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CITY OF MILWAUKEE

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LICENSES COMMITTEE

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In the Matter of the Class "B" Tavern
renewal application for:

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STEVE CONZONER
"STEVE-O'S BAR AND GRILL"
9012 W. Silver Spring Drive

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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ALD. JAMES BOHL - Chair
ALD. MILELE COGGS, - Vice-Chairman
ALD. ASHANTI HAMILTON
ALD. T. ANTHONY ZIELINSKI
ALD. NIK KOVAC

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LICENSING DIVISION by REBECCA GRILL
POLICE DEPARTMENT by SEARGENT CHET ULICKEY
OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY by ATTORNEY BRUCE SCHRIMPF

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Proceedings had and testimony given in
the above-entitled matter, before the LICENSES
COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE, on
the 28th day of May, 2008.

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P R O C E E D I N G S

VICE-CHAIRMAN BOHL: Steven Conzoner,
Class "B" - - Agent for "Steve-O's of Milwaukee,
Inc.", Class "B" Tavern renewal application for
"Steve-O's Bar & Grill" at 9012 West Silver
Spring Drive. Good afternoon to you, gentlemen.

THE APPLICANT: Good afternoon.

CHAIRMAN BOHL: We'll have to swear you
in. So if you could each raise your right hand,
please?

(Whereupon the applicant and security
were sworn.)

CHAIRMAN BOHL: And we'll need - -
We'll need your name and your address for the
record here, Steve?

THE APPLICANT: Steven Conzoner, 10001
West Appleton Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

CHAIRMAN BOHL: And, sir, if you could
identify yourself for the record here.

THE WITNESS: I'm Terry Harmon,
security for Steve-O's.

CHAIRMAN BOHL: And, Mr. Harmon, your
address for our record, please.

THE WITNESS: 105 - - 10533 West Silver
Spring Drive.

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1 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. And, Mr.
2 Conzoner, do you acknowledge receiving notice of
3 today's meeting with the possibility your
4 application could be denied. It is cited for a
5 number of items contained with an attached police
6 report, as well as an assortment of neighborhood
7 objections.

8 THE APPLICANT: Yes.
9 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. This is a
10 renewal. Ms. Grill, I'm assuming we have nothing
11 from Health Department, Neighborhood Services?

12 MS. GRILL: Correct.
13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Sergeant, the police
14 report, please.

15 SERGEANT ULICKEY: On 1/18 of '07 at
16 2:08 a.m. Milwaukee Police were dispatched to
17 9012 West Silver Spring for an armed robbery
18 complaint. Officer spoke to the caller who
19 stated he was robbed outside of Steve-O's tavern.
20 The victim was uncooperative with police and
21 refused to provide requested information by
22 police. Officer spoke to the bartender, Timothy
23 Anderson, who stated to the police that around
24 two a.m. several patrons got into an argument
25 inside the tavern, at which time Anderson told

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1 them to take it outside. Anderson stated all the
2 parties involved exited the tavern, and that he
3 observed them arguing in front of the tavern.
4 Anderson stated, several minutes later one of the
5 patrons re-entered the tavern and asked to use
6 the phone. Detectives arrived on scene and took
7 over the investigation.

8 On 4/13 of '07 at 2:09 a.m., Milwaukee
9 Police were dispatched to 9012 West Silver Spring
10 for a battery cutting complaint. Investigation
11 revealed several patrons argued outside - - I'm
12 sorry - - inside the tavern, but the fight
13 continuing outside in the parking lot. A subject
14 was found to have been stabbed. Police spoke to
15 the manager identified as Timothy Anderson, who
16 stated there was a fight inside the tavern and
17 all patrons were told to leave because it was
18 closing time. Anderson stated approximately two
19 minutes later someone was knocking on the door
20 requesting an ambulance because somebody was
21 stabbed in the parking lot.

22 On 6/22 of '07 at 11:30 p.m. Milwaukee
23 Police were flagged down by a citizen regarding a
24 fight at 9012 West Silver Spring, Steve-O's
25 tavern. Police responded to the location, were

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1 told by a citizen that people were fighting in
2 the bar. Officer spoke to the manager, Timothy
3 Anderson, who stated there was a group of females
4 and males fighting in the back of the bar.
5 Anderson further stated he tried to break up the
6 fight but couldn't, because there were too many
7 people fighting. When police arrived, they
8 observed no individuals who were injured or
9 wanting to file a complaint. The bar owner,
10 Steve Conzoner, arrived as police were leaving,
11 and he was advised of the incident that took
12 place.

13 On 7/23 of '07 at 12:36 a.m. Milwaukee
14 Police were dispatched to 91st and Silver Spring
15 for an armed robbery complaint. Police spoke to
16 the victim who stated he left Steve-O's bar and
17 was in the parking lot when he - - when the car
18 was parked where he was - - I'm sorry - - where
19 the car was parked when he was approached from
20 behind by an unknown male armed with a
21 semiautomatic who demanded the victim's personal
22 belongings. The suspect then fled. Police spoke
23 to Steven Conzoner, who stated he was unaware of
24 the robbery, and that the victim did not summon
25 security personnel.

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1 On 10/6 of '07 at 2:19 a.m. Milwaukee
2 Police were dispatched to 9012 West Silver Spring
3 for a shots fired complaint. As police arrived
4 they observed three females fighting in the
5 middle of the street with a large crowd gathering
6 outside of the tavern. Citations were issued to
7 the women for disorderly conduct. Officers
8 checked the area for signs of shots fired and
9 located 12 22 caliber casings on the ground in
10 the parking lot of Steve-O's. Placed - - The
11 casings were placed on inventory.

12 On 1/17 of '07 at 1:47 a.m. Milwaukee
13 Police were dispatched to 9012 West Silver Spring
14 for a battery complaint. Police spoke to a
15 victim who stated a known actress struck her in
16 the face several times causing pain while she was
17 inside the Steve-O's tavern. A citation was
18 issued to the known suspect for assault and
19 battery. Police spoke to an employee of the
20 tavern who provided the licensee information upon
21 - - or being requested.

22 On 3/1 of '08 at 2:07 a.m. Milwaukee
23 Police were dispatched to 91st and Silver Spring
24 for a shots fired, subject with a gun complaint.
25 Police spoke to the doorman at Steve-O's

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1 identified as Terry Harmon, who stated there was
2 an argument in the parking lot, but that everyone
3 had left prior to police arriving. Harmon stated
4 no one had a gun, and there were no shots fired.
5 Other witnesses stated no shots were fired and no
6 one was fighting.

7 And on 5/7 of '07 the applicant was
8 charged with OWI in Milwaukee County. His
9 license was revoked for seven months.

10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you, Sergeant.
11 Any questions or concerns that you have relating
12 to items that were read into the record as part
13 of the police report?

14 THE APPLICANT: I think it was article
15 13, which was actually a party, that was let go
16 on down the street, and the police were called to
17 my place.

18 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And you're saying
19 that's item number 13.

20 THE APPLICANT: Right.

21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: The shots fired
22 complaint?

23 THE APPLICANT: Yeah, that was just a
24 party that spilled down - - It was shots fired,
25 and it was a party that spilled down - - down the

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1 street.

2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. In terms of - -
3 of the other incidents, any comments? Questions?

4 THE APPLICANT: Go ahead, speak towards
5 the - - each one. He could probably help you
6 more than - -

7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Please, then. This is
8 the opportunity.

9 MR. HARMON: I was - - Came on about
10 two years ago with the problems that happened. I
11 worked weekends mainly, but then started working
12 regular more often. And we came up with things
13 to attack the problem. We added - - With the
14 incidents, we added security cameras. And then
15 we have surveillance cameras.

16 THE APPLICANT: In December.

17 MR. HARMON: Inside, outside the bar.
18 Covering the parking lot, as well as the
19 neighboring business' parking lot, also. Also I
20 have a metal detector where basically I scan each
21 customer. Actually, I need to scan each and
22 every customer that comes into the bar. Weapons
23 aren't allowed, of course, of any kind. You must
24 have your ID to get into the bar, or you have to
25 leave, or you, you know, you cannot - - won't be

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1 allowed in.

2 Things have changed dramatically since
3 that - - those incidents a year ago. I know
4 quite a few of the officers personally that come
5 in the area, so they tend to - - I tend to invite
6 them in any time they're in the area, stop in,
7 you know, come in, walk through, whatever they
8 want to do. Sometimes there are days, you know,
9 they're not as busy.

10 THE APPLICANT: We've talked to the
11 officers as far as the guns. We can stop the
12 guns from coming in, but once they get to the
13 car, the police said you can't check the cars,
14 too.

15 MR. HARMON: Now, there were incidents
16 where up the street from the bar, I would say,
17 oh, half a block up, people have what they call
18 party - - where they have house parties. When
19 their parties, whatever they're doing through the
20 night, the party spills out into the street, and
21 they're out in the middle of the street. And
22 that's happened quite a few occasions. And shots
23 were fired. Right away they're called to our
24 bar, which had nothing to do with us, basically
25 just personal, people having house parties after

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1 dark. And - -

2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Well, there - - I mean,
3 the one thing I'll say is, is even if - - if
4 you're correct on the - - the incident here on
5 number 13, I mean, you've had a number of other
6 situations where there were - - there have been
7 violence, at least in - - either in or maybe if
8 you - -

9 THE APPLICANT: Not shootings in the
10 bar or, you know, in the neighborhood. There
11 have been shootings in the neighborhood, yes.
12 Yes.

