



**LIQUOR COMMISSION MINUTES
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2016 AT 4:00 P.M.
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
111 SOUTH CAPITOL STREET
PEKIN, ILLINOIS 61554**

Liquor Commissioner John McCabe called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

The **PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE** was led by Liquor Commissioner McCabe

ROLL CALL

The following members were present for roll call: Liquor Commissioner John McCabe, Police Chief Alternate Deputy Chief Jim Kaminski, Fire Chief Alternate Deputy Chief Brian Cox, Commission Member Timm Schwartz and Commission Member Rose Hasler. A quorum was established by Liquor Commissioner McCabe.

Absent: Deputy Liquor Commissioner Rick VonRohr and Attorney Sue Bosich.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Liquor Commission Member Timm Schwartz, seconded by Commission Member Hasler that the Agenda be approved as presented. On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF LIQUOR COMMISSION MINUTES

Liquor Commissioner McCabe stated that in the minutes 2nd page under discussion that “the fee in the profits averaged \$2,400-\$46,000” should read “averaged \$2,400-\$4,600. Motion made by Commission Member Hasler to approve the amended November 10, 2016 Liquor Commission minutes, seconded by Liquor Commission Member Timm Schwartz. On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT/COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

Several local liquor license establishments attended the meeting.

Liquor Commissioner McCabe invited anyone in the audience that if they would like to speak to please state their name for the record.

Matt Stropes/Pekin Elk’s Lodge, 320 Derby Street: Mr. Stropes asked if the Liquor Commission was looking to limit the video gaming parlors. He will be applying for a liquor license to open the Pekin Elk’s Lodge and would be applying for the gaming machines for his members. He also asked about the 400’ limit between gaming parlors since they are right across the street from one.

Steve Sangalli/Pekin Boat Club: Mr. Sangalli asked if there would be a Special Liquor License Classification just for the gaming cafés. On the fee’s presented, he believes these are too high for the smaller business owners and fraternal organizations. Mr. Sangalli believes the higher fee’s will hurt the local tavern owners. Mr. Sangalli feels this would be another tax on the local businesses. The out of state gaming café’s can afford the higher fees.

Kathy Brawner/Rhythm & Brews: Mrs. Brawner agrees that the larger fee’s will hurt the smaller businesses. She does not feel since her tavern has the machines that they would be put in the same category as the gaming cafés. People go to the gaming cafés just to gamble – they don’t go to socialize or drink. A lot of us here

tonight have invested in the City of Pekin and have given back to our community and helping with local fundraisers, and donating to chairities, etc.

Dave Sangalli: Asked about the 400' limit between having the gaming machines. What if a restaurant/bar wanted to open up and have gaming machines as well, and next door was a gaming café, what would happen then?

Dan Espinoza/McCitters: Mr. Espinoza agrees. The Council needs do something in some form of an Ordinance or Moritorium on the Gaming Café's. Mr. Espinoza belives the gaming café's are hurting our local businesses. 35% goes to the gaming machine vendors, 30% goes to the State, 35% goes to the owners of the establishments, and 5% goes to the City.

Mr. Helford/Eagles Lodge: Asked who came up with the higher fee's and the 400' limit between businesses that have gaming.

Dustin Maquet/Maquet's Railhouse: The gaming café's have very few employees and does not sell much alcohol. If the fee's go up it will be the customers who will have to pay higher cost. Our 2% Food and Beverage tax is most likely a lot higher than the gaming café's are since they are only for gaming, no food sales and very little beverage sales. The city is seeing a significant amount from the local business owners.

Discussion followed:

Liquor Commissioner McCabe stated that he will go to each Liquor Commission Member and if anyone else has something to comment on, please raise your hand and we will try to answer each question. The recommended Video Gaming Ordinance that went in front of the City Council on November 28th was tabled. McCabe stated there were several points that determined writing up the Video Gaming Act Ordinance.

- 1) Establishments making money owned and operated.
- 2) Gaming café's or a bar/restaurant.
- 3) Free market/free enterprise.
- 4) Local establishments.

All these were taken into consideration when drafting the Ordinance.

Liquor Commission Member Rose Hasler appreciated everyones comments and concerns and for coming to the meeting. Liquor Commissioner Timm Schwartz understands your comments and concerns and there were a lot of valid points. The fee's weren't taken lightly, a lot of discussion and research went into the fee's. Our Deputy Liquor Commissioner did extensive research from other communities. Deputy Fire Chief Brian Cox asked if the Moritorium was to stop all liquor licenses are just the gaming café's. Deputy Police Chief Jim Kaminski stated he is filling in for the Chief of Police and his concern is the amount of gaming café's so far and would like to see a limit put on how many we allow.

NEW BUSINESS

Liquor license Moritorium

Liquor Commissioner McCabe stated he instructed Corporation Counsel to draw up a Moritorium.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Liquor Commissioner McCabe thanked everyone in attendance and appreciated their input.

Motion made by Liquor Commission Member Timm Schwartz to adjourn, seconded by Liquor Commission Member Rose Hasler. Meeting adjourned at 4:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Paula Gensel, Liquor Commission Secretary