love to address  
9 this issue with you. If that is the case, please  
10 feel free to contact me at X or Y. We look  
11 forward to working with you and hope to hear from  
12 you. That - - That's what I - - Personally,  
13 that's the way I would deal with it.

14 As I said, your efforts are to be  
15 commended, but if you really want to address the  
16 problem, if you really want to address it, I  
17 think that being as open and as communicative  
18 about what the problem is, is the best approach,  
19 rather than say, hey, here, we hope you show up  
20 at this event. That's - - Again, that's probably  
21 the best way to deal with it. So hopefully, you  
22 know, we'll - - we'll continue to see that.

23 Mr. Maistelman, did you have further  
24 questions?

25 MR. MAISTELMAN: You - - You've lived

1 when, where, was there contact information, like  
2 in case somebody had questions?

3 THE WITNESS: Yes. There are e-mails  
4 and phone numbers.

5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. And there was  
6 - - Because the other - - the other thing that I  
7 will tell you is there may be a time that  
8 somebody else wants to have a meeting when you're  
9 going to be out of town. And, you know, unless  
10 you know who to get a hold of, the fact is is you  
11 wouldn't be there, you know. Should I surmise  
12 that you don't care because you didn't show? I  
13 don't know what the circumstances are. What I  
14 would suggest in the future is if you have  
15 legitimate concerns, and it probably sounds like  
16 based on the testimony here, that there are some  
17 - - there are some issues in the neighborhood  
18 that probably could be addressed, need assistance  
19 of individuals like yourself, and even those in  
20 the neighbor - - those who may be testifying in  
21 favor of this license here, to work to addressing  
22 hand in hand, and the business owners, as well.  
23 You know, rather than just say if you don't show  
24 up at a meeting, we're not going to think you  
25 care and we're not going to address with you, I

1 there for three years now, sir?

2 THE WITNESS: Correct.

3 MR. MAISTELMAN: Okay. Do you know how  
4 long my - - my client's operation, his business  
5 has been in the neighborhood?

6 THE WITNESS: Before I moved there.

7 MR. MAISTELMAN: If I told you 18  
8 years, would you have any reason to doubt that?

9 THE WITNESS: You're a lawyer. I - -

10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I don't know. There's  
11 so many things that we doubt about lawyers here.

12 THE WITNESS: No, if you said that, no,  
13 I have no reason to doubt.

14 MR. MAISTELMAN: And my point is, is  
15 there's the saying of the people that move next  
16 to the airport, and then they start complaining  
17 about the airplanes. I mean, my client's been  
18 there for 18 years, and then you move into the  
19 neighborhood. You would think that you would  
20 know, you know. When I lived New England, for  
21 instance, I was living on a busy street. There  
22 were lots of cars and subways and, you know, it  
23 was noisier. You have to know the neighborhood  
24 you're moving to. It would be one thing if the  
25 problem moved to you. And I'm not calling you a

1 problem. You're paying my bill, but - -  
 2 But - - But that's not the case, and I  
 3 just - - I just think it's important for the  
 4 committee to be aware of that.  
 5 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Mr. Chair.  
 6 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Mr. Chair.  
 7 ALDERMAN KOVAC: For how many of those  
 8 18 years has he sold liquor?  
 9 MR. MAISTELMAN: None.  
 10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Zielinski.  
 11 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: So if there's some  
 12 issues in your neighborhood like loitering, and  
 13 drug dealing and stuff like that, would you  
 14 rather stay and fight to save your neighborhood  
 15 or move - - move the city and leave and let the  
 16 neighborhood just fall apart if we lose - -  
 17 THE WITNESS: I'd rather not follow in  
 18 my parents' footsteps, which is moving out of the  
 19 city. I'd like to stay and fight.  
 20 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Would you say  
 21 there's a little bit of a difference between  
 22 moving into a neighborhood where there's  
 23 airplanes flying over your head and there's  
 24 illegal activity, such as, you know, drug dealing  
 25 and loitering?

1 light. I just want to say that I appreciate your  
 2 efforts. I - - I think that if you're going to  
 3 take those steps, certainly let's try to be as  
 4 open and communicative as possible, leaves no - -  
 5 no case for a misunderstanding. If you go in and  
 6 say, I'd like you to stop by a meeting, it would  
 7 be encouraged that you do so, we'd appreciate  
 8 your showing up, it's one thing. If you - - If  
 9 you want to target and raise issues with  
 10 improving those businesses and what's going on  
 11 around them, and you want them to be part of it,  
 12 openly communicating we have concerns as a  
 13 blockwatch in your neighborhood about these  
 14 activities, we'd like you to come, is a step a  
 15 little bit further than just saying, we'd  
 16 appreciate your showing up. Again, I commend you  
 17 for taking that step. I'm just saying - - I'm  
 18 suggesting probably for the future, a more  
 19 appropriate means of dealing with that. I'm  
 20 assuming we've exhausted questions of this  
 21 witness. Thank you, sir. And appreciate your  
 22 efforts to stay in the city here and fight for  
 23 your neighborhood.  
 24 Are there any other neighbors here,  
 25 because there was potential of some coming late,

1 MR. MAISTELMAN: I would object to the  
 2 word "illegal," because there hasn't been any  
 3 evidence in the record by the police that there's  
 4 any illegal activity in this person's - -  
 5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Well, other than the  
 6 testimony, if individuals - - if individuals  
 7 testified that they believe they witnessed drug  
 8 dealing, I don't know of any street drug sales  
 9 that are legal that I'm aware of. So we'll just  
 10 - - we'll accept it on face value that  
 11 individuals are providing their own testimony  
 12 that they believe it's occurring. But go ahead,  
 13 Alderman.  
 14 THE WITNESS: No, I'd rather live by  
 15 the airport than have to deal with illegal  
 16 activity in my neighborhood.  
 17 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you.  
 18 Because I just would like to add that we need  
 19 citizens like this that are forming blockwatches  
 20 that are working to improve their neighborhood,  
 21 and they should be rewarded for those efforts  
 22 instead of castigated.  
 23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, Alderman,  
 24 and I - - I do appreciate that. And I concur  
 25 with those remarks. I'm not attempting to make

1 who are here to testify in opposition to the  
 2 license? Any others? Okay. Let the record  
 3 reflect no one does acknowledge that.  
 4 I'm going to ask individuals now who  
 5 are here in support of the license. What I'll  
 6 ask, also, is that we continue to move  
 7 continuously, that we have individuals one by one  
 8 come up. If we could fill the front row. Sir,  
 9 if you - - if you could relinquish that seat.  
 10 I'd like to continuously move through.  
 11 MR. MAISTELMAN: Mr. Chairman, I would  
 12 ask that this gentleman go first. He's got a  
 13 cane.  
 14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And that's - - And  
 15 that's fine. We'll take you first. What I'm - -  
 16 What I'm going to ask is this much. If we get to  
 17 the point of the testimony being substantially  
 18 similar to others, if you could at some point, if  
 19 we get to the point where we have 20 people, and  
 20 if we want to go to the point of 20 people saying  
 21 that they know Mr. Singh, and Mr. Singh is the  
 22 most generous person in the world, we don't need  
 23 20 people repeating it, getting to person 18  
 24 saying he's the greatest person in the world. I  
 25 think that the committee knows substantially by

1 person number four saying he's the greatest  
 2 person in the world that it's - - we'll accept  
 3 that as true.  
 4 What we'll want to do is hear the same  
 5 thing from you, your name, a spelling of your  
 6 name if it's difficult, and I would ask if you -  
 7 - if it's more difficult than Smith or Jones and  
 8 you think it's questionable, please spell it;  
 9 your address, how close you are to the proximity,  
 10 and then your testimony as to why you support the  
 11 liquor license. I don't want to hear about how  
 12 his packaging of Zingers is wonderful. It has to  
 13 pertain to the liquor license, because,  
 14 oftentimes, we hear from individuals, and I'm  
 15 just trying to prevent it from happening, because  
 16 I will cut you off, and I don't want to cut you  
 17 off, I want it to be pertinent to what is being  
 18 applied for, why the liquor license will be  
 19 beneficial to the neighborhood. I don't want to  
 20 hear that he's a great guy. You can say, the  
 21 first person can say that. After that, if you  
 22 substantially agree, come forward, name, address,  
 23 Joe Smith, I live at this this address, a block  
 24 away, I substantially agree with the testimony  
 25 that's been provided by the two other persons

1 neighbor. He has done a lot to alleviate some of the  
 2 problems in the area. He acquired an empty lot,  
 3 cleaned it up, put a fence up, cut down on the  
 4 problems of kids loitering in the lot. He has also  
 5 been very cooperative with at least my organization  
 6 when we have expressed parking problems, because a lot  
 7 of people will park on our parking lot and run into  
 8 his store to get a bag of whatever, and he's agreed to  
 9 help us with that.  
 10 Loitering out front. I've lived there since  
 11 1999. I do not consider what I've seen in front of  
 12 that store loitering. We're a neighborhood, we're in  
 13 a transitional neighborhood. It's getting better.  
 14 The graffiti is way down, the street crime is down,  
 15 everything is down. Actually, I see no real reason to  
 16 deny Mr. Singh a license. He's a good business  
 17 neighbor, he's a good citizen in our neighborhood.  
 18 The people who have spoke against him don't live in  
 19 the block. I walk by his establishment every day.  
 20 Parking is tight, yes. Besides his  
 21 establishment, we've got four restaurants, three bars,  
 22 a theater, an ice cream store, a bakery, a bank. Of  
 23 course parking is going to be tight in the city. Most  
 24 of Mr. Singh's customers are pedestrian. We live in  
 25 the block, we run down there to get our cigarettes,

1 before us.  
 2 MR. MAISTELMAN: Mr. Chairman, may I  
 3 ask this. Can they testify in response to some  
 4 of the negative things that have been said. Like  
 5 if they've not witnessed these problems, and they  
 6 haven't witnessed people loitering. I mean, I  
 7 think, because that's what your - - you know, you  
 8 have to make the battle.  
 9 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Certainly. Certainly.  
 10 If it's pertaining to those items, yes.  
 11 MR. MAISTELMAN: Right. So you can - -  
 12 You can testify as to when you go there, what you  
 13 see. If you see problems, or if you don't see  
 14 problems. It's important for the committee to  
 15 get an idea what really goes on at this store.  
 16 Thank you.  
 17 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Sir, we'll start with  
 18 you here first. Name and address for the record,  
 19 please.  
 20 THE WITNESS: My name is Joseph R. Koch,  
 21 K-O-C-H. I live at 2325 South Howell Avenue,  
 22 Apartment 1204. I am the President of the Lincoln  
 23 Court Residents Association, and a number of my  
 24 neighbors are here with me today.  
 25 I consider Mr. Singh a good business

1 and so on and so forth. But I see no reason to deny  
 2 him a liquor license, other than if he had a police  
 3 record or Health Department issues and such. I'm very  
 4 familiar with what this community and you people do  
 5 and what you cover. I watch you guys a lot on TV.  
 6 But he has done nothing wrong. He's been in  
 7 the neighborhood for 18 years, which I just found out  
 8 today, but he's a good neighbor. Why should he be  
 9 denied a business opportunity? And I think a lot of  
 10 the people who live in my building --  
 11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: We'll let them speak for  
 12 themselves, sir.  
 13 THE WITNESS: They can all raise their  
 14 hands, and you might be able to cut down on some of  
 15 this just by the numbers. I don't really have  
 16 anything else to say. I really don't see why he  
 17 should be denied a business opportunity. One more  
 18 thing, though.  
 19 CHAIRMAN BOHL: So you do have something  
 20 more to say then.  
 21 THE WITNESS: One more thing. The Hub  
 22 Supermarket is about 75 feet away, it's across Lincoln  
 23 Avenue, and it is not a liquor store. It's a Class A  
 24 Malt. There at one time was a liquor store within 500  
 25 feet of Mr. Singh's establishment, and that has since

1 closed and gone out of business. So that's about all  
 2 I can think of.

3 CHAIRMAN BOHL: What was the name, Mr. Koch,  
 4 of the organization you said you were representing?

5 THE WITNESS: The Lincoln Court Resident  
 6 Organization. We live in a building owned by the  
 7 Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee called  
 8 Lincoln Court, and we are about -- our property abuts  
 9 -- is about 30 feet from his property with one store.

10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: It's on the west side of  
 11 Howell Avenue then?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes.

13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: It's a larger apartment  
 14 building?

15 THE WITNESS: star-shaped red brick  
 16 highrise.

17 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I'm familiar. I had a  
 18 girlfriend in high school that lived on Smith Street.

19 MR. MAISTELMAN: We don't want to hear about  
 20 that.

21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I wouldn't say that I know  
 22 Bay View like the back of my hand, but I do know this  
 23 neighborhood well enough. Questions by committee  
 24 members of this witness?

25 ALDERMAN KOVAC: I am very impressed at the

1 volition, I walked in, saw all my neighbors here. And  
 2 like I said, I am the president of the organization,  
 3 and I spoke to my other officers, and we talked about  
 4 our feelings on it, and we decided that yeah, I'll  
 5 come down and speak on his behalf. Very  
 6 democratically.

7 ALDERMAN KOVAC: You mentioned that he  
 8 helped clean up the parking lot next door. Is there  
 9 anything else he's done for the neighborhood?

10 THE WITNESS: it wasn't a parking lot, it  
 11 was an empty lot. It was a house there. He cleaned  
 12 it up, yanked all the weeds, cleaned up all the stuff.  
 13 Kids were hanging there on this piece of property, and  
 14 to stop it, he put up a fence. It's a rather colorful  
 15 fence. That's neither here nor there. He took care  
 16 of the problem when it arose. Let's face it, even if  
 17 it was a wooden fence, it's still no cheap thing,  
 18 especially people if you're a homeowner and been to  
 19 Home Depot lately. He does, he tries. He recently  
 20 repainted the whole building. And the corner, he's  
 21 constantly out there having his employees sweep the  
 22 sidewalk, sweep the gutter.