13 MR. HARMON: We also had a situation
14 where young - - young kids get upset because they
15 - - I won't let them in the bar, which they're
16 not allowed. They don't have IDs, and we're
17 talking kids who were just kind of crazy, but
18 carry weapons. So they tend to parade around in
19 the back of the bar late at night, harassing our
20 patrons, which we chase them away, and also,
21 firing their weapons - - firing their weapons in
22 the air. We figured out what that was about.
23 Got license plates. When the police did come, we
24 gave them plates of - - of the cars and the
25 people.

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THE APPLICANT: Now we have surveillance around the entire building, so - - Put in better lighting to the rear of the building.

MR. HARMON: We have surveillance inside and outside the building - - building, as far as security cameras. They've also become a plus or help to the other businesses in the area, because there was, I believe, a armed robbery in broad daylight at a business adjacent to us, and the Milwaukee Police Department wanted to use our cameras to take a look at who the suspects were, and it was a big help, because it helped them identify the suspects and, I believe, captured them, based on us having the surveillance cameras outside their building. Of incidents, hit and runs, different things, they've been able to come in and ask, not - - not anything to do with the bar, but ask to look at our cameras. Look at the video and get the tape, and make a copy, and, you know, pursue or investigate the crime. So we've improved as far as help throughout that, and we're continuing to come up with ideas of ways to improve and make it more safer for the community.

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1 We have no - - zero tolerance now for
2 arguments or fights, if they do happen in the
3 bar, which haven't happened in - - in a while.
4 When it happens, you're absolutely barred from
5 the bar permanently. You're not allowed in at
6 all anymore.

7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. Thank you.
8 Questions by committee. Alderman Zielinski.

9 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Earlier in your
10 testimony you made some mention to the fact that
11 when the patrons go to their cars and they - -
12 they access guns or something, there's nothing
13 that you can do about that. Did I get that
14 correctly?

15 MR. HARMON: Well, what I've done is -
16 - Okay, and since I've been there, since we've
17 had the metal detector, I stand, and believe it
18 or not, which is I - - beyond me. I never
19 carried a weapon in my life. People come in.
20 I've had a person come in, I scan them, there's a
21 380 in the back pocket. With his wife, and he
22 wants to come into the bar. I was like, well,
23 you can't. You cannot come in. You can't even -
24 - You have to leave the premises. Well, I'll go
25 put it in the car. I said, no, you have to leave

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1 the premises. In other words, if you have
2 weapons, you are not allowed on the premises with
3 the weapon. You have to leave. You have to
4 leave the entire parking lot. He felt that if he
5 could not come in with his weapon, he felt naked
6 without it. That was his comment. I said, well,
7 you got to leave.

8 THE APPLICANT: His rights were being
9 violated, you know.

10 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Right.

11 MR. HARMON: And I said, well, you have
12 to leave, and you cannot sit - - put it in the
13 car and then come in. You have to leave the
14 premises, and that's - - that's - - that's what I
15 tell people. And then now, when customers do
16 leave at night or whatever, I stand in the lot,
17 make sure we clear the lot. We also - - I also
18 watch people go into their cars in the rear now,
19 because when that incident happened - - I wasn't
20 there - - But when it happened, I guess the guy
21 said he was robbed. We now - - I escort to the
22 back door. I watch, and now we have cameras out
23 there, also.

24 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Because the reason
25 why I - - I raise that point is the fact that you

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1 - - you are aware that through case law,
2 businesses are responsible for the behavior of
3 their patrons when they leave.

4 MR. HARMON: I understand.

5 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Are you aware of
6 that? Okay, good. I just - - I just wanted to
7 make sure. What's the average age of your
8 patrons?

9 MR. HARMON: We get - - Between the
10 ages now is - - It's changed.

11 THE APPLICANT: 25 to 65.

12 MR. HARMON: 25 to 65.

13 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Are you pretty
14 familiar with the new ordinance that is about to
15 go in effect in early June, whereby licensed
16 establishments can restrict the age to 25 and up?

17 THE APPLICANT: Right.

18 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Is that something
19 that you're considering - -

20 MR. HARMON: We've actually been doing
21 it last year.

22 THE APPLICANT: On my own.

23 MR. HARMON: We actually went up to 30
24 when I first started.

25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And, Alderman

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1 Zielinski, it's not just 25. I think we - - We
2 didn't specify an age.

3 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Right.

4 MR. HARMON: I've heard of it, but we
5 haven't got - -

6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: So wait. The first 70
7 and up club there.

8 MR. HARMON: Well, we went up to 30 at
9 one point to basically get the message across
10 that, you know, this is what we expect.

11 THE APPLICANT: It was somewhat of a
12 problem last summer with two other neighboring
13 bars closing down, and them - - their customers,
14 patrons coming to our place. We upped the age.

15 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Did you also - -
16 Did you also mention the fact that you have some
17 sort of a scanner system where people have to
18 scan their cards in order to enter the bar?

19 THE APPLICANT: No, not yet.

20 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: That's something
21 you might to want to consider. That seems to be
22 a new movement that is helping businesses that
23 have problems. In other words, you're much less
24 likely to have problem with a potential patron if
25 you scan a card in with his picture.

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1 MR. HARMON: Right. And he's
2 documented.

3 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Right. So I would
4 encourage you to - - to look into that.

5 MR. HARMON: One of our neighboring
6 bars down the street put his in. They put theirs
7 in, and they also communicate with us. If they
8 have an incident at their bar, they will call us
9 and let us know who, what, where and don't allow
10 them in. And we - - we keep our eyes open, so
11 we've been communicating with each other
12 throughout the bars.

13 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: So you - - Okay.
14 So you - - So you're planning on doing that, or
15 are you going to investigate that?

16 THE APPLICANT: I'm looking into it
17 this week, yeah.

18 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: You also mentioned
19 that you banned people from the bar. What's the
20 process that you use to ensure the people you ban
21 from the bar aren't coming back into the bar?

22 MR. HARMON: I'm there now seven days a
23 week.

24 THE APPLICANT: You're on his list.
25 You're not in.

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1 MR. HARMON: I'm there now seven days a
2 week, and we - - we've actually had one come in a
3 couple times, a couple days ago, come to the door
4 and - - and he's no, you can't. I'm not messing.

5 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: How many people
6 are banned from the bar?

7 MR. HARMON: I couldn't give you a - -

8 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Ball park figure.

9 MR. HARMON: Ten. About ten right now.
10 Yeah. And this was way in the past, say, you
11 know, a while back, and they know they can't come
12 back in. They don't.

13 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions by
15 committee? I know that there are neighbors who
16 are going to be here to testify in this. Mr.
17 Morton, is there anything that you wanted to
18 provide in terms of any opening?

19 MR. MORTON: If you don't mind, I would
20 like to hold our comments until after we hear
21 from the residents.

22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Are there neighbors
23 here to testify on this matter? I know that
24 there's at least a couple. If we could have you
25 raise your right hand, we'll swear you in first,

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1 and then - -

2 (Whereupon the witnesses were sworn.)

3 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. And what we
4 can do is if you can - - you can either take the
5 standing microphone if you want to grab one or
6 two - - a couple of the - - the seats here, but
7 we need to have a microphone that's available to
8 you for your testimony. Barbara, we'll start
9 with you, but we do need your - - your name and
10 address for the record here. And then,
11 testimony.

12 THE WITNESS: My name is Marva Herndon.
13 I'm the President of the Bryant Heights
14 Neighborhood Association where this establishment
15 is located. I personally live approximately five
16 blocks away, but the testimony that has been
17 given thus far doesn't reflect, especially from
18 the police department, all of the calls that were
19 received. I have e-mails back and forth that we
20 sent to Captain Moore and to our community
21 liaison, and a lot of the CAD reports were not
22 filled out. And we would call them sometimes and
23 ask them to doublecheck and see if they had the
24 CAD reports and they did not.

25 The other thing is that when the

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1 problems would occur, I would always get the
2 phone calls. Lots of phone calls. Alderman
3 Davis would be awakened in the middle of the
4 night, and you'll get testimony from the people
5 involved on that. Where he actually went out to
6 the neighborhood at two or three in the morning.
7 One of the things I'd like to point out
8 is that Steve-O's license was renewed last year
9 approximately this time. I've been a resident in
10 the neighborhood for 30 years. His business has
11 been there approximately 27 or 28. We've never
12 had a problem with his business until last year.
13 After directly - - immediately after his renewal.
14 We've never come down here to testify against his
15 business. We never had any complaints until this
16 past year. When that occurred, he was declared a
17 nuisance. Keep in mind that he had his renewal
18 in approximately May or June of last year. We
19 were have - - We were able to have his property
20 declared a nuisance by mid July. That's all I
21 have to say.

22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. Questions,
23 committee, for this witness?

24 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Sure.

25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Zielinski?

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1 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: When this property
2 was officially declared a - - a nuisance
3 property, do you know how many bills have been
4 paid by the bar? Perhaps the bar owner is in a
5 better position to address this?

6 THE APPLICANT: None.

7 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. So since
8 you've been designated a nuisance property,
9 you've not received any bills.

10 THE APPLICANT: No.

11 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Is that because
12 the problem has been resolved, or have you been
13 working with the police department?

14 THE APPLICANT: I'm working with the
15 police department, and I haven't had a call
16 since.

17 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: So it's both.
18 There hasn't been any call and you've been
19 working cooperatively with the police department.

