



**LIQUOR COMMISSION MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2020 AT 4:00 P.M.
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
111 SOUTH CAPITOL STREET
PEKIN, ILLINOIS 61554**

This was a remote meeting held via "zoom meetings". The public could only attend this meeting remotely; due to the Governor's Executive Order regarding COVID-19 and the relaxing of the open meeting act requirements, this meeting was held remotely via zoom meetings without an in-person meeting location for the public to attend. You were able to listen to the meeting and submit comments during the time for public comments by sending a direct message to the meeting host using zoom meetings.

To join the meeting follow this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84783649530>. By phone, dial in and listen to the Meeting as follows: 1-312-626-6799; then enter Meeting ID 847 8364 9530. Prior to the meeting, you can also submit a public comment remotely by email, by 1:00 P.M. the day of the Meeting, by sending an email to the Liquor Commission Secretary at nlstewart@ci.pekin.il.us and inserting in the subject line for the email "Public Comment for Meeting on October 27, 2020".

Deputy Liquor Commissioner VonRohr called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

The **PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE** was led by Liquor Commissioner Mark Luft.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present for roll call: Liquor Commissioner Mark Luft, Deputy Liquor Commissioner Rick VonRohr, Police Chief John Dossey, Deputy Chief Trent Reese, Commission Member Dr. Timm Schwartz and Commission Member Judy Heisel.

Also present: Attorney Katherine Swise, Liquor Commission Secretary Nicole Stewart, and City Clerk Sue McMillan.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Dr. Timm Schwartz, seconded by Deputy Chief Trent Reese to approve the October 27, 2020 agenda. On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Police Chief John Dossey, seconded by Commission Member Dr. Timm Schwartz to approve the Commission meeting minutes dated January 23, 2020. On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT/COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

No public input was received.

NEW BUSINESS

Application: Beck Oil Company of Illinois, 311 Derby Street

Deputy Liquor Commissioner Rick VonRohr updated the members on the construction of the addition. It was stated that there was a hole in the front of the building for a window but due to COVID it may be 2-3 months until the window arrives. City Attorney Katherine Swise stated that there were no other concerns with the liquor application. Commission Member Dr. Timm Schwartz motioned to approve the liquor application for Beck Oil Company of Illinois seconded by Deputy Chief Trent Reeise. On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

Discussion: Request for Liquor License – South Side Bait & Tackle, 921 S. 2nd Street

Liquor Commissioner Mark Luft led the discussion regarding the request for a liquor license at 921 S. 2nd Street. Commissioner Luft stated that the business recently received a tobacco license. Commissioner Luft also expressed concerns with how the ordinance was written as to what type of business qualifies for a liquor license. Bait and tackle businesses do not qualify for a liquor license as the primary purpose is not the sale of alcohol. Commissioner Luft opened up discussion to explore options that would allow the business to qualify for liquor license. Options discussed by the Commission Members included making an exception due to the unique nature of the business. Other options discussed included modifying the liquor code or to change the primary purpose of the business to alcoholic sales demonstrating 51% of sales and inventory to liquor.

Business owner, Jeff Lance, was present and gave some background on the start of the business. Mr. Lance expressed that the reason he was requesting a liquor license was to help sustain his family through COVID and the winter months.

Attorney Katherine Swise suggested an option to make the liquor license conditional demonstrating 51% of inventory as packaged liquor through the remainder of the current licensed year. She stated that the Commission could then review inventory and sales upon renewal and should the business not demonstrate the set conditions, the license could then be subject to revocation.

Commission members expressed consensus to allow the conditional license request to be added to the next liquor commission agenda. The business passed all inspections for a liquor license.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Deputy Liquor Commissioner introduced and welcomed the newest member of the Commission, Ms. Judy Heisel.

Commission Members discussed written procedures on how to apply for a liquor license for new businesses to make it an easier process. It was suggested to add that information to the website.

Deputy Liquor Commissioner VonRohr announced that a liquor establishment was currently under investigation and he was in the process of writing up a violation but would probably not be added to the agenda until January.

No other business was brought before the Commission.

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Member Timm Schwartz and seconded by Chief Dossey.
On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Nicole L. Stewart
Deputy City Clerk