23 ALDERMAN KOVAC: You said you don't drink,  
 24 but do you buy the items he currently sells?

25 THE WITNESS: Sometimes. I do my major

1 turnout from that building. I wonder if you could  
 2 summarize why it's so important that this -- Is it an  
 3 amenity that you really want to have beer for sale  
 4 that close, or is it because of your relationship with  
 5 Mr. Singh?

6 THE WITNESS: well, I don't drink, so that  
 7 has no bearing on me. I used to tend bar, but that's  
 8 neither here nor there, and I don't have a problem  
 9 with people who do drink. I just don't see, to be  
 10 honest with you, any reason to deny him a license. I  
 11 think he should be allowed the opportunity to have  
 12 one. If problems arise, like with any license holder,  
 13 then you deal with them then, maybe suspend the  
 14 license or deny a renewal or however this committee  
 15 does treat problem licenses, but trying to deal with a  
 16 problem before it exists is a little unnerving.

17 ALDERMAN KOVAC: We do that sometimes, we do  
 18 both.

19 THE WITNESS: The reason there's loitering,  
 20 we're in the neighborhood, we talk to each other, we  
 21 hang on the streets. As far as I know, that's not  
 22 against the law or a problem.

23 ALDERMAN KOVAC: My other question is did  
 24 you all come down here together?

25 THE WITNESS: No. I came down on my own

1 shopping at a supermarket. But for convenient items,  
 2 I'll run to him, you know. He's a good neighbor, he's  
 3 convenient. That's why they call them convenience  
 4 stores.

5 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Which grocery store do you  
 6 go to?

7 THE WITNESS: I go to Pick 'n Save. I have  
 8 to rent a car once a month, and we all get together,  
 9 and we go shopping to Pick 'n Save and do our bulk  
 10 shopping. But for convenience every day, I swing in  
 11 by him, pick up a pack of cigarettes or bag of chips  
 12 or money orders I buy from him.

13 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Thank you.

14 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair. So you would  
 15 say that Mr. Singh is a responsible person?

16 THE WITNESS: Very.

17 ALDERMAN PUENTE: That if a problem would  
 18 arise, he would take care of that problem?

19 THE WITNESS: In my experience, he has.

20 ALDERMAN PUENTE: In the notice today for  
 21 denial of this license, it states that there's  
 22 neighborhood objections to the loitering, littering --  
 23 everybody listen to this because I'm going to ask  
 24 probably everybody the same question -- neighborhood  
 25 objections to loitering, littering, loud noise,

1 parking, traffic problems, drug and criminal activity,  
2 prostitution, trespassing, public urination,  
3 vandalism, conduct which is detrimental to the health,  
4 safety, and welfare of the neighborhood. Do you agree  
5 with that at all?

6 THE WITNESS: What address are we talking  
7 about, sir? I'm not trying to be flip. There is  
8 trespassing problems. Our landlord and the building  
9 next door to us, they got together and they put up a  
10 chain link fence.

11 ALDERMAN PUENTE: At this location?

12 THE WITNESS: That cut back on the  
13 trespassing, because there was a regular urban freeway  
14 through all these back properties. Some of the  
15 properties we got it cut down. He fenced off his  
16 property. It stopped it.

17 ALDERMAN PUENTE: I understand it. So there  
18 is not that anymore?

19 THE WITNESS: No. In fact --

20 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Prostitution?

21 MR. MAISTELMAN: Just answer the questions.

22 THE WITNESS: Not that I've noticed.

23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Urination?

24 THE WITNESS: Never.

25 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Vandalism?

1 THE WITNESS: He's done repairs. That's an  
2 old building. He fixes things constantly in there.

3 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: That's all. Thank you  
4 very much.

5 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You made the statement  
6 about how it's a very diverse neighborhood and that  
7 crime in general is going down. I would have to say  
8 that's probably, to a certain degree, contributed to  
9 your type of organizations, the neighborhood watch  
10 group that testified earlier today. Would you not say  
11 that?

12 THE WITNESS: I think --

13 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Part of the reason?

14 THE WITNESS: -- citizen involvement is a  
15 responsibility, you know, it should happen.

16 ALDERMAN PUENTE: So I commend yours and the  
17 other organizations again.

18 THE WITNESS: Before I sit, I did own  
19 property in that area, and I was very proactive about  
20 it.

21 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you.

22 MR. MAISTELMAN: Thank you very much, sir.  
23 I don't have any questions.

24 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Just one final brief  
25 question. Again, I appreciate the work for your

1 THE WITNESS: None.

2 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Is it detrimental to the  
3 health, safety, and welfare of the neighborhood?

4 THE WITNESS: No.

5 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you. That's all I  
6 have, Mr. Chair.

7 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: I want to thank you for  
8 coming down to testify, Mr. Koch. So it's your  
9 position that anyone who doesn't have a criminal  
10 record should be allowed to have a liquor license?

11 THE WITNESS: Well, if they meet the thing,  
12 you know.

13 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Just yes or no, because  
14 we're going to be here all day. I just need a yes or  
15 no.

16 THE WITNESS: Okay. Basically, yes. He's  
17 had no involvement with the police department at his  
18 property.

19 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: You mentioned that the  
20 exterior portion of the building was improved. Do you  
21 know why?

22 THE WITNESS: Because it needed a paint job.

23 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you. I'll get to  
24 that in my closing remarks. Has he improved the  
25 interior of the store at all?

1 organization. I think it's a very good organization.  
2 Are they involved in any activities outside of your  
3 building in the neighborhood?

4 THE WITNESS: Not directly outside, no.

5 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: That's it. Thank you.

6 MR. MAISTELMAN: I'm sorry, I didn't follow  
7 that. What was the question?

8 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: The question was  
9 whether or not the organization, which is a very good  
10 organization, I appreciate their work in the building,  
11 but I wanted to know if they were involved in any  
12 activities outside of the building in the  
13 neighborhood.

14 THE WITNESS: You're referring to like  
15 blockwatch or a neighborhood watch?

16 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Stuff in the community,  
17 because I wasn't aware of that and I just wanted to --

18 THE WITNESS: Not directly, no.

19 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Let's not make this a  
20 personal crusade. We'll take you next, ma'am.

21 THE WITNESS: My name is Valerie Keiller,  
22 K-E-I-L-L-E-R. I live at 2149 South Woodward, which  
23 is three blocks away from his store. I guess in  
24 reference to the liquor license, it's an all-in-one  
25 store. I work downtown. I choose not to drive, I



1 take the bus to work. I get off the bus, I go to his  
2 store, I usually buy my milk, my cereal. He does  
3 offer meat, pork chops, dairy products. I can make a  
4 full healthy meal out of anything I can buy there or a  
5 bag of junk food if I want. It would be easier on a  
6 Sunday when I watch the Packers or now the Jets, Brett  
7 Favre, to be able to buy my beer at that same store  
8 rather than cross a very busy intersection that is  
9 Lincoln.

10 Loitering I do not see there. I see it  
11 more across the street by the bus. There's a little  
12 bus stand that can be used as a shelter for some of  
13 these people, these transient people that are riding  
14 around drinking beer, on their bikes, throwing them  
15 all over the bus stop. You can go to the library and  
16 see people pick up cigarette butts and try to smoke  
17 it. Or the laundromat over on KK, also, people are  
18 hanging out in the alley there. There's more of that  
19 there than I think by his store.

20 I'm there every day 6:00 a.m. There's  
21 nobody there. Then anywhere between 3:00 and 6:00.  
22 It's very convenient. I get paid on Thursdays, the  
23 bank closes at 5:30, I work late, I go cash my check  
24 there. I love what Tony's done with the neighborhood,  
25 the new restaurants, book stores, whatever, however,

1 Also, there's a sound store there, I have no idea what  
2 it is, and there's a little lobby there where people  
3 are constantly hanging out.

4 The parking lot at Cafe Lulu. This man has  
5 no parking lot, and he has fenced off the vacant lot  
6 next to his store. There is no loitering that goes  
7 on. And we are a very friendly neighborhood. We all  
8 talk, shake hands. I pet everybody's dog around, and  
9 I will stop in front of his store and pet dogs and  
10 talk to whoever I see there. Let the man have the  
11 liquor license.

12 MR. MAISTELMAN: One quick thing, and don't  
13 take this personally, but did you hear that there's a  
14 woman here that said there are vagabonds that frequent  
15 the store?

16 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I heard that.

17 MR. MAISTELMAN: Would you consider yourself  
18 a vagabond?

19 THE WITNESS: Because I'm there about five  
20 days a week, I guess I must be.

21 MR. MAISTELMAN: Thank you for being a  
22 vagabond.

23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Are there questions?  
24 Alderman Zielinski, anything?

25 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you for coming

1 we still need, those of us that choose not to drive, a  
2 convenient store to be able to walk to. Why should he  
3 not also get in on the gold mine that is now liquor?  
4 All of the restaurants that have been allowed there  
5 have a liquor license.

6 Here is a good businessman in the area for  
7 18 years, he runs a clean shop. I do see people  
8 outside cleaning. Why can't he have some of that pie  
9 also?

10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Questions by committee?

11 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair. Just a  
12 statement on the notice that I read.

13 THE WITNESS: None of the above, absolutely  
14 none.

15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Loitering?

16 THE WITNESS: I do see, like I said, more  
17 loitering across the street by the Maritime Bank  
18 where everybody is by the people prior have said that  
19 they have not seen it. There's a little like an  
20 indent where there's two steps there, and I see people  
21 hankering in there or across the street at the  
22 Pandora's Box, and more so this Hub Supermarket  
23 everybody referring to. There's a pay phone around  
24 the corner where people will hover and hang out,  
25 nowhere near his store. It's across Lincoln Avenue.

1 down and testifying. I appreciate that. How did you  
2 find out about the meeting today?

3 THE WITNESS: From Jesse himself.

4 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: In terms of being able  
5 to buy beer with your food, you've got the Hub Market  
6 across the street from there.

7 THE WITNESS: I do.

8 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: So, obviously, you buy  
9 beer for the Packer game, right?

10 THE WITNESS: Um-hum.

11 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: What's the difference  
12 between having a place that's only 50 or 60 feet away?

13 THE WITNESS: Because I actually do most of  
14 my shopping there. He provides a few things -- He  
15 actually has some cheaper prices there. He has my  
16 kind of cigarettes. I can do one-stop shop. Why  
17 should one guy get all of that business? Do you know  
18 what I mean. Spread the wealth a little bit. I just  
19 feel like we're persecuting one man for a neighborhood  
20 of activities.

21 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: You don't feel that  
22 it's an issue of having too many liquor  
23 establishments?

24 THE WITNESS: Not at all, not at all. The  
25 very next one would be Siegel's, which is well down

1 Kinnickinnic Avenue, and they have hard liquor.  
 2 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: There's 10 locations  
 3 where you can buy beer.  
 4 THE WITNESS: Where you can sit and have a  
 5 beer. Where can you carry out other than Hub?  
 6 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Dee's Wine & Beer on  
 7 KK.  
 8 THE WITNESS: Sure, if you want to spend \$25  
 9 a bottle or \$5 for one bottle of beer.  
 10 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: All the different bars  
 11 in the area that you can carry out the beer, as well.  
 12 THE WITNESS: Where can I carry out beer at  
 13 a restaurant? They have cash and carry at Central  
 14 Cash & Carry. I can buy a six-pack to go. Are they  
 15 going to sell cigarettes and my food also there? No.  
 16 If I go and sit at a restaurant and have a beer with  
 17 my meal, that's one thing. I'm not going to carry  
 18 beer to go from a restaurant. It's a complete  
 19 different experience.  
 20 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thanks for answering my  
 21 question. There's 10 places within a one square block  
 22 radius.  
 23 THE WITNESS: So what's one more?  
 24 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: What if the next one  
 25 comes along and the next one and the next one? You

1 kind of wrong to kind of point the finger at him.  
 2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: First off, sir, I'm going to  
 3 cut you off, with apologies, with apologies. Nobody's  
 4 rendered a decision either way on anything, nobody's  
 5 rendered a decision on anything. It sounds to me as  
 6 though you're saying we're seeking to deny. Nobody's  
 7 seeking to deny.  
 8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: I think he's talking about  
 9 the testimony of the four people who were in  
 10 opposition.  
 11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: People have an individual  
 12 right to come here and do that, they do, they just do.  
 13 There's different opinions here. Here's the other  
 14 thing, too. The testimony I want to hear from now  
 15 forward is not your opinion of what other people's  
 16 opinions are, I want to hear your opinion as to the  
 17 liquor license here. It just is.  
 18 MR. MAISTELMAN: Mr. Chair, I have a right  
 19 to be heard.  
 20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: No, Mr. Maistelman, no, you  
 21 don't. You have a right to have me recognize you when  
 22 I seek to recognize you, if I seek to recognize you,  
 23 and you must ask for recognition of the chair without  
 24 speaking out in advance, and then when I get to that  
 25 point. You know, do I give the opportunity for