20 THE APPLICANT: Yes.

21 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. Thank you.

22 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: Mr. Chair.

23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Hamilton.

24 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: Did you come up
25 with a plan of action to dealing with the

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1 nuisance activity?

2 MR. HARMON: Yeah. Yeah, we - - we
3 pretty much, when that bar is open and - - We
4 pretty much police the area.

5 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: Did you have that
6 written out? What did you give to the police
7 department to show that you were abating the
8 nuisance activity?

9 THE APPLICANT: I told them about the
10 security system being installed.

11 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: You didn't give
12 them a plan of operation?

13 THE APPLICANT: I didn't write it.

14 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: You don't have it?

15 MR. HARMON: No.

16 THE WITNESS: Could I say that Steve
17 attended several of our meetings last year. This
18 didn't just start. And he attended the meetings,
19 and a couple of those meetings turned into crying
20 sessions, screaming sessions, directed at him,
21 because the neighbors wanted to know what
22 happened in his business operation that is so far
23 different than it had been in the past. He had
24 promised to install cameras, which he did, and
25 he's testified to that. I don't know that

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1 they've made any improvement or changes in - - in
2 the problems that have occurred. The biggest
3 problem is that the neighbors call and they call
4 the officials that have - - that are most
5 directly impacted by what goes on there. And the
6 big thing was that the PA 22s weren't always
7 completed.

8 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: Thank you.

9 THE APPLICANT: The only other thing
10 I'd like to add at this time, and she's right as
11 far as the complaints came in last summer. And
12 it's because of the other neighboring businesses
13 closing down. And we did inherit a lot of
14 trouble last summer.

15 MR. HARMON: Basically if you go back
16 ten or 15 years ago - -

17 THE APPLICANT: I've been there 28
18 years.

19 MR. HARMON: It has changed a lot, so
20 that it - - it became kind of a problem
21 throughout the community, but we - - we're
22 working really hard now to try and stifle just
23 about any problem that we can have that anything
24 we can do in the community we're willing to do
25 it. Whether meeting with - - meeting with the

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1 community leaders, everyone, whatever - -
2 whatever input they want to give us to help us,
3 we want - - we want to do it. We want to
4 cooperate. And that's - - That's our goal. Is
5 to try and help out and respect the neighbors.

6 THE APPLICANT: Work with the
7 neighbors.

8 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you.

9 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Mr. Chair?

10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Kovac.

11 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Ms. Herndon, you said
12 that things at - - right after the renewal last
13 year things - -

14 THE WITNESS: Yes.

15 ALDERMAN KOVAC: - - heated up, and
16 then finally in July they were declared a
17 nuisance.

18 THE WITNESS: Yes.

19 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Since mid July, what
20 has been your experience as a neighbor?

21 THE WITNESS: The entire summer was
22 awful in terms of the reports to me, and the
23 people that live closest to it, a couple of them
24 are here, and they can confirm that more so than
25 I can. The last neighborhood meeting that we

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1 held on the issue was just before it got cold,
2 and we've had heavy attendance at our
3 neighborhood meetings by Captain Moore
4 personally, who is the Captain of District 4.
5 The community liaison officers heavily attended
6 because of the impact that was occurring.
7 Heavily attended. I could have even gotten them
8 here today, had I know they were needed. The
9 liaison officers, I've got e-mails here from
10 them, where they were tracing things and picking
11 up casings after some of the calls, that they
12 never could find the CAD reports and that type of
13 thing. Captain Moore frequently was attending
14 these meetings. Our County Supervisor. That's
15 just how bad it was. So the last meeting was in
16 October, mid October, and at that time it was the
17 same thing.

18 ALDERMAN KOVAC: So they've made some
19 changes with the cameras and with some of the
20 security system, and you acknowledge they've made
21 those changes, but you don't think they've made
22 much difference with the neighborhood
23 association?

24 THE WITNESS: In my opinion, I don't
25 think so. But the neighbors most closest to it

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1 can testify to that.

2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions by
3 committee? Thank you, Marva. Barb, I think
4 we'll hear from you then here.

5 THE WITNESS: Yes.

6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Do you want to just
7 identify yourself?

8 THE WITNESS: My name is Barb Simon. I
9 live at 8925 West Thurston Avenue. I've been
10 there for 17 years. In the last year it's been
11 total, I won't say the word on the - - You know.
12 Every Thursday, Friday, Saturday night there's
13 gunshots. I have put a 30,000 dollar sun room in
14 the back of my house and a ten person hot tub
15 that I cannot use, due to the gunshots. It - - I
16 talked to Steve. I went over to his
17 establishment. I talked to him on the phone. I
18 said something has got to change. There's nights
19 I had to get up at two, three o'clock in the
20 morning. I'm a single mother now. I lost my
21 husband in January. I have three boys underneath
22 the age of ten. Last year with their father,
23 they would be frightened with the gunshots. Now
24 I'm a single mother. I cannot go through this.
25 I - - It's a shame that you invest so much into

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1 your neighborhood that you cannot even enjoy. It
2 is gunshots. It's where they come down the
3 street, down the side of my house, their loud
4 music waking me up. People urinating along the
5 side, right on the apartments. You would know,
6 Jim. Right next to the townhouses. It is just
7 horrible. I said to myself, I said I cannot live
8 in this house if Steve gets his license renewed.
9 I cannot. For the safety of myself, the safety
10 of my children.

11 I mean, it's - - it's - - It's
12 horrible. It's horrible. Gunshots. Two - - I
13 mean, one night there was gunshots. There was
14 fighting. I jumped up out of my bed, put a towel
15 around me, ran - - got in my truck. Went to the
16 4th District Police Department to ask for help.
17 To ask for help. Steve knows about this. I have
18 talked to Steve. I tried to compromise with
19 Steve. Steve does not want to do anything to
20 help me. The neighbors is all scared.

21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Barb - - And I know
22 that for - - for the edification of the others,
23 across the street to the south from this location
24 is Valhalla Cemetery. To his west is a station.
25 Is that still sitting vacant?

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1 THE WITNESS: It's Amoco gas station.

2 MR. HARMON: It's not open yet.

3 THE APPLICANT: They're in the process
4 of remodeling.

5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: But - - But it's been
6 sitting vacant for the better part of a year.

7 THE WITNESS: For years.

8 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Probably the last
9 couple years.

10 THE WITNESS: About four years now.

11 MR. HARMON: There's construction on
12 that building.

13 THE WITNESS: We had to go as far - -
14 Excuse me. Before I forget. We had to get
15 patrol cars, unmarked squad cars at the Amoco gas
16 station, which is a waste of tax dollars, where
17 they would have to be stationed there at 1:30 to
18 2:15 at night, because of the problems that we
19 ran into. You know, it - - It's like when you
20 hear those gunshots, it sounds like it's right
21 there at your window. I mean, I don't know if
22 it's a gunshot coming through my house. It's - -
23 It's been a problem. It's a nightmare.

24 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Yeah.

25 THE WITNESS: And I have no choice but

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1 to - - to pack up and leave if he - - if he - -
2 if he stays open. I have no choice.

3 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Now the - - the one
4 question that I'll - - that I'll ask you, and it
5 is, is obviously, other than the fact that I'm -
6 - definitely believing that it's not occurring at
7 Valhalla Cemetery, although you may find some
8 occasional nut that wants to run around there,
9 with - - with your certainty this is occurring in
10 the parking lot, in and around the parking lot?

11 THE WITNESS: Yes, because I - - What
12 ends up happening is, you know, I - - I get fed
13 up, and, you know, sometimes it's like boom, at
14 the snap of the moment. I would get in my truck.
15 Because I'm right, boom, right at Steve-O's.

16 THE WITNESS: Behind Steve-O's.

17 THE WITNESS: And I would just see, you
18 know, I'd be right patrolling, right around. I'm
19 always on the lookout, because I'm the Vice-
20 President of the neighborhood. I work hand in
21 hand with Marva. I will see like at one, two
22 o'clock in the - - in the evening, I mean, at
23 night, people out there like five, six people out
24 there, outside his establishment, drinking
25 outside of his establishment.

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1 Now this young man, I mean, I'm - - I'm
2 on the lookout. I have never seen this young
3 man. I have never seen this young man. And when
4 I went into Steve's bar and sat down and talked
5 to him about a problem, this young man was not in
6 there. So I don't know - -

7 MR. HARMON: I've seen you at 7:30 at
8 night.

9 THE WITNESS: You have not been in
10 there when I went into that establishment.

11 MR. HARMON: I come in at 10:30 at
12 night.

13 THE WITNESS: And I was in there, what
14 time, Steve, talking to you?

15 THE APPLICANT: About eight o'clock.

16 THE WITNESS: No, it was not eight
17 o'clock, because I work second shift. So it was
18 late in the evening. So, no.

19 THE APPLICANT: Because Tim had just
20 come on, my second shift bartender, so.

21 THE WITNESS: No. No. No. I mean,
22 no, he had not - - No. But it's not an argument.
23 But - - You know, I'm here to speak the truth.
24 I'm underneath oath, and I'm going to speak the
25 truth.

00030

1 MR. HARMON: You have to come in and
2 view our cameras. You see the dates that I'm
3 there. I'm there seven days a week now. I was -
4 - I don't work - - I wasn't working a full week
5 for a while.

