

MINUTES OF THE ZION LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION HELD ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015 AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, ZION, ILLINOIS

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Chairman Hill called the meeting to order.

On call of the roll the following answered present: Commissioners, Winfrey, Thorn and Chairman Hill. Commissioner McNabb was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Thorn, seconded by Commissioner Winfrey to approve the minutes with corrections of the Zion Liquor Control Commission held on July 30, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Thorn, aye; Winfrey, aye; and Chairman Hill, aye. Motion carried.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

There were no Citizen Comments

APPLICATIONS/CLASS "K" LICENSE

Chairman Hill stated the Commission will be awarding five (5) Class K liquor licenses at the end of the meeting. He stated there are eight (8) applicants for eleven (11) locations. Three (3) of the applicants have requested two (2) locations. Each applicant will be given five (5) minutes for an oral presentation. The Commissioners will each have an opportunity to ask questions. Once the applicants have given their presentations and all questions have been asked and answered, there will be no more comments or discussion. The Commissioners will then take ten minutes to rank each applicant according to his/her preference. Eleven (11) applications were submitted and five (5) licenses will be given. After the Commissioners have gone through and ranked each applicant they will announce the scores. The scoring will be as follows:

- #1 ranked applicant will be awarded 11 points
- #2 ranked applicant will be awarded 10 points
- #3 ranked applicant will be awarded 9 points
- #4 ranked applicant will be awarded 8 points
- #5 ranked applicant will be awarded 7 points
- #6 ranked applicant will be awarded 6 points
- #7 ranked applicant will be awarded 5 points
- #8 ranked applicant will be awarded 4 points
- #9 ranked applicant will be awarded 3 points
- #10 ranked applicant will be awarded 2 points
- #11 ranked applicant will be awarded 1 point

All scores will be added up and the five (5) highest scores will receive the licenses.

Chairman Hill stated that Shone Davis was a leader in bringing the idea of a video gaming café forward and has been involved from the beginning. He stated in his opinion Shone Davis should automatically be awarded one (1) of the five (5) licenses. He stated if the Commission agreed then there would be four (4) additional licenses available. He stated there will further discussion on this following the presentations.

The applicants each made a five minute presentation supporting their request to receive a Class K liquor license. The applicants were as follows:

1. Shone Davis – Penny’s Slots (2 applications submitted) - proposed locations, 3242 Sheridan Road and 4527 IL Route 173
2. Tim Axarides – Tracey’s – proposed location, 2200 Sheridan Road
3. Mary Bennett – Lucky Day Café – proposed location, 4200 IL Route 173
4. Peter Sarbacker – proposed location 3377 Sheridan Road
5. Gary Leff – Shelby’s & Stella’s Place (2 applications submitted) - proposed locations, 2200 Sheridan Road, and 2105 Sheridan Road
6. Debra Hanson – Lucky Jack’s - (2 applications submitted) – proposed location, 2256 Sheridan Road, and second location TBD
7. Chuck Knoblauch – Elsie’s Café – proposed location TBD (there were no representatives present from this applicant)
8. Leigh Ann Gardella – The Hive – proposed location 2636 N. Sheridan Road

Chairman Hill asked those applicants who submitted two (2) applications if they would be willing to accept one license if awarded. All three (3) applicants (Shone Davis, Gary Leff and Leigh Ann Gardella) stated they would accept one license.

Chairman Hill again stated the Commission would have an opportunity to review the applications and evaluate the presentations. He stated once the presentations were completed, there would be no further comments from the applicants. He stated once the Commissioners finished their evaluations of the applicants, they would present the final rankings.

Chairman Hill thanked the applicants for their patience with the license process and the Liquor Commission for the extra effort put forth in creating the new K classification. He stated the process has been long as the City had to go through not only liquor changes but zoning changes as well. He stated these changes had to be implemented before any applications could be considered. He stated the intent of the K liquor license is to have a café type setting where people can go to have dinner, lunch or breakfast and enjoy video gaming if they chose. He stated the Commission wanted the emphasis to be put on food rather than video gaming. He stated the presentations were very good, but unfortunately only five (5) licenses could be awarded. He stated the Commission will try and make the process as fair as possible. He stated there were a few things he had in mind when determining his ranking of the applicants:

1. That the applicant to be somewhat local (Zion, Beach Park, Winthrop Harbor and Wadsworth).
2. Type of menu; adding something different than other food venues, the café-like atmosphere should be reflected by the menu.
3. The quality of the application.
4. Being present at the meeting. It is important to be able field any questions or comments from the Commission.