1 don't have a problem with giving it to everybody that  
 2 comes along?  
 3 THE WITNESS: No, absolutely not.  
 4 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: That's all. Thank you.  
 5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Next witness, please.  
 6 THE WITNESS: Julio Mayorga, M-A-Y-O-R-G-A.  
 7 I came all the way from Illinois, 4736 Arbor Drive.  
 8 I was the former bank manager at Maritime Savings Bank  
 9 from the time we acquired Mr. Singh's account with  
 10 Maritime.  
 11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: You're in support of his  
 12 license?  
 13 THE WITNESS: I'm in support of his license.  
 14 I'm in support of Tony, as well. He has done a great  
 15 job in the community, and I appreciate what he has  
 16 done. However, I've gotten to know Mr. Singh through  
 17 business activities, you know, we talk business, and  
 18 he's not a bad business person, and I feel that it's  
 19 very wrong to offer licenses to other places when he  
 20 has a lot of regulars. And when I talk about a lot of  
 21 regulars, a lot of the people here that I see here  
 22 today bank with Maritime Savings Bank. We actually  
 23 have an associate with the highrise where they pay  
 24 their rent there. And a lot of these people, and what  
 25 he has done for them and for the neighborhood, it's

1 individuals who provided testimony before to come  
 2 forward again and say that they disagree? No. This  
 3 is not an unlimited exercise in I get to answer  
 4 everything from everyone else. It is literally a  
 5 firsthand knowledge of opinions when it comes to  
 6 whether a liquor license should be provided. I don't  
 7 want to get into the he said-she said.  
 8 Let's try to limit the constraints, because  
 9 frankly over one liquor license, with all due respect  
 10 -- and I appreciate the democratic process, I wouldn't  
 11 be in the job that I'm in -- but the fact is we're  
 12 going to be spending about five hours of extreme  
 13 redundant testimony, and there are a couple of people  
 14 who may have others here to testify afterwards --  
 15 frankly, the amount of questioning is excessive, it  
 16 just is. And everybody wants to one up each other.  
 17 We're seeing oneupsmanship on your part, we're seeing  
 18 it back and forth and because one person --  
 19 No. You know what, the testimony is what it  
 20 is. You know it. You know if we asked six people who  
 21 would deny it on this side, probably the next seven  
 22 people not going to say yes, I agree that there is all  
 23 this activity. If the first six are going to say no,  
 24 I'm going to guess going on the record I'm going  
 25 to see nods of the heads probably the next seven are

1 going to say no, too. This is not the same thing as a  
2 court of law in which we spend hours beyond hours  
3 beyond hours. There are reasonable limitations.

4 The Board of Zoning Appeals provides a due  
5 process procedure, too. You know yourself, five  
6 minutes. Okay. We're getting real excessive. One of  
7 my jobs by the Council president is to hear these  
8 matters but to also expedite the process. We're  
9 getting well beyond the expedition of a process.

10 THE WITNESS: Sir.

11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I have not recognized you  
12 yet, sir. Please, with all due respect, I will point  
13 to you and say please finish your testimony when I'm  
14 finished, and we'll come to that shortly. But it has  
15 been extremely excessive on all parts. I'm going to  
16 ask you to rein it in. And I'm sorry, the Council  
17 President -- I try to be extremely respectful, but  
18 it's getting dragged to ad nauseam. And I will be  
19 cutting testimony off, because I have been put in this  
20 encounter with the direction of the Council President  
21 to rein this in at a reasonable level. We want to  
22 have the right mix, but when it drags excessive, it's  
23 got to be stopped.

24 Sir, you may finish. I'm going to ask you,  
25 you've come all the way from Illinois, and I

1 neighborhood that I had to address as a manager. This  
2 is what I'm trying to say. It's kind of unfair to  
3 point the finger at one person, and I'm not talking  
4 about you guys, I'm talking about in general the  
5 perception that people have of this man. Because he's  
6 a well businessman, and I think it's wrong where  
7 people in the neighborhood that don't get to know him  
8 as a person, as a business person that because the Hub  
9 has a liquor --

10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: We've gone too far. You  
11 made your point. Are there other things you want to  
12 say? The loitering point. There's loitering going on  
13 in the neighborhood, don't just point the finger at  
14 him. That's it, that's it. Other things that you  
15 want to provide testimony to?

16 THE WITNESS: well, as I oppose to what they  
17 have said that he doesn't want to work within the  
18 community, and I've worked with him. He's tried to do  
19 things on the property. He's come to me for help. He  
20 has come to the bank. A lot of people don't see that.  
21 That's what I'm trying to kind of give you a  
22 perception of what other people see.

23 Also, there's a different side from him that  
24 other people don't get to know because they don't  
25 approach this man. That's where I kind of have a

1 appreciate that, and your testimony is valid whether  
2 you come from Timbuktu or not, but the fact is you  
3 support the license. I don't know from Illinois that  
4 you're going to provide a whole lot of testimony about  
5 the -- other than individual character, which you  
6 support. I'm going to ask that you keep it fairly  
7 brief from this point forward. I don't want your  
8 commentary on what I've talked about.

9 THE WITNESS: I understand what you're  
10 saying, sir. What I was trying to get to was the  
11 point of loitering and me being the manager at  
12 Maritime. I was a manager for two years, and I worked  
13 there since I was 17, so I had five years that I was  
14 in the neighborhood of Bay View, and I worked with a  
15 lot of the businesses in there to kind of work with  
16 Maritime, and Mr. Singh was one of them that worked  
17 with us.

18 And like other people pointed out, with the  
19 loitering, there's loitering all over the place. We  
20 had a parking lot where there was loitering in the  
21 neighborhood, and I remember speaking to Tony before.  
22 He wanted to buy some or get other businesses to get  
23 parking spots in that area in Maritime. I don't know  
24 if he recalls the situation. But there was loitering  
25 in that parking lot. There's loitering all over the

1 disagreement where, hey, he can't have a license  
2 because other people are saying that he has loitering,  
3 he has everything. That's around the whole community  
4 of Bay View. And just because he's going to get  
5 denied a license -- I'm not saying you guys have  
6 denied it, but I'm just saying there could be 10 other  
7 ones.

8 But from my experiences, when I was at  
9 Maritime, I would walk across the street, it was very  
10 convenient for me. He has reasonable prices. I've  
11 shopped at the Hub before, they're pretty pricey.  
12 With him being reasonable at prices, I would go and  
13 take my money to him. You know, they have beer at  
14 this store, and it's kind of unfair as him as a  
15 business owner being 18 years in the community, it's  
16 very unfair he has to get to this point where he's  
17 trying to apply for a license. I think he's been very  
18 good to our community, he's a very good asset to the  
19 Bay View community.

20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I appreciate your testimony.  
21 If we had 20 other people provide the same testimony,  
22 then we'll be here until 7:00 at night.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: At least.

24 CHAIRMAN BOHL: As I said, if you can  
25 provide your name and address, and if you substantiate

1 the testimony, just say I thoroughly agree with what  
2 has been said so far, I don't see problems, and he's  
3 a good man and give him a chance. Do you see how I  
4 cut that short to like one or two minutes?

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: If you have something  
7 substantially new beyond that, please feel free. We  
8 don't want to hamper you. If you substantially agree,  
9 I would ask that you do that. Are there questions  
10 that committee members have of this witness?

11 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Sir, what years -- You  
12 said two years and when you were a kid, but the most  
13 recent time period that you were there?

14 THE WITNESS: I was the manager -- For  
15 Maritime, I was manager for two years.

16 ALDERMAN PUENTE: What time period was that,  
17 sir?

18 THE WITNESS: From management, because I was  
19 there since I was 17, and I'm currently 22, but since  
20 I was a manager?

21 ALDERMAN PUENTE: When did you move to  
22 Illinois?

23 THE WITNESS: I just moved to Illinois last  
24 month.

25 ALDERMAN PUENTE: So you've been working

1 if you witnessed any kind of loitering at that  
2 location, AK Mart, and you said no. Previous to that  
3 testimony, you were asked a question about loitering,  
4 and you said it's all over Bay View. So now you're  
5 telling us that there's loitering all over Bay View  
6 except in front of the AK Mart?

7 THE WITNESS: I never said except AK Mart.

8 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: There's a difference.  
9 You said there's no loitering in front of AK Mart when  
10 Alderman Puente asked you that question, and previous  
11 to that, they asked you about loitering, you said it's  
12 all over Bay View.

13 THE WITNESS: Maritime has loitering in  
14 front of Maritime, as well, and I had to address it.  
15 Not that he has not addressed the loitering. I have  
16 seen him gone outside and tell people to please leave  
17 the area. And I've had to do the same for Maritime  
18 Savings Bank.

19 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: I just wanted to  
20 establish the fact, I don't know how there could be no  
21 loitering at AK Mart here. He's just very fortunate  
22 to do -- Anyway, thank you very much. I appreciate  
23 you coming down from Illinois. I know you must be his  
24 good friend to come down here.

25 THE WITNESS: He's a good businessman.

1 over at this other bank, this Maritime since then?

2 THE WITNESS: Yes. I just got laid off in  
3 June.

4 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you. I just want to  
5 establish that you've been there for some time to  
6 observe any illegal activity or anything else?

7 THE WITNESS: That's correct.

8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: In the notice that I read,  
9 do you agree or disagree with that notice about the  
10 loitering, littering, drug activities, and everything  
11 else?

12 THE WITNESS: I disagree.

13 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you. Next.

14 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: You just got done  
15 testifying that there's littering and loitering and  
16 all these other problems all throughout Bay View, but  
17 it's not at the AK Mart, it's every place in Bay View  
18 but the AK Food Mart now?

19 THE WITNESS: What I'm saying to you in  
20 general is that with me having all these businesses  
21 around me -- And you're aware with the area. We're  
22 talking about a beer license here, Tony. And what I'm  
23 saying it's not going to provide more littering.

24 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: That wasn't the  
25 question. The question was, Alderman Puente asked you

1 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Next witness, please.

2 THE WITNESS: Robin S. Barnes, 2345 South  
3 Howell Avenue, Apartment 201. I've been there 19  
4 years, and I live two doors down from Hub -- I mean  
5 two doors down from AK Food Mart, same side of the  
6 street. I've been there 19 years, and I go to AK  
7 almost every single day. He's a primary source for  
8 all of my needs.

9 I've never felt threatened going to AK.  
10 Sure, a bunch of kids might come out with their penny  
11 candy, they eat it before they get on their bikes, and  
12 they're gone. I've never seen drug activity,  
13 prostitution, I've never felt threatened going to AK,  
14 entering AK, being in AK, leaving AK, and going home.  
15 The store as long as I've known, it's clean, neat,  
16 they provide full services, and some of the best deli  
17 sandwiches you're going to find in Bay View. I've  
18 been there through the whole evolution of Bay View,  
19 and I've never had a problem going to AK and being  
20 there.

21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And you support the license?

22 THE WITNESS: I certainly do. I don't see  
23 how allowing AK to sell beer could be detrimental to  
24 our neighborhood as we know it now.

25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, sir, thank you.

1 Questions by committee members?  
 2 ALDERMAN PUENTE: No.  
 3 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And for Alderman Puente's  
 4 edification, you did provide us per your testimony  
 5 you're not seeing all these concerns that are  
 6 expressed in the notice?  
 7 THE WITNESS: I've never witnessed any of  
 8 that myself ever in the 19 years I've been there.  
 9 CHAIRMAN BOHL: There are even individuals  
 10 that are saying that there's been loitering. Granted  
 11 that's a gray area, and whether or not somebody deems  
 12 it's somebody from a neighborhood having a proactive  
 13 conversation versus whether they are just mulling  
 14 about hanging out in the wrong way.  
 15 THE WITNESS: I've never really seen people  
 16 using the front of AK Food Mart for a place to hang  
 17 out like hours and hours and hours.  
 18 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Again, therein lies the  
 19 question over the difficulty of what one's definition  
 20 of loitering is. It's personal, it's subjective.  
 21 Thank you for your brevity here. No questions by  
 22 committee at this time? Alderman Zielinski.  
 23 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: You mentioned that you  
 24 lived at Lincoln Court Apartment Complex?  
 25 THE WITNESS: No. I live right next door,

1 two or three times a week after work from downtown, I  
 2 cash my check there, and it would be a lot easier for  
 3 me to stop and pick up a six-pack or 12-pack of beer  
 4 there than have to stop again on the way home. I stop  
 5 two, three times a week. He's a good man, and he  
 6 deserves a license.  
 7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, sir. Questions  
 8 by committee?  
 9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Other than loitering in  
 10 the notice, have you seen any of the other illegal  
 11 activity that was mentioned in the notice?  
 12 THE WITNESS: I've seen public urination  
 13 once, but it was across the street, and it was a  
 14 street person two years ago. There's a couple of  
 15 street people that live there. In fact, I had one in  
 16 my alley. I used to live across the street from  
 17 Jesse. He was homeless. I'd helped him out. I'd buy  
 18 him some groceries and that once in a while.  
 19 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Do you think if we issued  
 20 the license, it would be detrimental to the health,  
 21 safety, and welfare of the neighborhood?  
 22 THE WITNESS: I think it would be an asset.  
 23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions, Alderman?  
 24 THE WITNESS: My name is Georgia Lee, L-E-E,  
 25 2010 East Edgerton Avenue, Cudahy. I was a Bay View

1 three doors down.  
 2 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Do you buy beer right  
 3 now?  
 4 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.  
 5 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Where do you buy it?  
 6 THE WITNESS: I usually go to Hub. I would  
 7 prefer not to, but I'll have a cold six-pack on a  
 8 Saturday night. I don't see AK selling beer as being  
 9 detrimental to the fabric of our neighborhood.  
 10 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Do you feel that if  
 11 another place came along and they wanted a license  
 12 that we should grant it to them, as well?  
 13 THE WITNESS: Let's see. You've already  
 14 granted it to the Wine Shop, you've already granted it  
 15 to Central, you've already granted it to Rivera Mia.  
 16 No, I don't see a problem, I don't see a problem with  
 17 that at all in the neighborhood.  
 18 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Just want to establish  
 19 for the record that you didn't see a problem in giving  
 20 out more of these licenses. Thank you, sir.  
 21 THE WITNESS: William Anders, 2810 East  
 22 Edgerton Avenue, Cudahy, Wisconsin. I've known Jesse  
 23 for 18 years, since he first opened up the store. And  
 24 as far as the loitering goes, I might be one of them.  
 25 I say hi to people when I stop there. I stop there

1 resident 18 years. I've known Jesse since my little  
 2 girl was born. He's been a real asset to the  
 3 community. I don't see a problem with him having a  
 4 liquor license there for the simple fact that the  
 5 neighborhood is a lot of older and also disabled  
 6 people there in the neighborhood that don't have -- a  
 7 lot of people don't have cars, they walk. They depend  
 8 upon Jesse's store for groceries and personal items.  
 9 I can't see why they can't depend upon him for a  
 10 six-pack of beer once in a while. I don't see a  
 11 problem. People that have cars have Pick 'n Save,  
 12 Sentry, whatever, they can do one-stop shopping. Why  
 13 can't people without cars have one-stop shopping?  
 14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. Questions by  
 15 committee?  
 16 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair. How long ago  
 17 did you move to Cudahy?  
 18 THE WITNESS: About a year, but I frequent  
 19 AK all the time anyway. I'm with them and those, we  
 20 meet after work.  
 21 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Prior to your moving?  
 22 THE WITNESS: I was at AK -- Jesse's been  
 23 -- There's been times back when he was off work and  
 24 we had no money, and he would give us food. He's been  
 25 through a lot with us, and he's a good guy.