6 THE WITNESS: Well, okay.

7 MR. HARMON: I was working Friday and
8 Saturday nights. But as it got worse and worse,
9 I started suggesting that I come in seven days a
10 week. So if I - - If she came in during a
11 weekday, she wouldn't have saw me, unless she
12 came in on Saturday night.

13 THE WITNESS: I mean, it's - - it's - -
14 It's a shame where - - It's a shame where - -
15 where you see where his - - I think it's - - it's
16 a shame they get so intoxicated that they're
17 walking down the side of my home and urinating on
18 the - - urinating and going over towards Carmen.
19 I have to deal with this. I - - I have to work.
20 I have to get up in the morning. When you're
21 woke up at two o'clock in the morning every
22 night, gunshots, how are you going to be
23 productive on your job. I had to take off from
24 my job today. I'm a single mother. I'm losing
25 money for this right now.

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1 MR. HARMON: That's fine. I sympathize
2 with that.
3 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Sir. I'll - - I'll
4 recognize - -
5 MR. HARMON: Okay.
6 CHAIRMAN BOHL: - - you at some point
7 if there's the ability to raise questions here.
8 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry.
9 CHAIRMAN BOHL: No. No. The question
10 is for you, and he'll have a chance to respond
11 later. Barb, in the last year, and we're talking
12 about since last summer, how many times would you
13 say that you - - you've come across what you
14 believe to be gunshots that were coming from this
15 - - this establishment here?
16 THE WITNESS: I would say pretty much
17 during the summer you could pretty much clockwork
18 it. It's going to be one, you know, it's going
19 to be gunshots on the clockwork from Friday and
20 Saturday. Pretty much if it's on the weekends.
21 During the weekday it's not. On the weekends you
22 pretty much can count it clockwork. They even
23 had the patrol cars out there monitoring it.
24 CHAIRMAN BOHL: So more than anything
25 else - -

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1 THE WITNESS: And I can tell it's
2 coming from this establishment.

3 CHAIRMAN BOHL: - - because - - Are
4 these just idiots that like to shoot the guns off
5 in the air and whatever else?

6 THE APPLICANT: It's a neighborhood
7 thing.

8 MR. HARMON: Right. We pursued them
9 and gave - - I gave license plates to the - -

10 THE APPLICANT: Anybody with a weapon.

11 MR. HARMON: And license plates. The
12 police pursued them. Found out who they were,
13 and they have not been around since. We - - I
14 found out that there were - - Some were 15 and 16
15 year olds running around with 22 caliber.

16 THE APPLICANT: Just running through
17 the neighborhood.

18 MR. HARMON: They weren't allowed in
19 the bar, but they would pull up into the back,
20 and they're shooting there. And we - - We did
21 what we had to do to try and get rid of them.
22 Obviously I'm not going to run out there and
23 fight someone with a gun in their hand shooting
24 it off in the air. But we let it be known that
25 the police are on the way, and we got license

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1 plates of everyone as they were leaving out of
2 the lot. I sympathize with her, because I
3 understand it. If I were laying in my bed and I
4 hear gunshots near my window, I'm going to be the
5 same way. I'm going to be - - I'm going to be -
6 - I have kids, too. I'm going to be - - Because
7 I'm scared.

8 THE WITNESS: You end up in the fetal
9 position. You have kids that's crying. You have
10 three boys that came from an abusive family prior
11 to coming to me. They don't need this. They
12 don't - - And I'm going to protect my children
13 now. This is protection. I do not want to give
14 up 17 years that me and my husband have worked
15 for in my home, and now that he's gone, because
16 of worried that one of those stray bullets has no
17 name, and could come and shoot and kill one of
18 me, either me and leave my children without both
19 parents, or one of my children. This is what
20 I've been fighting with him about for the whole
21 year, and nothing has changed. Nothing has
22 changed. It has got worse. I've talked to him
23 on the phone. I talked to him until I was just
24 like frustrated. Leaving meetings, crying.
25 Working with the police captain. Working with

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1 Lieutenant Banes. Working with Lieutenant
2 Morris. Down there at the police department, you
3 know. It's like, I don't want this. I don't
4 want to be - - to lose what I've worked for. But
5 I will.

6 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Mr. Chairman.

7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Zielinski.

8 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. I'd like to
9 ask you, the Vice-President or the President of
10 the neighborhood association, if they feel that
11 this increase in the violence is due or
12 consistent or coinciding with the closing of the
13 other neighborhood bar - - bars.

14 THE WITNESS: My answer to that is no.
15 And that's because we don't have any other ones.
16 There's only one across the street, and that's
17 Magnolia's. It's a different clientele there.
18 And they'll be closing pretty soon. Now, there
19 was another bar on Appleton called Sidepockets,
20 and I think that's in your district, Alderman.

21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: That's actually
22 still - -

23 THE WITNESS: It's still in District 2.
24 That was closed, I think, last year or something
25 like that, and - - and that is more of an upscale

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1 bar at this point. And Magnolia's is more known
2 as a restaurant than it is a bar and nightclub.

3 THE APPLICANT: Then we've got Allstar.

4 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: So, okay. Have
5 you been able to figure out as - - as a
6 neighborhood what - - what you feel has resulted
7 in the significant change. I mean, I already
8 heard what - - what they're saying, what the bar
9 owners are saying. What I want to hear is from
10 the neighborhood, because this gentleman's been
11 in business for 28 years, and all of a sudden
12 this last year, you know, all hell is breaking
13 loose. What do you - - What have you seen or
14 noticed then as a neighborhood that could be
15 contributing to this problem?

16 THE WITNESS: I don't have an answer to
17 that. Most cases that you hear of this occurring
18 around town it's usually the clientele, the
19 hiphop music. Since I don't patronize his
20 business, I can't say what kind of music he plays
21 in his bar that attracts the younger wilder
22 crowd. I don't know.

23 THE APPLICANT: We don't attract the
24 young crowd.

25 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. Okay.

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1 MR. HARMON: I'd can answer that. As
2 far as the bar, we have what is called, most bars
3 have now where you download your music. He has a
4 block on heavy hardcore rap and hiphop.

5 THE APPLICANT: Hiphop.

6 MR. HARMON: There's - - There's a
7 block on that, so you cannot download that. We
8 even get complaints. So some people will be - -
9 go to another bar that plays that. We don't play
10 that.

11 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. But my
12 question is what's happening in the last year
13 from you, as - - as a business owner, that's
14 contributing to the significant increase. Now, I
15 thought I understood you to say earlier in your
16 testimony that you felt that the problems were
17 primarily due to a number of other bars in the
18 area that have closed down.

19 THE APPLICANT: Closed last summer.

20 MR. HARMON: Yes.

21 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: And, yeah. What
22 I'm hearing from the President, she's saying that
23 that's not the case.

24 THE APPLICANT: Well, it is. Our
25 problems occurred last summer after they closed.

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1 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Who closed?
2 MR. HARMON: Once they closed - -
3 THE APPLICANT: Sidepockets. Allstars.
4 MR. HARMON: In the neighborhood - -
5 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. Wait.
6 Write this down. Sidepockets and Allstars?
7 THE APPLICANT: Allstar - -
8 MR. HARMON: Allstars.
9 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. And how
10 close - - And I'd like to hear from the
11 President, is how far or how close is Sidepockets
12 and Allstars from this establishment?
13 THE WITNESS: I would say - -
14 MR. HARMON: Two blocks, three blocks,
15 four blocks.
16 THE WITNESS: No, it's more - - No,
17 it's more than that.
18 MR. HARMON: Well, 91st and Silver
19 Spring. You go about four blocks, and you're on
20 Appleton. The sports bar is right there on that
21 corner, right there.
22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Allstar Sports Bar is
23 on 100th and Silver Spring, so it - -
24 THE WITNESS: Right.
25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: It's nine, ten blocks.

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1 THE APPLICANT: He lives right next
2 door, so - -

3 MR. HARMON: Because he stays right
4 there.

5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: It's - - It's on 100th
6 and - - and Silver Spring.

7 THE WITNESS: And it wasn't open that
8 long.

9 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And this place is at -
10 - This place is on 90th. So it's a good - -

11 MR. HARMON: 91st - - 91st and - -

12 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Your address is 9012.
13 You're on 90th and Silver Spring. It's a good
14 ten blocks. You would have to - - And then Side
15 - - Sidepocket, you'd have to go all the way up
16 to Silver Spring to that corner on 100th, and
17 then you'd have to turn and probably go - -

18 THE WITNESS: East.

19 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Go down Appleton Avenue
20 east at least another good four - - four blocks
21 or so. Four or five blocks. So we're talking
22 about 14, 15 blocks.

23 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: So - - So, in
24 other words, we can discount the closure of these
25 other bars as contributing to this dramatic

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1 escalation.

2 THE APPLICANT: Well, their clients had
3 to go someplace.

4 MR. HARMON: Yeah, I mean, it ain't - -
5 They had incidents there, and the clientele would
6 come to the next nearest open bar whenever
7 there's an incident in their bar. We would get
8 the phone calls saying, be on the lookout for
9 this or that.

10 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay, ma'am.

11 THE WITNESS: Sidepockets opened - -
12 re-opened right away as Nostalgia, II. It's open
13 right now.

14 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Yeah, so - - So
15 that's a wash. So that's a wash. Anyway, by my
16 closing comments. It sounds to me like the
17 closure of these other, you know, businesses is
18 not the contributing factor here. And so I'm - -

19 MR. HARMON: Well, we - - In the
20 history of - - to update on Magnolia's, they
21 recently about a few months ago had a shooting
22 there where a person was - - had passed away. He
23 died. He was shot in the parking lot stemming
24 from an argument inside the bar. When that
25 happened, the patrons would run over to our bar.

