

FINANCE, LICENSE & REGULATION COMMITTEE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2011 - 6:00PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

Chairman Krause called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Roll Call. Present: Aldermen Krohn, O'Neill, Hartz, Marsala, and Krause. Also Present: Comptroller Pollitt, Administrator Jordan, DPW Winkler, and City Clerk Hawes.

Approval of Minutes

Marsala/O'Neill motion to approve Finance, License and Regulation Committee minutes of October 10, 2011, as distributed. Unanimously carried.

Comments from the public as allowed by Wis. Stats. §19.84(2), limited to items on this agenda except for public hearing items. Comments will be limited to 5 minutes. None.

LICENSES & PERMITS

Original "Class B" Intoxicating Liquor (winery) and Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage License Application for Studio Winery, 401 Sheridan Springs Road, Lake Geneva, Kathleen Jackson, Agent

City Clerk Hawes stated that the applicant is a registered winery with the State of Wisconsin and, therefore, may hold a "Class B" license as an exception to the quota for this type of license. As a winery, the "Class B" licenses will allow the business to sell wine and beer for consumption in open containers on-premises or in original packaging for off-premises consumption. Alderman Hartz asked about the floor plan for the applicant's premises. City Clerk Hawes indicated that it would be on file in the City Clerk's office for viewing. Alderman Hartz also asked that Mr. Hawes verify whether the applicant intended to circle yes or no on question #5 of the auxiliary questionnaire.

Hartz/Marsala motion to forward to Council for approval, with the condition that the floor plan is on file in the City Clerk's Office. Unanimously carried.

Original Taxi Cab Driver License application filed by Nina Thompson (*approved by Police Chief; informational only*)

Discussion/Recommendation on revisions to the Schedule of Fees

Chairman Krause stated that the Common Council recently updated the Schedule of Fees to reflect the new parking meter rates going into effect with the new parking system. He suggested that the Committee determine if there are any other fees that should be updated at this time. Chairman Krause stated that there was some concern with the carriage license fee. Administrator Jordan indicated that the current carriage license fee may be too low considering both the income that the carriage business generates and the City services required. Chairman Krause suggested that the Committee of the Whole discuss whether leases would be more appropriate than licenses for carriage companies.

Alderman Marsala suggested that the second collection letter fee for parking tickets be increased from \$6 to \$10. He said that \$6 does not seem adequate for the man-hours and postage required to process the second letters. Comptroller Pollitt stated that the second collection letter fee gets tacked on right before the City forwards the ticket to the collection agency. Once it gets to the collection agency, an additional 25% is added on, as well as interest. Ms. Pollitt said that most of the man-hours occur during the first collection letter.

Alderman Hartz stated that he supported a fee structure for parking fines that wouldn't penalize first offenders and would penalize repeat offenders more heavily. He suggested that fines be \$0 for the first ticket, \$12 for the second, \$15 for the third, \$20 for the fourth and \$30 for the fifth or more. Comptroller Pollitt indicated that this structure would be difficult to implement because parking checkers would not have access to citation history while in the field. She also stated that individuals with more than five tickets get their license suspended, which is a way of penalizing repeat offenders.

Alderman O'Neill expressed concern that this type of structure would penalize City residents the most and result in an ill-will in the City. Chairman Krause asked for a staff recommendation on the parking-related fees. Comptroller Pollitt suggested that parking related fees be revisited after the new parking system is in operation next spring. She said that a result of the new system may be that less parking citations will be issued because more people will pay the meter fees.

Alderman Hartz suggested that the \$5 rental property registration fee be printed on the fee schedule. He indicated that this fee is currently in the Municipal Code but not on the fee schedule. Administrator Jordan stated that the City currently does not have an enforcement program in place for collecting this fee. Alderman Krohn said that the Council recently rejected implementing a rental inspection program and it would not make sense to include this on the fee schedule. Alderman Hartz responded that the ordinance should either be enforced or should be removed from the code. He suggested that this issue be revisited separately.

Chairman Krause said that no changes to the fee schedule will be recommended to the Council.

Discussion/Recommendation on disallowance of claim filed by Geneva Hospitality of Lake Geneva (The Cove) pursuant to Wis. Stats. 893.80 (1g)

City Attorney Draper stated that a claim was filed on behalf of The Cove for the overpayment of room taxes. He stated that the claimant was seeking reimbursement for room taxes that were paid to the City over a 10 year period for non-taxable rooms. Mr. Draper indicated that State statutes only allow claims on this type of overpayment to be filed within a 120 day period. Therefore, the City's insurer is recommending disallowance on the claim.

Marsala/Hartz motion to recommend the disallowance of claim filed by Geneva Hospitality of Lake Geneva (The Cove) pursuant to Wis. Stats. 893.80 (1g). Unanimously carried.

Presentation of Accounts

Hartz/Krause motion to recommend approval of a Purchase Order in the amount of \$22,514.70 for Fire Department turnout gear. Unanimously carried.

Marsala/Hartz motion to recommend approval of Prepaid Bills in the amount of \$304.12. Unanimously carried.

Hartz/Marsala motion to recommend approval of Regular Bills in the amount of \$52,491.15. Unanimously carried.

Marsala/Hartz motion to recommend approval of the Monthly Report from the City Treasurer for October. Unanimously carried.

Adjournment

Hartz/Krohn motion to adjourn at 6:57pm. Unanimously Carried.

/s/ Michael D. Hawes, City Clerk