1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And the notice. Other  
2 than loitering, have you noticed any other illegal  
3 activity?

4 THE WITNESS: Not really.

5 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Do you not feel that this  
6 would be detrimental to the health, safety, and  
7 welfare of the neighborhood?

8 THE WITNESS: No.

9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you, ma'am.

10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Zielinski,  
11 anything?

12 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: No.

13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Maistelman?

14 MR. MAISTELMAN: I've turned my light off.

15 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, ma'am.

16 THE WITNESS: My name is Tom Piech,  
17 P-I-E-C-H. I live at 5424 South 21st Street. That's  
18 not in the neighborhood. I'm here because I call on  
19 Jesse. I've been calling him. I supply him with  
20 products. I have a part-time business, and I've been  
21 calling on him. I've been in that store once a week  
22 for the past eight years give or take a few weeks. So  
23 I'm very familiar with the store, and I would like to  
24 speak in support of him getting that license.

25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, sir. Questions

1 because I seen Jesse on television in my bedroom  
2 watching with my wife. I've known Jesse and his  
3 family, his wife, his mom, his daughter approximately  
4 15 years. And I know Jesse put a fence up. He bought  
5 the lot next to his store, put a fence up to kind of  
6 keep some of the riffraff from going across the lot  
7 and behind his building and causing problems. I know  
8 that if Jesse gets a liquor license for beer, it will  
9 save a couple people in the round house that is there  
10 the hassle of having to go across Lincoln Avenue with  
11 their scooters or their walkers or some of them using  
12 canes. Some people do use alcohol that live in the  
13 building.

14 I know that he has a full variety of  
15 groceries, he makes handmade deli sandwiches that all  
16 my kids enjoy. My son goes there four times a week  
17 and buys them for lunch. I think Jesse is a very  
18 excellent person and giving him a liquor license would  
19 just enhance to his business a little bit more that he  
20 desires. I don't think it would cause any problems at  
21 all.

22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, Mr. Schodeberg.  
23 If I may ask you one question here briefly. You were  
24 watching the start of this and actually headed in to  
25 City Hall after watching this?

1 by committee members?

2 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair. The times you  
3 have been there, other than loitering, have you seen  
4 any other illegal activity?

5 THE WITNESS: I have not. My comment would  
6 be I think a lot of what has been referred to as  
7 loitering might be a sense of community. There are  
8 people in that neighborhood. And I've always been  
9 greatly impressed with that. I've seen Jesse selling  
10 half-price bus tickets, cashing checks, doing money  
11 orders, processing utility bills. There's a wide  
12 array of services that he provides. So again, I'm  
13 very strongly in support of granting this license.

14 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you for your  
15 testimony, sir.

16 MR. MAISTELMAN: Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Any other questions by  
18 committee? Alderman Zielinsk?

19 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: How long have you been  
20 supplying products for Mr. Singh?

21 THE WITNESS: I'm going to say eight years,  
22 give or take a couple of months.

23 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you. That's all.

24 THE WITNESS: Good evening. My name is  
25 Daniel Schodeberg, S-C-H-O-D-E-B-E-R-G. I came

1 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Were you sworn in?

3 THE WITNESS: No, actually, I wasn't.

4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Can we swear him in.

5 THE WITNESS: My wife stayed home. I have  
6 two grandbabies at home.

7 (DANIEL SCHODEBERG was duly affirmed.)

8 CHAIRMAN BOHL: What I'll just ask you at  
9 this point if you first provide us -- we have your  
10 spelling of name -- your address, please.

11 THE WITNESS: I reside at 1849 West  
12 Greenfield.

13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: How close is that to this  
14 location?

15 THE WITNESS: I used to live at 514 West  
16 Lincoln.

17 CHAIRMAN BOHL: The other question that I'll  
18 ask for you at this time here is do you affirm that  
19 the testimony you provided here to us prior to being  
20 sworn in is true?

21 THE WITNESS: Yes.

22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I'll accept you at face  
23 value on that. Other questions by committee?  
24 Alderman Kovac.

25 ALDERMAN KOVAC: We've been in this room too

1 long, we're starting to think alike. I was going to  
 2 ask the exact questions you asked.  
 3 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Maybe I'm going to hand you  
 4 the gavel. Alderman Puente.  
 5 ALDERMAN PUENTE: How long have you lived  
 6 near or close to this location that we're reviewing  
 7 now? Because Greenfield isn't that close.  
 8 THE WITNESS: Actually, I met Jesse and his  
 9 wife about 14-and-a-half years ago on 12th and  
 10 Lincoln. They owned a building across the street from  
 11 us. It had a little flower shop downstairs. There  
 12 was some problems with the back stairs, and I helped  
 13 his wife do some work in the unit. That's how I met  
 14 Jesse and his wife.  
 15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: How often do you go to his  
 16 store that we're talking about right now?  
 17 THE WITNESS: 14 times a month.  
 18 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You never seen any  
 19 problems?  
 20 THE WITNESS: I personally loitered with  
 21 three or four City of Milwaukee police officers in  
 22 front of the place for hours.  
 23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Was he one of them?  
 24 THE WITNESS: Half the City of Milwaukee  
 25 bike officers from 2nd District go to Jesse's store

1 economics, competition, shop and compare, cheap, good  
 2 tax money for government, for him, too. Competition  
 3 brings business and that. Cheap good tax money for  
 4 you guys, too. I'm done. Loitering. We like to hang  
 5 out sometimes, but it never gets that bad. I'm done.  
 6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you for your brevity,  
 7 Mr. Johnson. You set a sterling example for everyone  
 8 here. Questions by committee first at this point?  
 9 Just an earlier point is that what may be construed by  
 10 one person as loitering could be a few customers  
 11 and/or individuals who see each other periodically  
 12 stopping and chatting for a few minutes in front of  
 13 the place.  
 14 MR. MAISTELMAN: We do it on Downer Avenue.  
 15 CHAIRMAN BOHL: That's part of the problem  
 16 why all that activity needs to be cracked down on  
 17 Downer Avenue here.  
 18 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Just a point I wanted to  
 19 pick up on. You said you need some price competition.  
 20 Is the beer overpriced at the Hub Market?  
 21 THE WITNESS: Not overpriced. I don't  
 22 necessarily look at the prices because I don't drink  
 23 beer. Competition brings better business, competition  
 24 cheap and good for the government and for the whole  
 25 picture. I mean, there's nothing wrong with that.

1 and sit and have a soda. I've never seen any physical  
 2 altercations in front of his store. I've seen  
 3 physical altercations in front of Hub store, I've seen  
 4 physical altercations in front of Jimmy John's  
 5 Restaurant across the street. I know that the round  
 6 house has a lot of occupants, and a lot of people like  
 7 to sit out in front of the round house, and I have a  
 8 couple friends that live in that building, and people  
 9 from a block away or two blocks away could construe  
 10 that people are loitering in front of Jesse's store,  
 11 but I've never seen any congregations there.  
 12 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you, sir. I have no  
 13 further questions.  
 14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Zielinski.  
 15 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: You mentioned that you  
 16 did some work in one of Jesse's properties?  
 17 THE WITNESS: Yeah, long time ago.  
 18 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you.  
 19 MR. MAISTELMAN: Maybe he wanted to give a  
 20 shout-out to his grandkids if they're watching.  
 21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Sir, please go ahead.  
 22 THE WITNESS: Hi. My name is Matthew  
 23 Johnson. My speech is kind of bad. 2325 South  
 24 Howell, Apartment 1207. I live a few doors that way.  
 25 I just want to make one quick point. Economics, good

1 CHAIRMAN BOHL: He's not in favor of banning  
 2 HoHos because he's a capitalist.  
 3 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: I have in front of me  
 4 the concentration map that shows there's 10 locations  
 5 where you can purchase beer within a one-block radius  
 6 of this location. You'd like how many more places  
 7 to be able to sell beer within a block to have good  
 8 competition? Do you want 15, 20, as many as they  
 9 want?  
 10 THE WITNESS: As long as you can do good  
 11 business and do your part in keeping society good.  
 12 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you.  
 13 THE WITNESS: Good evening. My name is  
 14 Kathleen Hoffmann. I live at 2325 South Howell  
 15 Avenue. I've lived in the Bay View area for  
 16 approximately 10-and-a-half years, and I choose to do  
 17 my shopping at other places, but every once in a while  
 18 when I need something, Jesse's store is a matter of  
 19 convenience. Like I needed a few items last night,  
 20 and instead of going all the way to a major grocery  
 21 store, it took me a few minutes to go down the block,  
 22 get the few items I needed, and back in the house I  
 23 went.  
 24 So the thing is is have I seen any  
 25 loitering, any kind of problems coming from Jesse's

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1 store, any of the other convenience stores around my  
 2 area? No, I have not. I think Jesse has been very  
 3 kind to me, his wife has been very kind to me over the  
 4 years, and I think that as a business owner, with this  
 5 economy being like it is, I think he has the right to  
 6 have the right to sell beer. If it's going to boost  
 7 his business, why not? What's one more store having  
 8 beer around our neighborhood? I mean, you got Hub,  
 9 you got the bar across the street from us, and  
 10 actually, I don't see problems coming from the  
 11 convenience stores. If anything, I fear Pandora's Box  
 12 worse than I do the convenience stores.  
 13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: We don't want to open that  
 14 up.  
 15 THE WITNESS: I'm just saying, that's where  
 16 I fear the most. Have I seen any double-parking in  
 17 front of Jesse's store? No. I've witnessed people  
 18 just getting out of their cars, running into the  
 19 store. If you double-park, there's no way traffic is  
 20 going to be able to come past, no way. When there's  
 21 been problems, I've seen Jesse beyond a shadow of a  
 22 doubt, I have not seen any hesitancy on his part at  
 23 all in calling the police.  
 24 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, Ms. Hoffmann. Do  
 25 you have one or Ns in the spelling of your name?

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1 THE WITNESS: Two.  
 2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Questions by committee  
 3 members of this witness?  
 4 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: How long have you lived  
 5 in the apartment building?  
 6 THE WITNESS: I lived there for  
 7 10-and-a-half years.  
 8 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: And you also see no  
 9 problem with increase in the number of liquor license  
 10 establishments in your area?  
 11 THE WITNESS: No, I don't.  
 12 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you very much.  
 13 MR. MAISTELMAN: You don't consider yourself  
 14 a vagabond, do you?  
 15 THE WITNESS: Pardon me?  
 16 MR. MAISTELMAN: You're not a vagabond, are  
 17 you?  
 18 THE WITNESS: I don't think so.  
 19 MR. MAISTELMAN: I don't think so either.  
 20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: You had to go there, didn't  
 21 you. I thought you were going to turn the microphone  
 22 away.  
 23 MS. MAISTELMAN: I couldn't hold off.  
 24 THE WITNESS: My name is Jeff Heppert. I'm  
 25 a business owner in a nearby community. I came to the

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1 Bay View community --  
 2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Please at least identify the  
 3 business or the address.  
 4 THE WITNESS: The current business address  
 5 is 1223 West National Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. I  
 6 had former locations at 422 Lincoln Avenue and 322  
 7 East Bay, so I am familiar with the area, and that's  
 8 how I got to know Jesse. I frequent Jesse's place  
 9 weekly to bi-weekly more or less to say hello because  
 10 he's an area businessman. As many of the people  
 11 stated today, a very nice man to do business with. I  
 12 feel this opportunity for Jesse to stay in the  
 13 neighborhood, being a businessman myself, if this will  
 14 give him an edge to still stay in the area and be  
 15 competitive and add a service to continue with the  
 16 clientele that love Jesse and continue to want to  
 17 service his store as opposed to going across the  
 18 street to Hub, he should be given an opportunity.  
 19 He has no activity showing on any other  
 20 records showing that he should not, so therefore, I  
 21 feel he should be afforded the opportunity. I think  
 22 that's pretty much what everyone is here to say, that  
 23 Jesse's helped quite a few people in the community,  
 24 and he's been a great businessman for the past 18  
 25 years.