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1 Because of what happened, we would lock the door,
2 would not allow them in.

3 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. Thank you.

4 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Mr. Chair.

5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions.

6 Alderman Kovac.

7 ALDERMAN KOVAC: One thing I'll just
8 point out. I'm looking at Google map here. It's
9 on the south side of Silver Spring, it's four
10 blocks, four real long blocks, on the north side,
11 it's nine, ten, just the way it's laid out. But
12 it is ten blocks distance, I mean, by the street.

13

14 But I wanted to ask, the other thing
15 the bar owner had mentioned was that there's a -
16 - He said there's a house party nearby that's
17 been getting worse and worse. Can the President
18 and Vice-President of the neighborhood
19 association speak to that?

20 THE APPLICANT: I don't know. This was
21 a one time incident.

22 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Oh, a one time
23 incident, okay.

24 THE APPLICANT: The party got closed,
25 and they started a fight in front of my place,

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1 and that's - - they called the police.

2 MR. HARMON: But it stemmed from a
3 party way up the block, about halfway up the
4 block in an apartment building.

5 ALDERMAN KOVAC: And what was the
6 history of the closing of Sidepockets? Were
7 there similar problems there?

8 MR. HARMON: Right.

9 THE WITNESS: Sidepockets had similar
10 problems, yes. Their license was removed. I
11 don't have a date. It was last year or the year
12 before. And the business - - The building was
13 purchased and opened by the owner of another
14 establishment on the northwest side, and it's
15 known as Nostalgia II, and I would assume it has
16 no problems.

17 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I think that - - I
18 mean, that's - - that is in Alderman Davis'
19 district, but it's across the street from mine,
20 and I - - I think that that's a fair synopsis.
21 They - - They had issues with a number of
22 shootings prior to their closing, which was a
23 little more than a year ago. And I believe the
24 other - - The owner of a Nostalgia is off of
25 Green Bay Avenue, if I'm not incorrect.

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1 THE WITNESS: 43rd, north of Mill Road.

2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Yeah. And - - And I
3 think that the format - - It had a tavern/dance.
4 Sidepocket had a tavern/dance, and it - - The - -
5 The Nostalgia II is just more of a neighborhood
6 bar, so they do not have the - - the dance
7 license.

8 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Mr. Chairman. But it
9 is true that since Sidepocket closes and when,
10 for the first time in 28 years you had problems
11 here. Is it conceivable that even though it's
12 ten blocks away or further that the clientele was
13 causing this problem shifted, where they - -
14 where they were hanging out?

15 THE WITNESS: I have no idea, because I
16 think Sidepockets for sure was a younger hiphop
17 crowd. I think that's what they catered to
18 primarily. I mean, it would be traffic shut
19 down, shutting down Appleton Avenue. But with
20 Steve-O's, to be honest, he always had an older
21 crowd of 40 plus, if you will. And we never had
22 a problem out of his business. And it is my
23 assumption that now it's a far younger crowd for
24 sure.

25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Kovac, do you

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1 still have questions?

2 MR. MORTON: Am I able to add to this
3 conversation?

4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Sure.

5 MR. MORTON: Just so we can, excuse the
6 language, quash this blame game. To my
7 knowledge, we're talking literally a week, within
8 a week, after Steve-O's got renewed, the license
9 got renewed, literally within - - within a week,
10 they started having major problems over there.
11 Now, this year - - Last year this time Steve-O's
12 was open, Magnolia's was open, Sidepockets was
13 open, and also, Allstars were all open, to my
14 knowledge, at the same time. And so to say that
15 they were - - all these places - - places
16 magically closed right when Steve-O's got their
17 license renewed is a joke. It's a joke. It
18 didn't happen. They were all open at the same
19 time. Once Sidepockets did close within a
20 month's time, they reopened as a new place. And
21 so I just wanted to make sure that this - - this
22 blame game in blaming other places closing to why
23 he started having problems all of a sudden is not
24 the answer. I mean, we - - we really can point
25 the finger at bad management. That's coming

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1 directly from me. Bad management. And I could
2 let them continue the conversation, but I just
3 want to kind of get off of that, because the - -
4 the blame game really won't work right now with
5 this particular incident, this issue.

6 ALDERWOMAN COGGS: Mr. Chairman.

7 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderwoman Coggs.

8 ALDERWOMAN COGGS: That didn't help
9 clarify anything for me. But I do have a
10 question for clarification to what was just
11 stated by the representative from the Alderman's
12 office. Has the management changed in the last
13 year?

14 THE APPLICANT: Absolutely not.

15 ALDERWOMAN COGGS: Has any of the
16 policies or practices of the management changed?

17 THE APPLICANT: It's been tougher, our
18 policies.

19 MR. HARMON: We've added the security,
20 and we've - - we're really strict on that.

21 THE APPLICANT: You got to be older to
22 get in now on weekends.

23 MR. HARMON: You cannot - - You cannot
24 enter in at all without an ID.

25 ALDERWOMAN COGGS: But it's the same

00045

1 people? The same management.
2 THE APPLICANT: Been there for 28
3 years.
4 ALDERWOMAN COGGS: It's you?
5 THE APPLICANT: Terry's been with me
6 for the - - with security. All my bartenders are
7 the same.
8 MR. HARMON: They've been with him, the
9 bartenders about four or five years.
10 ALDERWOMAN COGGS: Thank you.
11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions by
12 committee? Barb, did you want to add something
13 else?
14 THE WITNESS: No. I just - - I'm
15 hoping and praying that he does not have his
16 license renewed, because I do not want to
17 relocate. And I will relocate.
18 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you.
19 THE WITNESS: Because it's - - It's
20 dangerous over there. It is dangerous.
21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: I'll give you an
22 opportunity in a moment here. If you just want
23 to, you can pull the microphone up to you, and
24 we'll need your name and address, please?
25 THE WITNESS: Sure. My name is Laura

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1 Verthein. I live at 8931 West Thurston Avenue.
2 I have called the police a few times because of
3 the gunshots. It's usually around like about
4 1:30, two o'clock at night on the weekends,
5 usually Saturdays. And it's pretty much every
6 Saturday during last summer, and it's pretty much
7 you don't know where it's coming from, so you
8 pretty much have to lay there and hope that
9 nothing hits you. It also is tough to have to
10 wake up every weekend when you have a job and
11 school and everything that you have to get up
12 for. Then there's drunk people walking down the
13 street, and they're being loud and obnoxious, and
14 like I said, you just don't know who is going to
15 pull out a gun. You don't know who is going to
16 be in your backyard. It's just - - It's
17 horrible. I'm scared to come home late. I'm
18 scared to even be in my house. You shouldn't
19 have to be scared to live in your own house.

20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you for your
21 testimony. Questions by committee? Thank you.
22 Was there - - Did you also want to provide
23 testimony?

24 THE WITNESS: Basically the same thing.
25 I live right there also - - Our backyard is

00047

1 there. And that's my daughter. I don't even
2 want my grandchildren coming over anymore.

3 CHAIRMAN BOHL: You know what? Why
4 don't we put you - - Why don't we - - Why don't
5 we get you on - - on - - on the record here,
6 please? And you were sworn in. Correct?

7 THE WITNESS: Yeah.

8 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Okay. Why don't you
9 provide us your name and your address here.

10 THE WITNESS: My name is Donna
11 Verthein. V, as in Victor, E-R-T-H-E-I-N. 8931
12 and 8931A West Thurston Avenue.

13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Please proceed.

14 THE WITNESS: Okay. Basically what
15 you've heard is what I was here to tell you.
16 It's getting so bad that I now go to my
17 grandchildren's house to watch them. I don't
18 even want them coming over like on weekends
19 anymore. We bought a dog. It's - - It's very
20 rough and scary.

21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And, Ms. Verthein - -
22 Mrs. Verthein, how long have you - - have you
23 lived here?

24 THE WITNESS: 30 years. Over 30 years.

25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Over 30 years. So - -

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1 So have you seen a change in the clientele of
2 this particular bar here in the last year or two?

3 THE WITNESS: When we first moved
4 there, my husband and I would occasionally go in
5 there. It was - - It was fine, but now I
6 wouldn't - - I wouldn't even go in the front
7 door. And we never had any problems before - -
8 before the last, I would say, a year and a half.

9 CHAIRMAN BOHL: So - - So has it been
10 essentially a shift to a much younger crowd then,
11 as well, too?

12 THE WITNESS: I think so. I think so.

13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Questions by committee?

14 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Mr. Chair.

15 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Kovac.

