

May 23, 2005

To the Public Improvements Committee

Subject: Common Council File Number 050020

Dear Honorable Members:

Returned herewith is Common Council Resolution File Number 050020, being a petition for a special privilege to permit the occupancy of the public way by Mr. Melvin Walker doing business as a direct seller as regulated by Chapter 95 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances. Mr. Walker presently intends to sell sun visors, sun glasses, umbrellas, key chains and other miscellaneous items.

Of all of the locations that Mr. Walker considered, he settled on two: one being downtown, for regular “during-the-week” activity and one in the vicinity of the Henry Maier Festival grounds “for festival” activity. The first location is approximately 65 feet away from a hot dog vendor, that is located near the corner adjacent to crosswalks. Mr. Walker’s location will not jam up the intersection pedestrians. It will respect the bank, now known as Chase Bank, by being closer to the curb but still allowing access to parked vehicles. The second location is between the public sidewalk and curb, nestled between trees near a windowless wall of a wholesale business. There are already two other vendors that have been granted permission to be direct sellers in that general area. Staff have discussed the undesirability of using private property for the sales and Mr. Walker pledged that he would only use the public right-of-way.

We have reviewed the locations listed below for compliance with the provisions as set forth in said chapter and have found the following locations acceptable:

- West side of North Water Street, approximately 65 feet south of the southline of East Wisconsin Avenue.
- North side of East Chicago Street, approximately 105 feet east of the eastline of North Jackson Street, being approximately 40 feet east of the east edge of the steps to the building on the north side of East Chicago Street.

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The attached special privilege resolution, if adopted, will permit the grantee occupancy of the public way for the purpose of doing business as a direct seller providing all provisions of Chapter 95 of the Code are adhered to during said occupancy. Please note that food vendors are not locationally restricted as the nonfood vendors are, which maybe should be considered for uniformity. Only the Health Department inspection is made of the cart and Department of Public Works permits are not involved.

Prompt action of this item will enable Mr. Walker to serve the public from his recently ordered cart.

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey S. Polenske, P.E.
City Engineer

Jeffrey J. Mantes
Commissioner of Public Works

Martin G. Collins, Commissioner
Department of Neighborhood Services

MDL:cjt

Attachment