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1 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you for your brevity.  
 2 Hold on. Any questions by committee members?  
 3 Alderman Zielinski, Mr. Maistelman? Thank you.  
 4 THE WITNESS: Good afternoon. May I speak?  
 5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Please.  
 6 THE WITNESS: Name, David Furst, F-U-R-S-T.  
 7 I live at 2325 South Howell, two doors away. I lived  
 8 there approximately 15, 16 years. I go in Jesse's  
 9 store three times a day. I drink. It would be great  
 10 for him to get a liquor license, because you'd have to  
 11 go to Hub, I got to stand in line and wait for 10  
 12 people. That's a waste of time, which I'd rather give  
 13 him the money and be in and out. His store is clean,  
 14 his products are good, I don't have no complaints.  
 15 CHAIRMAN BOHL: That's good. And you want  
 16 it to stay that way, right?  
 17 THE WITNESS: And I want him to stay in the  
 18 area.  
 19 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you for your  
 20 testimony. If you want to hold on one moment, Mr.  
 21 Furst. Questions by committee members? Alderman  
 22 Puente.  
 23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: The notice mentioned all  
 24 those illegal activities. You haven't seen any of  
 25 that stuff other than possible loitering?



1 THE WITNESS: No. Now, loitering you could  
 2 -- I stand out in front of the --  
 3 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Other than loitering. I'm  
 4 not going there. No other illegal activity?  
 5 THE WITNESS: No, zero.  
 6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Prostitution, drug  
 7 activity?  
 8 THE WITNESS: Zero  
 9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Do you feel it would not  
 10 be detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of  
 11 the neighborhood?  
 12 THE WITNESS: It would be good for it.  
 13 ALDERMAN PUENTE: That's all I have.  
 14 MR. MAISTELMAN: Thank you very much. I  
 15 don't have any questions.  
 16 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Mr. Furst, how long  
 17 have you lived in the apartment building?  
 18 THE WITNESS: 15, 16 years.  
 19 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: And have you ever  
 20 witnessed any kind of loitering in front of the AK  
 21 Mart?  
 22 THE WITNESS: No.  
 23 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Have you witnessed  
 24 loitering in any other part of Bay View, just yes or  
 25 no?

1 THE WITNESS: No.  
 2 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you very much for  
 3 coming down.  
 4 MS. SEMANKO: My name is Diane Semanko,  
 5 S-E-M-A-N-K-O. I live at 2325 South Howell, Apartment  
 6 206, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Jesse's been a very kind  
 7 person to me. I'm not always able to get to a large  
 8 store, so I do buy products from him. I buy my  
 9 cigarettes there, I use my food stamps there, I get  
 10 money orders. The food is appropriate for what I need  
 11 to buy. I personally don't drink anymore, so it  
 12 doesn't really matter to me about buying beer unless I  
 13 got company and they to watch the football game, I can  
 14 get a six-pack. But I don't see why Jesse should not  
 15 be granted -- He should be granted to have the  
 16 license, liquor license.  
 17 I see one step in front of the other to do  
 18 more for his store, one foot higher than the other to  
 19 do better in the community. Yes, I do notice a little  
 20 bit of loitering, but most of that is little kids that  
 21 play with their bikes, and they're just outside  
 22 playing. Mostly it's basically just younger ones out  
 23 there. And that's about all I have to say.  
 24 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. Questions by  
 25 committee of this witness?

1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair. How long have  
 2 you lived at your --  
 3 MS. SEMANKO: About 10 years.  
 4 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And in that 10 years, with  
 5 the noticed of all the other illegal activity, have  
 6 you seen anything in front of this establishment?  
 7 MS. SEMANKO: I never did, no.  
 8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Do you feel that it would  
 9 be detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of  
 10 the neighborhood?  
 11 MS. SEMANKO: No. Because I feel that  
 12 people who buy liquor are of age, so they are  
 13 responsible for their own actions anyway.  
 14 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you. That's all.  
 15 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Zielinski.  
 16 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: You take the position  
 17 that there's no problem with increasing the number of  
 18 liquor licenses in the area significantly?  
 19 MS. SEMANKO: No, I don't.  
 20 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you very much.  
 21 MR. MAISTELMAN: Thank you very much for  
 22 coming down here, taking time out of your day. Has  
 23 Jesse ever extended you credit if you couldn't afford  
 24 to pay for something?  
 25 THE WITNESS: Yes, he did, a handful, a lot

1 of times.  
 2 MR. MAISTELMAN: Number of times?  
 3 THE WITNESS: When I really need something,  
 4 he does give me credit, yes.  
 5 MR. MAISTELMAN: Thank you.  
 6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: We're going to need to take  
 7 about a two-minute recess, so we'll reconvene here in  
 8 a couple minutes.  
 9 (Break.)  
 10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: This is a resumption of our  
 11 meeting. Our next witness, please. Sir, if you want  
 12 to come forward. Thank you for your patience.  
 13 THE WITNESS: My name is George Henning. I  
 14 live at 740 East Linus.  
 15 CHAIRMAN BOHL: H-E-N-N-I-N-G?  
 16 THE WITNESS: H-E-N-N-I-N-G, right.  
 17 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Where is your address  
 18 compared to this establishment?  
 19 THE WITNESS: I'm about two-and-a-half  
 20 blocks away from the store.  
 21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. Please proceed,  
 22 sir.  
 23 THE WITNESS: The gentleman is trying to  
 24 make a living in the store, which I think is  
 25 commendable. There's not all that much money in

1 groceries. I used to have a grocery store many years  
2 ago. So the profitability of the store would help him  
3 to stay in the neighborhood and be an asset to the  
4 neighborhood. As far as all the problems about the  
5 neighborhood, I have not seen those things.

6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, Mr. Henning, for  
7 your brevity and for your testimony here. Questions  
8 by committee?

9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair. Did you say  
10 how long you've been there?

11 THE WITNESS: About four years.

12 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And have you seen any  
13 other illegal activity in front of this place?

14 THE WITNESS: No, I haven't.

15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Would you think that this  
16 would be detrimental to the health, safety, and  
17 welfare of the neighborhood?

18 THE WITNESS: Not at all. I think it would  
19 be an asset to the neighborhood.

20 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you, sir.

21 MR. MAISTELMAN: Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions by  
23 committee? Alderman Zielinski?

24 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: So you don't have a  
25 problem with a significant increase in liquor license

1 that address about 12 years. I have no problem with  
2 Jesse receiving a Class A license for the fact that he  
3 sees his customers that come in and buy groceries in  
4 his store go across the street to buy another product  
5 that he can initially sell if he gets a permit to sell  
6 it. And it's not like this is a new store opening.  
7 He's been there a lot longer than I've lived in the  
8 neighborhood, so why not allow him to do it.

9 I mean, you open there's the Hiberry, they  
10 opened across the street, bar, got their liquor  
11 license like that. I live across the street from it,  
12 music thumps at 1:00 in the morning. It's a bar, they  
13 can do that. He's closed at 9:00 at night. It's  
14 quiet, store's done, it's over.

15 Mr. Zielinski points out can you add more  
16 bars and liquor. Sure. But for the purpose of that?  
17 No, I'd maybe be against it, but he's established,  
18 he's been there.

19 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, sir. Questions  
20 by committee?

21 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Same question, Mr. Chair.  
22 No problems?

23 THE WITNESS: I go to his store sometimes  
24 four or five times a day, I cross KK. Maybe I'm one  
25 of the loiterers. I see people I know from the

1 establishments in the area?

2 THE WITNESS: No.

3 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: We really cut short of  
4 time.

5 MR. MAISTELMAN: Can I make a point of  
6 order, please. That's not what the witness stated.  
7 The witness didn't state I don't have a problem with  
8 as many liquor licenses in the area. The witness  
9 stated that I don't have any problems, there's no  
10 problem with regard to this one. Alderman Zielinski's  
11 questions are a bit leading, and I think they need to  
12 be clarified.

13 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Mr. Chairman. I asked  
14 him a question if he felt that there would be any  
15 problem with significantly increasing the number of  
16 liquor licenses in the area, and he said no. Simple  
17 as that. There's nothing out of order from an  
18 evidentiary viewpoint. Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN BOHL: No other questions?

20 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: That's it.

21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Mr. Maistelman?

22 MR. MAISTELMAN: No.

23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you.

24 THE WITNESS: My name is Edward Williams.  
25 My address is 2337 South Kinnickinnic. I've lived at

1 neighborhood out on the street, I'll stop and talk to  
2 them. That's what a neighborhood is, passing  
3 information.

4 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Do you feel this would be  
5 detrimental?

6 THE WITNESS: No, not at all. He's been a  
7 good neighbor.

8 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: How often do you shop  
9 there?

10 THE WITNESS: I go in there sometimes four  
11 or five times in a day, little things, you know, when  
12 my granddaughter's there sometimes.

13 MR. MAISTELMAN: Sir, first of all, thank  
14 you very much for coming down here. Jesse, does he  
15 extend you credit when you cannot afford to buy milk  
16 for your grandkids?

17 THE WITNESS: Yeah, sometimes, yes.

18 MR. MAISTELMAN: Thank you very much.

19 THE WITNESS: Hi. My name is Joanne Iacono.  
20 I live at 2149 South Woodward. That's like three  
21 blocks away from Jesse's store. Last name  
22 I-A-C-O-N-O. I am not opposed to him receiving a  
23 liquor license. I mean, I'd rather go to his store  
24 and buy a six-pack on a Sunday for the Packer game or  
25 something like that. It's convenient to go to the

1 store, also, for me, because I can't get to like Pick  
2 'n Save. I don't have a vehicle. And really you  
3 really can't buy like bottled beer out a tavern or  
4 restaurant. I don't think that's legal.

5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Actually, it is legal.

6 THE WITNESS: Is it?

7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Yes. Taverns can sell  
8 carry-out goods up to 9:00 p.m. if they choose to do  
9 it. I've seen some that do have refrigerators.

10 THE WITNESS: Okay.

11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: That's up to the individual  
12 tavern. I'm correct about that, Ms. Grill, am I not?

13 MS. GRILL: Yes.

14 THE WITNESS: That's all I have to say.

15 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. Questions by  
16 committee members?

17 ALDERMAN PUENTE: How long have you lived  
18 there?

19 THE WITNESS: 30 years. It's actually 34  
20 years. I'm 34 years old. I've been there all my  
21 life.

22 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Have you seen any other  
23 illegal activity in front of this store such as what's  
24 posted in the notice?

25 THE WITNESS: No.

1 Sometimes I'm with my grandchildren, and I  
2 got to hold their hand to walk. Like I said, I have  
3 to pass his store to get to that next store. I'm one  
4 of the people that stands outside and talks to my  
5 friends, because I know everybody in Bay View and  
6 everybody knows me.

7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I surmise that, I really do,  
8 I surmise that. People being neighborly at one point  
9 or another by somebody else's standard --

10 THE WITNESS: There's a time that I came out  
11 of AK, cashed my check, went in the restaurant next  
12 door, I had a taco and two margaritas. This was like  
13 1:00 in the afternoon. I seen Valerie, and we sat  
14 there for like 15 minutes standing outside talking  
15 outside the restaurant. I talk to everybody. I stand  
16 in front of their house and talk to them. And I've  
17 been in Jesse's, outside of his store plenty of times  
18 and in his store talking before I even went to the  
19 counter. Yes, I do drink beer, and I would rather go  
20 to his store and buy it instead of crossing the street  
21 with my grandkids.

22 Another thing, too, when you go to Hub, you  
23 have to give them your bag. So why shop at Jesse's  
24 store, go to another store to buy your beer, have to  
25 check in your bags, and then buy your beer and wait to

1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Do you feel it would be  
2 detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the  
3 neighborhood?

4 THE WITNESS: No.

5 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions by  
7 committee? Alderman Zielinski?

8 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Have you noticed  
9 loitering in other areas of Bay View other than the  
10 AK Mart?

11 THE WITNESS: In other areas, yes.

12 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: You've noticed  
13 loitering in other areas but not AK Mart. Thank you  
14 very much. I appreciate you coming down.

15 THE WITNESS: Sure.

16 THE WITNESS: My name is Brenda Silva,  
17 S-I-L-V-A, and I've known Jesse since the day he  
18 opened the store. I live at 1535 South 2nd Street. I  
19 just moved there like two months ago. I used to live  
20 down the street from Jesse's on -- second house off  
21 the hill. So in order to get to Hub's to buy my beer,  
22 which I do buy, I have to pass his store to walk  
23 across the street, when it's more convenient if I just  
24 walk to his store instead of crossing over that  
25 street.

1 get your bags back, and they give you the ticket back.  
2 I'd rather just go there and get everything I have to  
3 get then and just walk off and go home, because I do  
4 walk around.

5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Questions by committee?

6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.

7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Puente.

8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: How long have you lived  
9 there?

10 THE WITNESS: 28 years.

11 ALDERMAN PUENTE: In the notice, all the  
12 illegal activities that was posted, have you seen any  
13 of that?

14 THE WITNESS: No.

15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Do you feel this would be  
16 detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the  
17 neighborhood?

18 THE WITNESS: No, I do not.

19 MR. MAISTELMAN: Ma'am. Mr. Chair.

20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Yes.

21 MR. MAISTELMAN: Do you think it would be a  
22 benefit to the neighborhood?

23 THE WITNESS: It would get my money.

24 MR. MAISTELMAN: Lastly, has Jesse ever  
25 provided you with credit when you were down on your

1 luck and you needed staples for your family?  
 2 THE WITNESS: He's even gave me bus tickets  
 3 to get to work.  
 4 MR. MAISTELMAN: No further questions.  
 5 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: What did you say your  
 6 present the address was right now?  
 7 THE WITNESS: 1535 South 2nd Street. That's  
 8 on 2nd and Lapham, between Lapham and Orchard.  
 9 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: I don't understand, if  
 10 you're going to walk from your house how you would  
 11 have to --  
 12 THE WITNESS: No. I just moved there two  
 13 months ago. I lived down the street from Jesse's.  
 14 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: I thought your  
 15 testimony said it's a lot easier for you -- Why would  
 16 you have to walk further to get to the Hub when you  
 17 live on 2nd Street when you're actually closer to the  
 18 Hub on 2nd?  
 19 THE WITNESS: Because my son still lives  
 20 over there, and I'm at his house every day, and I have  
 21 to walk past there to go to Hubs, when he lives on the  
 22 same side of the street as Jesse.  
 23 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: And you don't have a  
 24 problem either with significantly increasing the  
 25 liquor licenses?