16 ALDERMAN KOVAC: And - - And are you
17 sure - - The same question was asked before of
18 the Vice-President. Are you sure that these - -
19 these shots are happening at - -

20 THE WITNESS: Yes.

21 ALDERMAN KOVAC: - - Steve-O's?

22 THE WITNESS: Um-hnh.

23 ALDERMAN KOVAC: And how are you sure?

24 THE WITNESS: Well, my bedroom window
25 is right there, the parking lot.

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1 ALDERMAN KOVAC: So you - - Are you
2 seeing gun - -
3 THE WITNESS: Some were from the gas
4 station that was vacant because those people were
5 using the gas station parking lot when they went
6 to Steve-O's.
7 ALDERMAN KOVAC: So you've seen shots
8 fired from the parking lot?
9 THE WITNESS: I haven't seen them.
10 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Okay.
11 THE WITNESS: But I can hear them.
12 ALDERMAN KOVAC: And so how are you
13 sure that they're coming from the parking lot?
14 THE WITNESS: I can - - I can tell the
15 direct - - the direction.
16 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And what? You are
17 probably essentially across the alley, maybe a
18 door or two down?
19 THE WITNESS: I'm right behind the big
20 farmhouse, laundromat, directly across - -
21 THE WITNESS: We don't have an alley.
22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Oh, you have - - yeah,
23 that's right.
24 THE WITNESS: Their house is right - -
25 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Back - - Yeah, I

00050

1 remember, you're back to back there. It's only
2 the next - - It's only the next block further
3 east where you have the alley, yeah.
4 THE WITNESS: Right next door.
5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: So, yeah, you're back
6 to back on there.
7 THE WITNESS: We have a rental
8 property, and I don't - - I don't know that I
9 could even get anybody that would want to rent
10 it. It's vacant right now.
11 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Yeah.
12 THE WITNESS: I mean, it's not an
13 alley. It's like my yard - -
14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Right.
15 THE WITNESS: And then it's right
16 there.
17 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Yeah.
18 THE WITNESS: There's nothing holding
19 it.
20 ALDERMAN KOVAC: And would you agree
21 with Barb on the frequency of the shots? Is it
22 every - - every weekend night?
23 THE WITNESS: Yeah, pretty much so.
24 ALDERMAN KOVAC: For the - - For
25 the - -

00051

1 THE WITNESS: In the winter I didn't
2 - - I didn't hear it as much. But that's
3 probably because the windows are all shut, you
4 know. But there is still people walking down the
5 streets, fighting, and littering, and, you know,
6 at all hours.
7 ALDERMAN KOVAC: And it was worse in
8 - - in July and August than it was - -
9 THE WITNESS: Oh, definitely.
10 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Was it - -
11 THE WITNESS: It was a nightmare.
12 MR. SCHRIMPF: Mr. Chairman.
13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Mr. Schrimpf.
14 MR. SCHRIMPF: Thank you. I just want
15 to confirm for both ladies, I'm sorry. I don't
16 have my notes here for your names. Barb is one
17 and you're - -
18 THE WITNESS: Donna.
19 MR. SCHRIMPF: Donna. In - - In terms
20 of people walking down the street and urinating,
21 first thing. These are people who are coming
22 from the bar?
23 THE WITNESS: Um-hnh. Yes.
24 MR. SCHRIMPF: How do you know that?
25 THE WITNESS: Because it's at bar - -

00052

1 bar closing time.

2 MR. SCHRIMPF: Yeah.

3 THE WITNESS: Okay. It's at bar
4 closing time and this - - They leave from over at
5 Steve-O's coming down 91st, I mean, Silver
6 Spring. And then they always take this street
7 right next to my house, and then they go over
8 towards like Carmen. We see it all the time,
9 because you're awake and you see it. And by the
10 time you get the police, they're gone.

11 MR. SCHRIMPF: Okay. In terms of any -
12 - the possibility of any other bars, would there
13 be any other bars in the area or any other
14 businesses open at that hour of the night that
15 could account for this?

16 THE WITNESS: Well, it - - you - - We
17 have Magnolia's. There's Magnolia's, but I would
18 highly doubt - - I would put 99.99 percent it's
19 coming from Steve-O's.

20 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And, Mr. Schrimpf, this
21 other place, Magnolia's. You'd have to cross the
22 street - -

23 THE WITNESS: Yes.

24 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Go kitty-corner. You
25 have a - - Tenlay's Auto. They have a auto

00053

1 place, and then literally it's - - it's another
2 block or so west of 91st. It's more like 92nd -
3 - 92nd and 93rd probably. So, I mean, it's - -
4 It's several blocks away. I mean, the difference
5 would be between - - And when I'm talking, I'm
6 talking east/west blocks, you know, where the - -
7 where the - - We're not talking the longer
8 north/south, but I'm talking the east/west
9 blocks.

10 CHAIRMAN BOHL: This is - - This is
11 literally in their backyard.

12 THE WITNESS: My backyard.

13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Versus - - Versus
14 something that would be a considerable distance
15 away.

16 MR. SCHRIMPF: And the same question
17 for you, Donna, in terms of the people that
18 you've seen littering and carrying on, you're
19 again certain they're coming from - -

20 THE WITNESS: I wouldn't - - I wouldn't
21 be 99 percent sure. I would give it like a 75,
22 80 percent. You know, they may have been at
23 Magnolia's and gone then over to Steve-O's,
24 because I understand at one point Magnolia's was
25 shutting down earlier. So that's a possibility.

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1 MR. SCHRIMPF: That's all I have, Mr.
2 Chairman.

3 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions by
4 committee at this time? Did - - Did you have any
5 questions for - - for either of the witnesses
6 here that haven't been addressed yet? Any other
7 questions or comments?

8 MR. HARMON: My question was as of
9 date, the last time there was a shooting reported
10 had to have been back - - way back in the winter
11 or back in the summer, and we haven't had a
12 shooting incident since then on the weekends or
13 ever, as far as shootings. That's ended. Way
14 before we even had the cameras up, that was taken
15 care of, and it was a particular crowd that did
16 that, and that crowd has never - - I believe they
17 can even say the last three, to four, to five or
18 six months they haven't heard a shooting at all,
19 or incidents, fights or anything at that bar, at
20 our bar, Steve-O's bar. We - - We - -

21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Well, there - - There
22 was, I mean, whether it's corroborated or not,
23 there was, at least on our police report, a shots
24 fired that was called in on March 1st.

25 MR. HARMON: Right. They talked to me

00055

1 about that, but when they got there, it was not -
2 - It never happened - -

3 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Well, I - - I - - You
4 know, I understand that. But I'm also - - I
5 mean, I wasn't born yesterday enough to say that
6 if somebody legitimately is calling in shots
7 fired, by the time the police show up, even five,
8 six, seven minutes away, the guy with the gun if
9 he - - if he shot one off, isn't going to stick
10 around and say, well, you know what, I'm going to
11 stick around for five, six, seven minutes, ten
12 minutes, wait for the cops, you know, and I also
13 know that oftentimes once they're gone, if the
14 cop rolls up and says, hey, we got a report for
15 this, and they talk to the person outside, the
16 person outside says, well, what are you talking
17 about? I didn't hear anything. I think some kid
18 shot off fireworks over here. I heard something,
19 sounds like firecrackers. I mean, that's not
20 uncommon. But, you know, so I'm - -

21 MR. HARMON: Keep in mind, though, we -
22 - we had an incident where because in that area,
23 there's lots of stuff - - other stuff going on.
24 There's drugs. There's other things going on.
25 And there has been shootings that we can hear

00056

1 outside from our bar in the neighborhood area,
2 but we get blamed for it, and it's nowhere near
3 the bar. But people attribute the shots to the
4 bar. Now I understand what they were talking
5 about, because directly behind our bar when
6 people left out at that particular time of year,
7 over a year ago, there were shots being fired in
8 the back, right in the back. And then we took
9 care of that. That hasn't happened again.

10 But there have been other incidents,
11 not - - not to do with the bar at all. For
12 example, I believe there was a handicapped kid
13 who was shot and killed at a bus stop, apparent
14 robbery.

15 CHAIRMAN BOHL: That was a year and a
16 half plus or so - -

17 MR. HARMON: What I'm saying is that,
18 though. There are things in the neighborhood
19 that are going on which aren't - - should not be
20 directly at the bar. But there were incidents at
21 our bar as - - as you know, and we working - -
22 Since then, we been working to try and - -

23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Here's what I will say.
24 You know what? You can hear gunshots from a few
25 blocks away, and obviously is - - You're going to

00057

1 hear it. When it's - - When it's in your
2 backyard, there's a - - there's a difference.
3 There's going to be a difference.

4 MR. HARMON: What I'm saying is - - I'm
5 not denying that it happened, because it did
6 happen. Okay. And we - - We called the cops
7 ourselves, and we wanted - -

8 CHAIRMAN BOHL: But here's the thing
9 that I would say. You fully acknowledge that
10 there were shootings that were occurring on what
11 would have been the equivalent of their backyard.
12 I mean, right across the boundary border. You're
13 acknowledging that. Right?

14 MR. HARMON: This incident that - -

15 CHAIRMAN BOHL: So then they - - So
16 then they heard that. Now my testimony to you
17 is, is you continue to hear gunshots since last
18 summer that have been that close and that loud?

19 THE WITNESS: Yes.

20 MR. HARMON: No, there haven't.

21 CHAIRMAN BOHL: And the testimony from
22 three different individuals are it is occurring,
23 and that's all I'm telling you is if you're going
24 to say, look, you heard what it's like when it's
25 real close to you, and they said yes. And you're

00058

1 acknowledging that it occurred real close to
2 them.

3 MR. HARMON: The one that we did have.

4 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Well, I - - I know, and
5 I understand that, but, you know, what - -
6 what - -

7 MR. HARMON: But since then, recent, we
8 haven't had that problem.

9 THE WITNESS: Yes.

10 MR. HARMON: That hasn't happened
11 again. Not gunshots directly in the backyard.

12 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: Mr. Chair.

13 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Well, you have - - you
14 have three other individuals who are providing
15 sworn testimony that say otherwise, so. Who was
16 I seeking? Alderman Hamilton.