Commissioners Thorn and Winfrey were in agreement with the scoring criteria presented by Chairman Hill. Chairman Hill asked the opinion of the Commission regarding awarding one (1) of the licenses to Shone Davis. Commissioner Hill again stated Mr. Davis has been part of the process from the beginning and in his opinion it would only fair for Mr. Davis to receive at least one of the licenses.

It was the consensus of the Commission to award Shone Davis one (1) of the five (5) available Class K liquor licenses. Chairman Hill stated Mr. Davis has submitted two (2) applications for two (2) separate locations. Chairman Hill asked Mr. Davis which location he would prefer for his license. Mr. Davis stated he would choose Cindy's Slots, 4527 IL Route 173. Chairman Hill stated Mr. Davis' second application would be put back into the pool with the other applications for ranking. He stated no applicant would be prohibited from receiving two (2) licenses. He stated the Commissioners would take about ten minutes to rank the applicants. He stated if for some reason a tie would occur, there would be a flip of the coin to determine who would be awarded the license.

Each Commissioner presented their scores. After the scores for each applicant were totaled, it was determined that there was a tie for license number five between Gary Leff from Laredo Hospitality (Stella's Place) and Debra Hanson from Lucky Jack's. A coin toss determined Debra Hanson (Lucky Jack's) would be awarded the final license.

The following applicants were awarded Class K Retail Liquor Licenses.

1. Shone Davis, SDD Entertainment – Cindy's Slots
2. Shone Davis, SDD Entertainment – Penny's Slots
3. Leigh Ann Gardella, LDJ Investments, The Hive
4. Mary Bennett, Bennett Business Partners, Lucky Day Café
5. Debra Hanson – Lucky Jack's

SHONE DAVIS/SDD ENTERTAINMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Thorn, seconded by Commissioner Winfrey to approve the applications of Shone Davis, SDD Entertainment LLC, Cindy's Slots, for proposed address 4527 IL Route 173, Suite 101 and Penny's Slots, for proposed address 3242 Sheridan Road for a Class K Retail Liquor Dealer's License. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Thorn, aye; Winfrey, aye; and Chairman Hill, aye. Motion carried.

LEIGH ANN GARDELLA/LDJ INVESTMENTS

It was moved by Commissioner Winfrey, seconded by Commissioner Thorn to approve the application of Leigh Ann Gardella, LDJ Investments, The Hive, for proposed address 2636 N Sheridan Road for a Class K Retail Liquor Dealer's License. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Thorn, aye; Winfrey, aye; and Chairman Hill, aye. Motion carried.

MARY BENNETT/BENNETT BUSINESS PARTNERS INC.

It was moved by Commissioner Thorn, seconded by Commissioner Winfrey to approve the application of Mary Bennett, Bennett Business Partners, Lucky Day Cafe, proposed address 4200 E IL Route 173 for a Class K Retail Liquor Dealer's License. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Thorn, aye; Winfrey, aye; and Chairman Hill, aye. Motion carried.

DEBRA HANSON/LUCKY JACK'S GAMING CAFE

It was moved by Commissioner Winfrey, seconded by Commissioner Thorn to approve the application of Debra Hanson, Lucky Jack's Gaming Cafe, proposed address 2256 Sheridan Road for a Class K Retail Liquor Dealer's License. The vote on roll call was: Commissioners Thorn, aye; Winfrey, aye; and Chairman Hill, aye. Motion carried.

Chairman Hill stated the five (5) Class K Retail Liquor Licenses have now been issued. He stated each license holder must work to be in full compliance with City Codes and Ordinances. He stated each license holder must obtain a State of Illinois video gaming license and a City of Zion business license within six (6) months from the date of the issuance of a City of Zion Retail Liquor License. He stated if the license holder fails to obtain a State of Illinois video gaming license and a City of Zion business license in the allotted time, the license will be revoked. He stated the licenses are awarded to the licensee and the property named on the application. If for any reason the licensee changes the location, they must come before the Liquor Commission for approval. He stated only beer and wine may be served with a three (3) drink maximum. He stated there was no discussion regarding the size of the drinks but this may be addressed at a later date, and the ordinance will be amended to reflect this.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, it was moved by Commissioner Winfrey, seconded by Commissioner Thorn and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 4:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Recording Secretary