1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair. You still  
 2 frequent the area over there?  
 3 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.  
 4 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Does your mother still  
 5 live around there?  
 6 THE WITNESS: My mom, she recently moved  
 7 back to the city, but I've been going there for 11  
 8 years to cash my checks. I'm a caregiver, hospice.  
 9 He does it for me.  
 10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: How often do you visit his  
 11 store?  
 12 THE WITNESS: I visit his store three times  
 13 a month.  
 14 ALDERMAN PUENTE: In the notice, all the  
 15 illegal activity that they had in the notice, have you  
 16 ever seen any of that except the loitering?  
 17 THE WITNESS: It's a little community. You  
 18 go there when you getting your car fixed or hot ham  
 19 sandwiches, free candy for the kids, and if you buy  
 20 groceries, he gives you free fruit. It's just really  
 21 nice.  
 22 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Have you seen any illegal  
 23 activity, ma'am, that I have mentioned?  
 24 THE WITNESS: No, not on my visits.  
 25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Zielinski, any

1 THE WITNESS: Maybe not on every block.  
 2 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Just in this area?  
 3 THE WITNESS: It's more convenient. He's  
 4 here for a liquor license. Nobody else is here for a  
 5 liquor license.  
 6 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Oh, there will be other  
 7 ones coming. Thank you for coming down. I appreciate  
 8 it.  
 9 THE WITNESS: Hi. My name is Ethel Papp.  
 10 I've known Jesse for 11 years. I met him when my mom  
 11 had a heart attack, and she couldn't make it to cash  
 12 her checks and things, and he was kind enough to trust  
 13 me to bring her checks to him and cash them. It's by  
 14 the content of his character that I judge him, not  
 15 whether or not he wants a liquor license. I don't  
 16 object to it in any way.  
 17 CHAIRMAN BOHL: If you could provide is the  
 18 correct spelling of your last name, please.  
 19 THE WITNESS: It's P-A-P-P.  
 20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Just an address for our  
 21 record.  
 22 THE WITNESS: 150 East Juneau, Apartment  
 23 305.  
 24 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, ma'am. Questions  
 25 by committee members?

1 questions?  
 2 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: No, no.  
 3 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Mr. Maistelman?  
 4 MR. MAISTELMAN: No. Thank you very much  
 5 for coming down here.  
 6 THE WITNESS: My name is Joan Nelson,  
 7 N-E-L-S-O-N. I live at 2345 South Howell Avenue,  
 8 Apartment 105. I live about maybe three houses away  
 9 from Jesse's AK. Really I agree with everything.  
 10 Make it real nice and short. I agree with all the  
 11 testimony. And the the only thing I want to say is  
 12 I'd rather have him get a liquor license, malt  
 13 license, instead of having people coming out of a bar  
 14 -- I won't mention the bar across the street from me  
 15 -- and driving drunk, I'd rather see him have the  
 16 license so they can take it home and be there instead  
 17 of driving drunk from the tavern. That's all.  
 18 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, ma'am. Questions  
 19 by committee of this witness. Alderman Zielinski?  
 20 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: How long have you lived  
 21 at the apartment complex, ma'am?  
 22 THE WITNESS: 12 years, and I lived in Bay  
 23 View for over 50 years.  
 24 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Have you ever noticed  
 25 any loitering in front of AK Mart?

1 THE WITNESS: No.  
 2 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Have you ever noticed  
 3 loitering any other place in Bay View?  
 4 THE WITNESS: No.  
 5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Mr. Maistelman, anything?  
 6 MR. MAISTELMAN: No. Thank you very much.  
 7 I know it's getting late.  
 8 THE WITNESS: My name is Francis  
 9 Heidenreich, H-E-I-D-E-N-R-E-I-C-H. I live at 2345  
 10 South Howell Avenue. That's about three houses from  
 11 his store. I have to say is that he's a generous  
 12 person, he does give me credit. Two weeks in the  
 13 month, I'm broke, so he gives me credit.  
 14 Liquor. I do drink beer. I prefer to go to  
 15 one store, but I have to go to two. I have to go to  
 16 Jesse's, then I have to go to Hub across the street to  
 17 get other stuff I need, cigarettes or tobacco. But  
 18 otherwise, he's a good person. I lived there for  
 19 seven years.  
 20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. Questions by  
 21 committee? Alderman Zielinski?  
 22 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: No questions.  
 23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Sir, have you seen any of  
 24 the illegal activity that was posted in the notice for  
 25 today?

1 about two-and-a-half blocks from the store.  
 2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And your testimony, Mr.  
 3 Nuetzel.  
 4 THE WITNESS: I agree with pretty much  
 5 everything that's been said on Jesse's behalf.  
 6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: How long have you lived in  
 7 the area?  
 8 THE WITNESS: I've been at Winchester  
 9 Village two years, and I lived about five years at  
 10 Lincoln Court, two doors down.  
 11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And the other question I  
 12 guess at this point here -- we'll pre-empt Alderman  
 13 Puente -- and that is, have you seen any of the  
 14 activities that have been described in the notice  
 15 here?  
 16 THE WITNESS: Well, like you said, it's how  
 17 you interpret loitering. People do stand around and  
 18 talk a little. And as far as illegal activities,  
 19 there are occasional panhandlers that ask for change,  
 20 and maybe that could be interpreted as something else  
 21 going on. I've been asked quite often for change.  
 22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. Are there  
 23 questions by committee at this time?  
 24 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Any other illegal activity  
 25 other than the two you just described?

1 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I have.  
 2 ALDERMAN PUENTE: What have you seen?  
 3 THE WITNESS: Every so often you do have  
 4 people park their cars double, but they do get out.  
 5 Like earlier tonight with that woman saying she can't  
 6 turn the corner, there's always room to turn the  
 7 corner. People park on that street who lives or works  
 8 down at Clements, they will park up there. People do  
 9 drink down there, come up in front of his store. What  
 10 can we do? I tell him there's people out there  
 11 drinking, I tell him there's kids out there, he will  
 12 go and tell them move along.  
 13 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And do they move along  
 14 then?  
 15 THE WITNESS: Yep, they move along.  
 16 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Do you believe that this  
 17 would be detrimental to the health, safety, and  
 18 welfare of the neighborhood if we issued him this beer  
 19 license?  
 20 THE WITNESS: No.  
 21 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you.  
 22 THE WITNESS: Hi. I'm David Nuetzel,  
 23 N-U-E-T-Z-E-L.  
 24 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Your address, please?  
 25 THE WITNESS: 2147 South Winchester. It's

1 THE WITNESS: No.  
 2 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Do you feel if we granted  
 3 him this license, it would be detrimental, health,  
 4 safety, and welfare of the neighborhood?  
 5 THE WITNESS: No.  
 6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Questions by committee?  
 7 Alderman Zielinski.  
 8 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Would you buy beer  
 9 here and consume it?  
 10 THE WITNESS: Occasionally, yeah.  
 11 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you very much.  
 12 MR. MAISTELMAN: What kind of beer do you  
 13 drink? I'm kidding.  
 14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Any other individuals to  
 15 provide testimony? All right, Mr. Maistelman.  
 16 MR. MAISTELMAN: Thank you. I'll be a  
 17 little brief. I know this committee has seen in the  
 18 past when neighbors are really against something, it's  
 19 easier to get something who are against something to  
 20 show up than it is for people who support something  
 21 to show up. People are more energized usually when  
 22 they're denouncing something.  
 23 I think what you've seen here is really the  
 24 diversity of the City of Milwaukee that have come in  
 25 support of this. We've seen younger people, older

1 people, disabled people, white people, non-white  
2 people, African-Americans, people of apparently all  
3 socioeconomic backgrounds coming here to support the  
4 applicant.

5 Now, the people that were opposed to us, the  
6 four or five people came in, and they were all white,  
7 and after they made their testimony, there were  
8 overtones of classism and other issues. That really  
9 disturbed me. I was happy after listening to  
10 everybody else that came after that who really -- they  
11 do seem to be part of the community that live there  
12 who have lived there for at least 15 to 20 years who  
13 have talked about what Jesse has done. He gives  
14 credit to the poor, he assists people out.

15 My grandfather -- and I'll be brief -- came  
16 here to Ellis Island back in the '20s from Poland and  
17 Russia. He didn't have much, his parents didn't have  
18 much, but he opened up a small grocery store like  
19 Jesse's in Albany, New York. Actually, it was in  
20 Skanectady. And he sold beer, and he gave credit to  
21 people that couldn't afford it, and there were beer  
22 stores and grocery stores and convenience stores  
23 around, but that was the American dream.

24 And I'm sure people loitered, whatever that  
25 means, but the point is is this gentleman has been

1 This is like much ado about nothing. But this is the  
2 American dream. This is what my grandfather started  
3 when he came here. This is the American dream. He  
4 put his kids through school, he's supporting his  
5 family. Why can't he have a piece of that?

6 I understand that Alderman Zielinski is  
7 going to now introduce a map saying that it's probably  
8 the concentration is too much, although I might add  
9 that when I looked at the file, under the application  
10 sheet it said concentrated area, no. The only real  
11 competitor -- right, we're not a tavern, we're not  
12 selling hard liquor, we're selling beer, which is what  
13 my grandfather sold in Schenectady -- is one other  
14 place. So on this map -- I'll show it to the audience  
15 -- see those red squares, that doesn't apply to us.  
16 The only thing that applies to us is these blue dots,  
17 the blue dots, and there's one blue dot or two blue  
18 dots, according to this key, in the area. Well, it  
19 says two -- Okay, one.

20 Given the history the way this committee has  
21 gone in the past, when it talks about concentration  
22 you need to follow precedent. Given the entire  
23 record, the 30-some people that have testified in  
24 support, the lack of any objections from the police,  
25 and the lack of concentration, why are we denying the

1 here for 18 years, and he has over 35 people, roughly,  
2 that have shown up who are from all walks in life and  
3 background coming here in support of him. There's  
4 nothing on his criminal record whatsoever. An  
5 the issue that we keep hearing over and over is  
6 loitering, loitering, loitering. Some people call  
7 talking to your neighbor loitering. There's nothing  
8 in the record that would really lead anybody to  
9 believe that he shouldn't have the right of the  
10 American dream to prosper.

11 He has been active in his community. Again,  
12 how many people, there was a woman that broke down in  
13 tears. He helps the people in the community. And  
14 yes, it will help his sales if he gets the beer  
15 license. I'm afraid if he doesn't get the beer  
16 license, where is he going to go, and what's going to  
17 happen to those people that rely upon him for these  
18 groceries and for the credit that he bestows and  
19 the bus tickets that he gives away when people can't  
20 afford to go to work?

21 I usually see these hourly-long licensing  
22 hearings when there's been gunshots or somebody's been  
23 shot. Right. We're here, there's no criminal record  
24 here. We're talking about giving a guy a beer license  
25 that he's going to stop selling beer at 9:00 at night.

1 guy the American dream? He's been there 18 years.  
2 That's almost half of my lifetime. I have no further  
3 statements.

4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Are there any questions at  
5 this point that members have of Mr. Maistelman?

6 ALDERMAN KOVAC: It's a question for Mr.  
7 Singh, actually.

8 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Which is fine.

9 ALDERMAN KOVAC: You've been there 18 years.  
10 How long have you wanted to sell beer?

11 THE APPLICANT: Sorry?

12 ALDERMAN KOVAC: When did you decide you  
13 wanted to sell beer?

14 THE APPLICANT: I decided this year because  
15 before I don't know because that is new license came  
16 into me. I was thinking there was nobody getting any  
17 license. So in my neighborhood, there is Bay View  
18 Quick Mart, he get the new license, there's Dee's Wine  
19 & Beer across the street, she get the license, and  
20 then there is across the street from me, there is a  
21 new bar, another one, and there is Hiberry and there's  
22 a Midwest Restaurant, they all get a brand new  
23 license. I was never thinking, so I was thinking it's  
24 never going to happen.

25 ALDERMAN KOVAC: You wanted to because you

1 thought it might be possible, not out of economic  
 2 necessity?  
 3 THE APPLICANT: I was thinking this because  
 4 they weren't giving to anybody. I talked to Mr. Tony  
 5 Zielinski so many times. He told me no all the time.  
 6 I was saying I'm living here 18 years and give me the  
 7 chance, too, so I can stay in the business, because  
 8 everybody that walks in now, they want the beer in one  
 9 stop. And I have 15 people walks in my store every  
 10 single day, "You got beer?" Sometimes they even walk  
 11 out, and they tell me the bad words.  
 12 ALDERMAN KOVAC: You've been in business 18  
 13 years without selling beer?  
 14 THE APPLICANT: Yes.  
 15 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Do you think you could be  
 16 in business 18 more?  
 17 THE APPLICANT: I cannot even survive. You  
 18 guys tell me today no, and tomorrow I'm going to end  
 19 up selling my business, closing the door down. And  
 20 I'm crying, and I'm big begging you guys to let me  
 21 stay in business. And anything Tony Zielinski told me  
 22 to do, I did every single thing. I put the brand new  
 23 windows to the building, I painted, I did every single  
 24 thing. I even took \$90,000 last year from the bank, I  
 25 put in the business because I cannot make it anymore.