17 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: I have a couple
18 problems. The biggest problem is the fact that
19 everybody here is willing to admit that things
20 have changed at your establishment, that there
21 have been problems, and they are just recent.
22 That's one problem. Okay. There - - There has
23 been a change, and there's been some activity
24 that needs to be addressed. And you say that
25 you've been working with the police department

00059

1 and that you're trying to address the issues.

2 My second problem that - - that causes
3 a issue for me is the fact that you say that
4 you've done things to try to address the problem,
5 but you're unwilling to say here what you think
6 that problem is and what happened in order to
7 change things from the last, you know, 28 years
8 that you've been operating until today. You
9 can't say that, you know what, we - - we've had a
10 rash of brand new people that have been coming
11 in. If you've been operating for 28 years, you
12 know when new people are coming to your bar.

13 THE APPLICANT: Right.

14 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: So, I mean, to not
15 say that, I have a problem with that. And then
16 to say, okay, we - - we've come up with a plan of
17 operation and then you know that you're coming to
18 this committee, and then you don't present that
19 plan of operation that you - - that you have in
20 order to address those issues, I have a problem
21 with that. I mean, we shouldn't have to ask you
22 over and over about all of these different
23 things. I mean, we should be able to have
24 something that says, okay, this is what we're
25 doing to address the problem. And, you know, I

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1 kind of feel like it's like, hey, I've been
2 operating for 28 years, give me a break. And
3 they're saying we've been living here for 30
4 years, give us a break. And, you know, find the
5 - - We shouldn't be in that - - that type of
6 situation, and - - and you've had community
7 meetings. You've been going to the meetings.
8 You've been having dialog. And then, to come
9 here and then you're still on Mars and one is
10 still on Venus? That's - - I mean, and now we're
11 left here trying to, you know, hash out some of
12 these issues, because we don't want to close down
13 a business that's been open and operating for 30
14 years. But they shouldn't have to live like
15 this. And so - - And now we're here trying to
16 find - - trying to find a healthy medium, and - -
17 and I don't think it's fair to this committee.
18 Because now we're - - we're, you know, we're
19 trying to help you out. You know what I mean?
20 And then, we're trying to listen to their
21 concerns and address them and make sure that
22 you're addressing them. That's - -
23 MR. HARMON: We do want to - - We do
24 want to get together with the community and - -
25 and work it out. We have acquired some new

00061

1 customers, and we do want to work with the
2 community. You know, we're willing to do what we
3 have to do to - -

4 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: But you're not
5 willing to admit - - You're not willing to
6 recognize what the problem is. Nobody's willing
7 to sit down and say, you know what, this is - -
8 this is the problem that we've had. You're
9 blaming it on other bars. You're saying that the
10 shots are not that close.

11 MR. HARMON: No, no. I said we had an
12 incident. But I - - What I - - What I - - Okay.
13 Maybe we're being misunderstood. We do care
14 about what's going on. Trust me. I've lived in
15 areas where shootings go on in bars as a kid
16 growing up, also. On 12th and Ring, 4th and
17 Garfield. I've lived in those areas, and I know
18 what it's like. Believe me, I know what it's
19 like. To have a bullet come through your window,
20 trust me, I know what it's like. And I'm not
21 being unsympathetic at all. And I don't want to
22 appear that way. I do care about that, and I - -
23 God forbid if someone were to get struck by a
24 bullet, and the bar - - as a result of someone
25 coming out of the bar. That would - - That would

00062

1 devastate me. Trust me, it would.

2 We want to work with the community.
3 Whatever we can come up with, we will come up
4 with. And we do admit that there's a problem.
5 And we want - - And that's why we got together
6 our own selves, had a meeting, decided to get
7 cameras and whatever we had to do and try and get
8 that done, and then talk more - - communicate
9 more with the police department, and basically
10 cooperate with them - -

11 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: And - - And you all
12 have shared that with the neighborhood
13 association, what that plan of operation is?
14 They understand? You've communicated that with
15 them?

16 THE APPLICANT: After our last meeting
17 last summer, I believe it was, I gave, at that
18 time to the Captain of No. 4, all the stuff I was
19 going to be doing. At that time I didn't have a
20 security system. I installed that. Bought the
21 metal detector. Put in new lighting outside.

22 MR. HARMON: And we're looking at
23 adding more cameras for the outside, as well,
24 because I've offered - - offered - - I've also
25 offered my services to the adjacent businesses

00063

1 right there, the barber shop, the laundromat, as
2 far as at night after hours when they're closed,
3 bungalow, I've already told them that - - They
4 have even asked me if - - if at the bar at night,
5 would I occasionally look over their area, and I
6 do. I walk over and look over their areas. I
7 have phone numbers of each one of them. If I see
8 something, which I know they are closed, I - - I
9 do call even the owners or the police department,
10 let them know if there's something out of order
11 in their business. Because you can see back
12 through the windows, see everything in their
13 business. As well as the security cameras which
14 two are faced towards their - - the apartment
15 house also.

16 THE APPLICANT: They're over the
17 parking lot.

18 MR. HARMON: So whenever there's an
19 incident over there, it can be recorded. It does
20 - - It is recorded. If the police want to
21 investigate or look, they do come in. Go
22 downstairs and look on our video and I've helped
23 them to solve problems over there.

24 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: When does this
25 license expire, Mr. Chair?

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THE APPLICANT: June 30th.

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ALDERMAN HAMILTON: June 30th. If this
item was held, they - - they would - - We
wouldn't be able to hear this next - -

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CHAIRMAN BOHL: It would be a one day.

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MS. GRILL: June 30th,

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ALDERMAN HAMILTON: Because I - - I
mean, I would like to see, you know, if it was -
- And I guess the Alderman's office could respond
to this. To - - To have them present this to the
community, because I don't think that it's been
presented to them, and they're here today
recognizing the fact that you have been there as
a longstanding business and they have a lot of
respect for you. They didn't even expect this
type of activity to be happening at your place.
But they're here now for their safety, and they
don't want to hear any of this, sitting here at
this committee. But I don't - - I don't - - I
don't know if you've had an opportunity and - -
and to be quite frank with you, I don't - - I
don't want to just hear you say what it is that
you have to do without having something in hand
that - - that shows that you're actually
implementing these - - these things. And then to

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1 have to have us vote on that, I don't feel
2 comfortable with that.

3 THE APPLICANT: We're - -

4 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: And I think that
5 that's a conversation that you can have, you
6 know, with the Alderman's office and with - - and
7 with - - and with the community, and then if, you
8 know, if the positions don't change then, I mean,
9 I'm willing to - - to take a vote on it, but I
10 think it would be best for all parties if - - if
11 they had that conversation.

12 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Mr. Morton.

13 MR. MORTON: I just want to take make
14 sure I get Alderman Davis' message out before you
15 guys go into committee or anything.

16 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Go ahead.

17 MR. MORTON: First and foremost,
18 Alderman Davis is seeking for non-renewal. He
19 wants to put that on the table. If not non-
20 renewal, he's looking for the strongest
21 suspension possible. The applicant has, again,
22 it's been a year. And the applicant, to my
23 knowledge, has not called our office to set up a
24 meeting to try to talk about any plan of oper - -
25 plan of action to what he wants to do with the

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1 place.

2 As you see, Marva and Barb are - - are
3 very active in the community, and they're very
4 vocal. That's why they came down today, and they
5 took their time out to come down and wait as long
6 as they did to make sure their voice was heard.
7 We have received a couple e-mails, also, that
8 were sent to License Division in regards to this.
9 Granted the applicant has been in business 28
10 years, 28 years, and they've all attested to
11 that. I've been with Alderman Davis almost four
12 years and have never, since I've been with
13 Alderman Davis, seen this type of response in
14 regards to a particular location.

15 But something happened last year.
16 Something happened right after, it seemed like it
17 happened instantly after they got renewed.
18 They're not willing to admit it. I would say
19 it's bad management. I would say it's letting
20 whoever in. That's what I would say. And not
21 caring. If we can look at the - - the amount of
22 police resources the past year that have gone
23 into just securing this place, we're talking
24 seven - - seven different instances since January
25 of '07. And that's what's on record. Now we

00067

1 know that we got seven on record, we know there
2 probably were more incidents that the police just
3 didn't respond to. I'm not saying the police
4 didn't respond on purpose, but that calls weren't
5 made to the police.

6 I have a question in regards to when
7 you look at the report you see that fights
8 started in the bar and spilled out into the
9 parking lot. I hear the blame that it's this
10 place fault. This didn't happen on our lot. But
11 the police report states that, and - - and
12 Timothy Anderson who was a - - a worker at these
13 locations. He stated the fights happened in the
14 bar, and they spilled out into the parking lot.
15 Then we had issues with - - with shots being
16 fired. My question for the applicant is, you
17 know, if you look at all the time the police has
18 spoken with someone, he wasn't there, to my
19 knowledge. I think he was there one time for one
20 of the incidents. Other than that, the police
21 always spoke to someone other than him. So that
22 lets me know he's not even at the establishment
23 to find out what's going on at his place. I
24 could be wrong. I'm just going by what I see in
25 the facts here.

00068

1 We're dealing with one, a waste of
2 police resources. Alderman Davis wanted me to
3 stress that. Time and time again, the police
4 have to come out and deal with crowd control.
5 There were shots fired. There were fights.
6 Whatever the case may be. It's just a waste.
7 Alderman Davis wanted me to stress the danger to
8 the health and safety and welfare of the
9 neighborhood. Because when you got shots fired
10 at your back window, that's what it is. It's a
11 waste. It's - - It's a danger to the health,
12 safety and welfare of the neighborhood. Alderman
13 Davis wanted me to stress that.

14 And then we can't neglect, and I don't
15 want to bring it up, but it's in the report, of
16 the applicant's OWI. What happened?

17 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Mr. Chairman.

18 MR. SCHRIMPF: Yes.

19 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: What's the - -

20 MR. SCHRIMPF: I thought he - - I'm

21 sorry.

22 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Are you the Chair?

23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Wait a minute. I'll

24 pass the gavel here.

25 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Give the gavel to

00069

1 Mr. Schrimpf over here.

2 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Alderman Zielinski.

3 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Let me see. My
4 question was this. What's the difference between
5 the expiration date and when the - - when we're
6 here - - when we're meeting again, or when the
7 Common Council is meeting? One day difference?

8 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Um-hnh.

9 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. My
10 recommendation is to - - Well, before I make this
11 recommendation. If - - If you were to meet with
12 - - with the owners of the building and they were
13 able to say, he, we're going to impose an age
14 restriction of 45 and up, something dramatic like
15 that. We're not going to have - - Just say,
16 hypothetically, you know, the extreme, you know,
17 example. And we're willing to change the music,
18 only have certain types of music and this, that
19 and the other thing. Would you be willing to
20 give them a chance, or do you feel that things
21 are so far gone that - - that nothing that they
22 can do would resolve the problem?

23 THE WITNESS: That is such a tough
24 question.

25 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Because the reason

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1 why I asked that question is what I think is
2 going on is, you know, the - - the neighborhood's
3 changing. There's more crime in the area. And I
4 think that the type of business that they've ran
5 for the last 28 years was sufficient for the
6 neighborhood the way it was for the last 20 plus
7 years. But they have been slow, too slow. Not
8 for lack of trying. They just don't know how to
9 deal with - - with changing dynamics of - - of
10 crime in the area. It's not something they're
11 intentionally trying to do. I hate to - - to not
12 renew their license, because I don't think
13 they're - - they're bad people. I think they're
14 trying to do everything in their power. I do
15 feel, however, that they are, you know, that they
16 aren't as efficient as they should be in terms of
17 meeting the changes as quickly as they needed to
18 to prevent it from coming to this point. And at
19 the same time, you know, you - - your home is
20 your castle. You know, you're in danger of being
21 in a position where you'd have to sell your home
22 and so forth.

23 So what I'm thinking is, if the
24 neighborhood feels comfortable, if they're
25 willing to, you know, as Alderman Hamilton

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1 recommended, hold the matter. They would go one
2 day without the license. Meet with the
3 neighborhood and see if, you know, 45 and up, 50
4 and up, who knows, change - - changing of the
5 music. I'm just throwing some extreme stuff out
6 there. If that's something that you think would
7 be workable or you feel that - - that the - - you
8 know, that the situation is just too out of hand?

9 THE WITNESS: To be per - - I mean,
10 last year it was so bad. I mean, it was so out
11 of hand. I mean, I don't - - I don't know what
12 Steve is willing to do.

13 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: I mean, well - -

14 THE WITNESS: He does not want to
15 communicate with me. He's - - He says I'm going
16 to do this, I'm going to do that.

17 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: I mean - - I mean,
18 would you be open to - - to say, you know, a 45
19 and up age restriction, work with the
20 neighborhood on the type of music and that type
21 of stuff?

22 THE APPLICANT: The music, really we
23 can't change. We - - We don't have hiphop music.

24 MR. HARMON: We don't have hiphop, rap
25 music.

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1 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. Well,
2 whatever. What about the age? You know, 45 and
3 up. I don't think - -

4 MR. HARMON: Well - -

5 CHAIRMAN BOHL: You're ensuring, Mike,
6 almost everybody in this committee won't be able
7 to see that place for years.

8 MR. HARMON: We even changed - - We've
9 increased the age up to 25 and older.

10 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Yeah, but now
11 that's - -

12 MR. HARMON: That's changed - - That's
13 changed the crowd that we have and that we get,
14 and we've gotten new - - newer people - - and
15 newer people we've got between the ages of, when
16 I look at IDs - - I card everybody. I don't care
17 if you have - -

18 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: But my question is
19 - - I mean, we've been here all day, you know.
20 We're all talking. My question is, would you be
21 willing to seriously consider a 45 and up, and
22 then see if - - if that's some - - some kind of
23 agreement you reach with the neighborhood next
24 month?

25 THE APPLICANT: Well, we'd have to go

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1 with an age, but, I mean, at 45 and up - -

2 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: We don't have to
3 talk about the age now. I'm just saying - -

4 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Those types - -
5 Those types of things.

6 ALDERMAN HAMILTON: - - just go in and
7 negotiate.

8 MR. HARMON: I hear you.

9 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. How does
10 the President feel about the fact that we may
11 consider holding this matter with - - with the
12 support of the owner, because we wouldn't be able
13 to hold it without his support, because he - -
14 he'd have a one day period where he wouldn't have
15 his license, and we wouldn't be able to do that
16 without his support.

17 THE WITNESS: Well, we have a meeting
18 scheduled - - We have a meeting scheduled or we
19 will have one during the month of June, and so
20 that's acceptable to me if it's acceptable to the
21 residents we have here. I have to tell you that
22 this is just a small fraction of the residents
23 that are involved. So there's no way that we
24 wanted to go forward without their input.

25 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. So what I

00074

1 would do is I think in - - Alderman Hamilton
2 raised a good point. If the owner is - - is
3 willing to support holding this matter over for
4 one cycle, I would - - I would support that, as
5 obviously Alderman Hamilton would. I would
6 assume at least we get one other person.
7 Hopefully, next month then we'd be able to get
8 everybody come to the table and have a plan of
9 action that we can all support. Would you
10 support holding this matter over for one month?

11 THE APPLICANT: Sure.

12 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. Thank you.

13 I'm done.

14 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions at this
15 time?

16 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Are we in
17 committee?

18 CHAIRMAN BOHL: We're in committee.

19 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. I would - -
20 I would move to hold the matter for one month
21 with the understanding that the owner of the - -
22 of the license is supportive of that.

23 CHAIRMAN BOHL: That would be one
24 cycle?

25 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: One cycle.

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1 THE APPLICANT: So then I would come
2 back?

3 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: You would come
4 back. You'd need to work with the neighborhood
5 and come up with a plan of action that everybody
6 is in support of.

7 MR. HARMON: Write it out.

8 THE WITNESS: I don't - -

9 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: If you don't - -
10 And, you know, the understanding is if you don't
11 work out an agreement that's acceptable to them,
12 you know, there's other options that aren't very
13 attractive.

14 MR. HARMON: Work it out.

15 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: So I'd recommend
16 you work out something that they support.

17 CHAIRMAN BOHL: The - - If that motion
18 were to be accepted, the corresponding committee
19 before the licensing - - the corresponding
20 meeting for the licensing, next coming licensing
21 committee is June 17th. And the corresponding
22 Council meeting to that would be July 1st. But
23 it would be June 17th. You know, on the motion,
24 if - - if that's the will of the committee, I'd
25 go along with it. I prefer not to do that. I -

00076

1 - There are times where in my experience here on
2 this committee that you start pushing too much
3 stuff off, you just constantly heap on more.
4 When there's credible testimony, there's credible
5 testimony.

6 MR. HARMON: I'm sorry. Could you give
7 me that date again? June?

8 ALDERWOMAN COGGS: 17th.

9 CHAIRMAN BOHL: 17th. But that's fine.
10 We'll - - We'll see where it goes here. Motion
11 by Alderman Zielinski is to hold this matter over
12 for one cycle. Are there any objections to that
13 motion, other than my own? Hearing none, so
14 ordered.

15 I'll just - - But I'll just tell you
16 that you're going to have to do a big convincing
17 job with the neighbors. And, I mean, you know,
18 if you're going to come up with the 25 and older,
19 I - - I'll tell you I think that you're - -
20 you're going to be at too close to the fire
21 still. So I will tell you that I think that
22 there really is a major problem, and, you know,
23 there are some who subscribe to the - - the
24 doctrine of - - of progressive discipline. I
25 think there are some times where the cancer

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1 spreads so quick and so fast that you just need
2 to take it out, and - - and I'll just give you
3 that as a little forewarning of - - of whether or
4 not you have the ability to meet these residents
5 and - - and find some reasonable means of - - of
6 keeping them happy and placating them, I'd
7 suggest you start yesterday in the interim time,
8 because frankly, if you wait the next three weeks
9 and there's any gunshots coming from that area,
10 no matter what you do or say, I wouldn't expect
11 there to be one resident here who would be happy
12 about having you come back, so. With that, the
13 motion carries four to one, that the matter is
14 held for one cycle.

15 ALDERMAN KOVAC: Mr. Chair.

16 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Yes.

17 ALDERMAN KOVAC: If I could also
18 suggest the neighbors in those next weeks, to
19 meet with them, also, to keep a log or be very
20 specific about what you're hearing and what
21 you're seeing.

22 CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you.

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3 STATE OF WISCONSIN)

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5 MILWAUKEE COUNTY)

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8 I, JEAN M. BARINA, of Milwaukee Reporters

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13 Committee Hearing proceedings.

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Court Reporter

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22 Dated this day of June, 2008.

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