1 sought or desired a beer license. If your answer is  
 2 longer than that before you actively really wanted to  
 3 pursue it, you can --  
 4 THE APPLICANT: Mr. Zielinski when he was  
 5 running four years ago, I took him to file  
 6 information, everything. I asked him, I own a little  
 7 grocery store and I don't have beer license, I need a  
 8 beer license. As soon he get the post, he said no,  
 9 that's not good neighborhood, no. Then I approach him  
 10 again, he said take the building down, make a brand  
 11 new building, and I will support you. And I went  
 12 around to looking everybody, they said it's going to  
 13 cost you \$3 million, and I don't have that much to put  
 14 down.  
 15 Then I get empty lot next to my store, and I  
 16 say Mr. Zielinski, I will make the new store over here  
 17 and can you help me to get a license. He said okay,  
 18 we're going to try. My lawyer, he did not bring the  
 19 blueprints. I show Mr. Zielinski, I said this is my  
 20 plans, and I will make the new store. They going to  
 21 make a liquor store. I told Mr. Zielinski I have two  
 22 guys from -- I paid them \$1,500. They come to the  
 23 City Hall, they have a meeting with me, and he told  
 24 them no that time, and he said no.  
 25 Each time I ask him, he said no, sell the

1 And finally I decide three months ago I was  
 2 thinking let's try this, what will happen, and that's  
 3 why I'm here today, and I'm asking you guys whatever  
 4 you guys can help me.  
 5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Any additional questions,  
 6 Alderman?  
 7 ALDERMAN KOVAC: No.  
 8 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Anything else from the  
 9 committee?  
 10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: No. Just that the  
 11 attorney left out the gentleman who was watching TV  
 12 and came all the way down here in support of the  
 13 applicant, which I thought was great.  
 14 MR. MAISTELMAN: I'm not Frank Gimbel. I  
 15 know Frank's listening.  
 16 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Zielinski.  
 17 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: I'd like to start by  
 18 getting some clarification on the answer to Alderman  
 19 Kovac's question. Alderman Kovac asked Mr. Singh how  
 20 long he's been wanting a beer license, and he said one  
 21 year, and I want to make sure that he understands that  
 22 clearly. Are you saying that you've only wanted a  
 23 beer license within the last year? Mr. Chairman.  
 24 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Let him answer that  
 25 question. Mr. Singh, it was asked how long you've

1 building, go somewhere else, sell the building, go  
 2 somewhere else. And I'm poor guy. And this is  
 3 time there's nobody getting any money for their  
 4 property. And I'm putting I put \$90,000 last year  
 5 from the bank, and now I'm running my business from my  
 6 credit card so I can stay, because each time I go  
 7 home, I cry to my kids, I say I don't know if I'm  
 8 going to stay tomorrow or I'm not.  
 9 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: The reason why I ask  
 10 the question is because even my predecessor, Sue  
 11 Breier, he was working to get a license from her, and  
 12 I'm continuing with what she did. And there's a  
 13 reason why she was opposed to it when she was the  
 14 alderperson for the same reasons that you had the  
 15 testimony before the people that testified before this  
 16 committee before. If I thought this was something  
 17 that would help there, I'd support it in a second.  
 18 He mentions the other places that got  
 19 a liquor license around here. Yeah. I'll tell ya, I  
 20 got the owner of the Trocadero to come in, they spent  
 21 \$1 million to take a vacant property, turned it into a  
 22 beautiful draw for KK and Lincoln, it's a big draw.  
 23 Any time I'm talking to developers about coming to Bay  
 24 View, I say this is the future of Bay View. I hasn't  
 25 stuck anything into the interior of his building

1 whatsoever. I challenge you, after the meeting, go  
 2 down to his store, walk in the inside, and tell me  
 3 what you think.  
 4 Then he talks about the exterior of the  
 5 building and how he fixed up the exterior of the  
 6 building. He only fixed up the exterior of the  
 7 building after his license for the Mexican restaurant  
 8 wasn't approved. He only fixed it afterwards. It  
 9 wasn't beforehand. He did that afterwards, not of his  
 10 own volition or because he wants to have a nice  
 11 building or anything like that.  
 12 I feel sorry. He's a nice guy. I have  
 13 nothing against him personally. He's a very nice guy,  
 14 but I have to do what's in the best interest of my  
 15 neighborhood, and he has not been doing the things --  
 16 He said, for example, that there were some people that  
 17 wanted to buy it, have a nice development over there,  
 18 if he wasn't going to fix it up. I said, look, you  
 19 stick some money, you fix up your building, you clean  
 20 up your mess, and I'll support you. If you don't do  
 21 it, then at least sell the building to someone who's  
 22 going to do something good for the neighborhood over  
 23 there. He says no one wants to buy it.  
 24 I went down there, I said do you know this  
 25 guy, he's willing to buy it from you. He was offered

1 conducts business with. And I don't blame them  
 2 either, but there's a business connection there. And  
 3 there's people, hey, and I think it's wonderful he's  
 4 got a big heart. I never doubted that. He helps  
 5 people out with their groceries and bus passes. I  
 6 think it's easier to get those type of people to  
 7 testify than residents in the area who are blockwatch  
 8 captains who have put in their sweat, in their effort  
 9 to turn the neighborhood around that have been  
 10 involved in organizing the neighborhood to clean up  
 11 the neighborhood.  
 12 They've been involved -- This one gentleman  
 13 talked about loitering across the street at that other  
 14 convenience store. Well, because of their testimony  
 15 and the work and the involvement of the blockwatch  
 16 groups in the area, we revoked that 24-hour license.  
 17 That wasn't an easy task. I work with the neighbors.  
 18 They trying to clean up the neighborhood, they're  
 19 trying to move it in the right direction, and this is  
 20 not moving us in the right direction here. The people  
 21 that testified before you, the blockwatch captains who  
 22 put their sweat and put there efforts in terms of  
 23 improving the neighborhood came out, took time to come  
 24 down here because they're trying to work for the  
 25 betterment of the neighborhood.

1 \$600,000. He told me over the phone he was offered  
 2 600,000 for the property over there. What I'm saying  
 3 is I'm fighting for the best interest for the future  
 4 of the neighborhood. That is a very transitional area  
 5 right now. We're trying to make it move in the right  
 6 direction. And I told him you fix up the property,  
 7 you take care of those issues, then we can look at it.  
 8 If you don't have the money, you don't want to do it  
 9 -- He should be doing all these plans years ago, but  
 10 if he's not going to do it --  
 11 The other thing I'd like to begin with it,  
 12 Attorney Maistelman started off his presentation by  
 13 saying it's easier to get people out to be against  
 14 something than for something. I totally disagree with  
 15 that in this particular situation whatsoever. The  
 16 people that I had to come down and testify were three  
 17 blockwatch captains from the area, three blockwatch  
 18 captains. They don't have any personal ties to this  
 19 gentleman over here. This gentleman has people coming  
 20 down to testify for him saying this is good for the  
 21 area that are the bankers that do business with him.  
 22 MR. MAISTELMAN: I object, that's  
 23 argumentative. Beggars?  
 24 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Bankers. He's also had  
 25 people coming down that are business people that he

1 In terms of concentration, the concentration  
 2 map you have in front of you. There's 10  
 3 establishments within a block or so radius that you  
 4 see concentrated around here where you can buy beer.  
 5 You can buy beer from any one of those 10  
 6 establishments. You've got the Hub Market across the  
 7 street from him, then you've got Dee's Wine & whatever  
 8 they sell beer over there, which is about a half block  
 9 or three-quarters of a block away, and you've got all  
 10 these other establishments around the area, nine of  
 11 them where they can buy beer within a one square block  
 12 radius, and I think there's enough establishments. I  
 13 would hope that the committee would take concentration  
 14 and move concentration on this because there's 10  
 15 locations, nine or 10 locations within a one square  
 16 block radius of this location where people can already  
 17 buy beer. I don't think that we need more.  
 18 Also, there was a number of people that  
 19 testified on behalf of Mr. Singh's license that said  
 20 oh, we have no problem granting as many licenses as  
 21 applicants in the area here. Well, that I can tell  
 22 you, you know by sitting on the Common Council here  
 23 that is not reflective of the neighborhoods that you  
 24 represent. There's a reason why concentration is an  
 25 issue, and there's a reason why they came down here



1 and they said that. So I appreciate everybody's  
 2 testimony, but I am --  
 3 There's other places on KK. We closed down  
 4 Chasers Pub. We're working hard with the neighborhood  
 5 to improve that neighborhood and other neighborhoods  
 6 in the area, and I think that these people that put  
 7 their effort and their weekends and so forth to better  
 8 their neighborhood are the ones that we should listen  
 9 to on this particular issue here.  
 10 And believe me, this isn't easy for me.  
 11 He's a nice guy. I never said he isn't a nice guy.  
 12 That's why these people are coming down here  
 13 testifying for him. They're his friends. But I have  
 14 to look at the big picture in terms of what's best for  
 15 the neighborhood instead of just what's best for him.  
 16 And I gave him opportunities throughout the years that  
 17 I tried to work with him to address these issues.  
 18 Thank you.  
 19 Just in closing, I would hope that this will  
 20 be denied based on concentration, and I would hope  
 21 that it would be denied based on the neighborhood  
 22 testimony. We had neighborhood testimony from people  
 23 who are blockwatch captains, who are activists in the  
 24 neighborhood, who have no reason other than to improve  
 25 their neighborhood. They testified to drugs, they

1 wine, but they got approval to have some taste  
 2 testing. But it's primary retail, yes, it's primarily  
 3 retail.  
 4 ALDERMAN KOVAC: That would be a purple dot.  
 5 The other question is, Mr. Signh, do you own the whole  
 6 building?  
 7 THE APPLICANT: Yes.  
 8 ALDERMAN KOVAC: So you own the restaurant,  
 9 as well?  
 10 THE APPLICANT: Yes.  
 11 ALDERMAN KOVAC: How long has the restaurant  
 12 served liquor?  
 13 THE APPLICANT: That has been all time. The  
 14 restaurant, they move and they move out, but they all  
 15 have the beer and liquor license all the time.  
 16 ALDERMAN KOVAC: I have eaten there. It's a  
 17 nice spot.  
 18 THE APPLICANT: We keep it clean.  
 19 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions by committee  
 20 members at this time? Anything else either of you  
 21 want to address?  
 22 MR. MAISTELMAN: I would not underestimate  
 23 the 30-some people that came here because they're not  
 24 all block captains. One of them, I guess, is in  
 25 charge of his building. These are people, too. They

1 testified to prostitution, I believe, this gentleman  
 2 talked about panhandling, but I didn't mention that  
 3 because that is actually protected speech, but we  
 4 weren't going to go there that is protected speech,  
 5 but there's an awful lot of panhandling going on  
 6 there, too. I don't want you to take that into  
 7 consideration. There's number of issues loud noises,  
 8 parking, traffic. I feel that this should be denied  
 9 on both fronts.  
 10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Kovac at this time  
 11 would move to make the concentration map centered on  
 12 2305 South Howell Avenue, dated October 1st, 2008 part  
 13 of our official record in this proceeding, and hearing  
 14 no objection to that, so ordered. You had a question,  
 15 Alderman Kovac?  
 16 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Couple of clarification  
 17 things. I'm familiar with a lot of the establishments  
 18 in this area, but Dee's Wine Shop, is that take-out or  
 19 is that a sit-down place or both?  
 20 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: That's primarily a  
 21 take-out. They want to have some wine tasting in the  
 22 near future, if they don't have it already.  
 23 ALDERMAN KOVAC: That's why they have a  
 24 Class B license? How does that work?  
 25 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: They sell beer and

1 might not be firefighters, but they're part of the  
 2 fabric of the community. This is America. There's  
 3 nothing in the file that should prevent you from  
 4 allowing this guy to reach his dreams. I mean -- I  
 5 have nothing further.  
 6 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: All the people, each  
 7 and every single person that testifies is a wonderful  
 8 person, and their testimony is important, and I'm  
 9 happy that they came down here to testify to exercise  
 10 their right. Where I beg to differ with the attorney  
 11 here is the fact that the people that came down here,  
 12 they're loyal to Mr. Singh, he's their friend. And I  
 13 respect loyalty to friends and so forth, but if you're  
 14 trying to make a decision on this issue, you have to  
 15 look at the motivation that people have to come down.  
 16 These people are friends of his. I respect that  
 17 they're loyal. He helps them out with bus passes, he  
 18 gives them credit.  
 19 The other people that came down and  
 20 testified are people he does business with, people he  
 21 does banking with and so forth. If you're going to  
 22 weigh the testimony of both groups, are you going to  
 23 weigh the blockwatch captains put in their effort, who  
 24 have a proven record of working to improve the  
 25 neighborhood by getting it organized and putting in

1 the time, or are you going to place more weight on the  
 2 other testimony? Both are important, and I respect  
 3 both of them, but I think in this situation if you  
 4 have to weigh them, I think the greater weight in this  
 5 particular case goes to the blockwatch captains and  
 6 not people who live in Cudahy and bankers and so  
 7 forth.

8 MR. MAISTELMAN: I think, Mr. Chairman, he's  
 9 making a leap. There wasn't any testimony that all of  
 10 these people are his friends. They're his customers  
 11 the first thing. And saying that they came down here  
 12 because they're his friends is -- They're customers.

13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Theoretically they could be  
 14 both.

15 MR. MAISTELMAN: There hasn't been any  
 16 evidence of that. And I would ask Mr. Zielinski did  
 17 he have communications with -- the four or five people  
 18 that came down and testified against us, did you have  
 19 conversations with them before they came down here to  
 20 kind of make sure that they had their testimony  
 21 straight?

22 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: I talked with them, and  
 23 they wouldn't have wasted their time coming down here  
 24 if they didn't think it was a negative influence.

25 If it was a positive influence, I'd be here

1 was going to say.

2 Gentrification of the area is what's  
 3 happening here. What's going to happen to all the  
 4 30-some people and the other people who are served by  
 5 this community? You want to move everybody out?  
 6 That's what this is all about, okay. So we can make a  
 7 nice bistro there instead, which will charge \$100 for  
 8 a bottle of wine. Okay. I'm done.

9 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Knowing Alderman Zielinski  
 10 like I do, I don't believe that's a characterization  
 11 of Alderman Zielinski. I don't know that you're  
 12 directing it at him.

13 MR. MAISTELMAN: No, no, not at the  
 14 Alderman. I can tell you certainly that that is not  
 15 the case with Alderman Zielinski. Mr. Schrimpf?

16 MR. SCHRIMPF: Mr. Maistelman raised an  
 17 issue regarding a document that was in the files that  
 18 he apparently saw that indicated there was something  
 19 official that said this was not a concentrated area,  
 20 and depending how this vote goes, I'm very concerned  
 21 about that. I think Ms. Grill could easily explain  
 22 that document.

23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Ms. Grill.

24 MS. GRILL: I believe the document which  
 25 he's referring to is the status sheet that we use in

1 fighting for him like I fought for the people that  
 2 opened up Cafe Central and the other places in the  
 3 area that have been moving Bay View in the right  
 4 direction. We have the Alchemist Theater lady that  
 5 was right before you on this item. I supported her  
 6 110 percent. The Alchemist Theater has been a  
 7 wonderful addition here. You heard her testify they  
 8 spent 18 months improving the exterior of the building  
 9 to have a nice development on KK over there. If this  
 10 is something that was positive, if I thought for one  
 11 second it was positive, I'd be out here fighting for  
 12 them. I'm not going to waste my time being against  
 13 something that I think isn't in a positive direction,  
 14 I can tell you, based on my contact with my  
 15 constituents and so forth, I hear regular complaints  
 16 about this property and the issues that the few  
 17 blockwatch captains and other people came down and  
 18 testified on.

19 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I'm going to give you the  
 20 last word last word, Mr. Maistelman. I'm sure you two  
 21 could go back and forth for a half an hour, and that's  
 22 an understatement.

23 MR. MAISTELMAN: We're lawyers, that's what  
 24 we do for a living. He's an alderman, too, and a good  
 25 guy, and I respect him very much. And I forgot what I

1 our office for processing applications, and as you're  
 2 aware, when an area is designated concentrated, if a  
 3 new application comes in within that area, we will  
 4 note that in the notice that we provide to the  
 5 applicant. So that simply was just advising me that  
 6 this location was not in an area that has previously  
 7 been designated as concentrated, it was not saying  
 8 that we thought it was not a concentrated area.

9 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you for clarifying  
 10 that. If there's a determination made on  
 11 concentration, anything coming forward within that  
 12 square mile radius would be then noticed in the  
 13 future. That was my part of my conversation with you  
 14 earlier, Mr. Maistelman, is that there's nothing  
 15 pre-empting the ability of any interested party, it  
 16 could be the alderman, it could be any interested  
 17 neighbor, from raising concentration saying that I  
 18 believe that the area now has reached a point of  
 19 concentration, then it's the committee's determination  
 20 whether that's valid to use in argument.

21 I will pose, because it's been very lengthy,  
 22 the ability, if there are any follow-up questions by  
 23 committee at this point. Otherwise, if there are no  
 24 additional follow-up questions, we can take it into  
 25 committee.

1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair. I have a  
 2 motion to approve this license. We did hear testimony  
 3 on both sides. I believe the testimony from all  
 4 people are equal. Captains on a blockwatch are very  
 5 important, but that does not mean that any others'  
 6 voice that comes before me is less important. Again,  
 7 I weigh all the testimony. We had five people in  
 8 opposition. Their testimony as it pertains to the  
 9 reason to deny this mainly was the possible loitering  
 10 that was in front of this store, but as we all  
 11 established, I believe, it could have been anybody  
 12 conversing with neighbors.

13 We did have testimony possibly about  
 14 parking, double-parking. We also heard the  
 15 possibility of that parking problem associated with  
 16 other businesses in that area, the bank, the  
 17 intersection the way it is, et cetera. We heard  
 18 numerous things which outweighed the testimony of  
 19 opposition in support of this application for all the  
 20 reasons. That testimony also was in denial of the  
 21 reason to deny this application.

22 As far as concentration, the Alderman of  
 23 this district on numerous times stated that if this  
 24 application or applicant would have done some type of  
 25 improvement in his establishment, he would have been

1 recommendation for approval of this license, based on  
 2 all the testimony that was given before this  
 3 committee. Thank you.

4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Motion by Alderman Puente is  
 5 to recommend approval of the license despite items  
 6 contained in the notice. On the motion, Alderman  
 7 Kovac.

8 ALDERMAN KOVAC: We've spent three hours on  
 9 this, and I honestly don't think it was a waste of  
 10 time. I think I've learned a lot. It's a  
 11 neighborhood that I thought I knew well, and I think I  
 12 know about it three times as well as I used to think I  
 13 knew this neighborhood. I have to be honest, I was  
 14 disturbed myself, as I said at the time about some of  
 15 the testimony by the opponents, and I didn't like the  
 16 road it was going down. I actually agree  
 17 wholeheartedly with what Attorney Maistelman has said  
 18 about the gentrification issue, and that concerns me  
 19 greatly.

20 I am incredibly impressed with the people  
 21 that have testified here and have come out with their  
 22 sense of community, and actually, I hope to see them  
 23 loitering more often outside the store because I think  
 24 that is incredible symptoms of a good neighborhood.  
 25 So for me, I'm thoroughly, thoroughly convinced that

1 in support of this license. So then where do we get  
 2 the concentration from? "If the gentleman would have  
 3 done improvements on his building, I would have  
 4 supported this license." Well, then, why give us this  
 5 concentration map? So I'm not going to weigh that as  
 6 heavily as some people on this committee would have  
 7 normally because of that reason.

8 I believe this individual is a responsible  
 9 individual, I believe this individual is a caring  
 10 individual of not only his business but the people who  
 11 live in and around this neighborhood. I believe that  
 12 if there is problems with this establishment that this  
 13 individual will correct those. I heard no testimony  
 14 except that one individual about this other  
 15 establishment who has a liquor license, nothing from  
 16 the other ones of the impact, per se, of the  
 17 detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the  
 18 neighborhood. And I'm speaking of those who were here  
 19 in opposition to it. Again, they did point out some  
 20 things, but, again, as everybody heard here, every  
 21 individual that came before us I asked that question  
 22 if they thought it would be detrimental to the health,  
 23 safety, and welfare of the neighborhood, and nobody  
 24 who came down and supported this said yes.

25 So given that, again, I would make a

1 this location is not currently a problem and most of  
 2 the loitering going on is good stuff. I'm sure  
 3 there's a bit of loitering, parking, a bit of traffic,  
 4 but that happens all the time.

5 As for the drug dealing and the prostitution  
 6 and the mumbling, I mean that's something that I don't  
 7 think was established very well it was definitely  
 8 going on, and I think it was established by the  
 9 proponents and the friends and the customers and all  
 10 of above, business contacts of Mr. Singh that it does  
 11 not go on, or if it does go on, it's discouraged by  
 12 the positive neighborhood activity that the store  
 13 creates. Bus tickets to get to work and credit for  
 14 people who are on fixed incomes, it is the American  
 15 dream. I'm incredibly impressed by it.

16 My decision on this motion, honestly I don't  
 17 think I've ever been -- I think I said last committee  
 18 hearing I was conflicted about something -- I can't  
 19 remember what it was now -- but I don't think I've  
 20 ever been quite this conflicted. I'll say this: If  
 21 the vote goes the way I am voting and you really do  
 22 close tomorrow, I'm going to regret this vote.

23 But when you look at the issue of  
 24 concentration, I think it's reasonable for neighbors  
 25 to say we don't want multiple Class A licenses on one

1 block or across the street from each other. Now,  
 2 there's some argument for it because maybe price will  
 3 go down a bit, but there's also there's one just down  
 4 the block, too, that sells the wine, and I guess  
 5 that's little more upscale. The Hub is not that  
 6 upscale. You've got both. You do have Siegel's  
 7 pretty far away, certainly have a lot of bars to go  
 8 to. I don't think it's unreasonable for a  
 9 neighborhood to try to draw a line there, because once  
 10 these things exist, they don't disappear unless  
 11 somebody gets shot and killed, frankly. They don't  
 12 disappear easily, so that's why they don't appear  
 13 easily.

14 I did not expect to be this conflicted when  
 15 this started. The testimony has been extremely  
 16 compelling, but I do think the concentration argument  
 17 is persuasive, and I think as much as I was disturbed  
 18 by some of the testimony, I think it -- And the other  
 19 thing I'll say about numbers, I agree 100 percent with  
 20 Alderman Puente that every voice is equal. We do live  
 21 in a democracy, but I don't think you just count the  
 22 number of people that show up. Now, it was pretty  
 23 overwhelming, and I was impressed with the testimony,  
 24 and the fact that somebody came down just because they  
 25 saw it on TV and ran down, wow. I've certainly never

1 itself. I'm not so sure on the concentration  
 2 argument. The question is is apples apples, and if  
 3 apples are apples, do you compare McIntosh versus  
 4 Granny Smith? What I mean by that is you count liquor  
 5 licenses a total number of liquor licenses, do you  
 6 compare similar liquor licenses? That's a judgment.  
 7 If you look at overall licenses in about a block, two  
 8 square block radius around here, there's a significant  
 9 number of licensed establishments that sell alcohol.

10 In terms of on the larger map, have I seen  
 11 maps where there are more what I'll call typical a  
 12 retail place of selling out the door? Yeah. I've  
 13 seen other areas where there's significantly more.  
 14 What's the adequate line? I guess it varies on each  
 15 individual neighborhood. Depends on what you're  
 16 trying to make in a neighborhood, too, whether you  
 17 want a destination location like Water Street, where  
 18 having a number of restaurants is a good thing, you  
 19 know. If there are one or two other restaurants that  
 20 want to make a significant investment in this  
 21 neighborhood, would I doubt that Alderman Zielinski  
 22 and/or others in the neighborhood association would  
 23 dissuade them from applying for a license as an  
 24 addendum to what they attempt to do? I highly doubt  
 25 it. So all that has to be weighed against some of the

1 seen that, but I've only been on this committee six  
 2 months.

3 So what I'm saying is I don't think a vote  
 4 of people who show up today is necessarily a vote of  
 5 the neighborhood. That's a separate issue, and that's  
 6 something I don't know. This is a difficult decision,  
 7 but I'm not going to go with this motion. So with  
 8 that, Mr. Chair, I leave it up to you.

9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: The testimony as it  
 10 pertains to concentration was overwhelmed that there  
 11 wasn't an issue with the people who live, not four  
 12 blocks or eight blocks of those people who were  
 13 opposed, but two to three houses away. Who's going to  
 14 impact this more as it pertains to concentration, the  
 15 people who live right next door to it or the people  
 16 who drive by it four or five, eight blocks away? I've  
 17 been on this committee four years ago, and I just --

18 So if the concentration is going to be the  
 19 issue, and we look at what we're supposed to here and  
 20 the application to deny, we have not established, I  
 21 believe, enough to deny this, based on the testimony  
 22 that was given to us, and I think we're going to have  
 23 a hard time in court to defend this if we deny this  
 24 license. That's it. Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I'll let my vote speak for

1 greater concerns.

2 This one's not easy, it's not. I see  
 3 inherent concerns that come at times with the  
 4 over-abundance of alcohol. I also believe that has to  
 5 be balanced and tempered on a number of factors; and  
 6 that is, the proximity in which individuals testify,  
 7 the length of time in business, all these things  
 8 factor in and make this a very difficult decision. I,  
 9 among other things, I do appreciate, and to say in  
 10 terms of raw numbers, I think that it was a very  
 11 difficult decision for Alderman Zielinski to come  
 12 here, and to say that there were many more individuals  
 13 who were here to testify in favor of this, call that  
 14 profile in courage, if you will, in a way to say that  
 15 he stands up for what he believes in in terms of what  
 16 is the right decision. I fully believe that he did  
 17 that with all faith in my heart. That's a tough  
 18 decision for him. It's sometimes tougher to say that  
 19 I don't believe it's necessarily the best thing, even  
 20 though there's greater number of you who have taken  
 21 time to show up here for it, because I just, in the  
 22 larger part, don't think it's part of the better  
 23 effort.

24 That being said, the motion by Alderman  
 25 Puente is to recommend approval of the license. Are

1 there any objections to that motion?  
 2 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Yes.  
 3 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Hearing one objection, the  
 4 motion will carry on a two-to-one vote. This comes  
 5 before the Common Council on a grant list, which this  
 6 is a recommendation. The Common Council will have a  
 7 say on this license like all others. Thank you.

8 \* \* \*

1 STATE OF WISCONSIN )  
 2 )  
 3 MILWAUKEE COUNTY )  
 4

5 I, TERESE M. SCHIEBENES, of Milwaukee  
 6 Reporters Associated, Inc., 5120 West Blue Mound Road,  
 7 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208, certify that the  
 8 foregoing proceedings is a full and complete  
 9 transcript of my stenographic notes taken in the  
 10 foregoing proceedings.

11  
 12  
 13  
 14  
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 16  
 17 TERESE M. SCHIEBENES  
 18 Certified Shorthand Reporter  
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20  
 21 Dated this day of , 2008.  
 22  
 23  
 24

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