

(The following is not a verbatim transcript of comments or discussion that occurred during the meeting, but rather a summarization intended for general informational purposes. All motions and votes are the official records).

SAFETY SERVICES & LICENSES COMMITTEE

Regular meeting of the Safety Services and Licenses Committee was held on Monday, April 3, 2023 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 869 Park Ave., Cranston, Rhode Island.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by the Chair.

Present: Councilman Richard D. Campopiano
Councilwoman Aniece Germain
Councilman John P. Donegan
Councilman Christopher G. Paplauskas
Council Vice-President Lammis J. Vargas, Vice-Chair
Councilman Robert J. Ferri Chair

Also Present: Anthony Moretti, Chief of Staff
John Verdecchia, Assistant City Solicitor
David DiMaio, City Council Budget Analyst
Chief James Warren, Fire Department
Tracy Nelson, City Clerk
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees
Heather Finger, Stenographer

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

On motion by Councilman Paplauskas, seconded by Councilwoman Germain, it was voted to approve the minutes of the last meeting and they stand approved as recorded. Motion passed unanimously.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

II. COMMITTEE BUSINESS MATTERS CARRIED OVER

A. DISCUSSION relative to issues and complaints of vibration allegedly from business: *Edgewood Laundry* located at 1980 Broad St. *(Cont. from 3/6/23)*

Chair stated that he contacted the attorney for the neighbors, Mr. Kelleher, and he stated that he would not be present this evening and had not made any progress at this time and asked for a continuance.

On motion by Councilwoman Germain, seconded by Council Vice-President Vargas, it was voted to continue this item. Motion passed unanimously.

B. VICTUALLING LICENSE – NEW

Sweetgreen located at 111 Hillside Rd. (*Sanjay Baidya – Via Zoom*) (*Cont. from 3/6/23*)
Outstanding items required prior to issuance of license by City Clerk:

- [RI Dept of Health Final \(scheduled to inspect on 3/20/23\)](#)

Chair stated that according to the Clerk's Office, final inspection has been received.

Debbie Chun Habiger, Director of Licensing, 3102 West 36th St., Los Angeles, California, appeared to speak via Zoom.

No one appeared to oppose.

On motion by Councilwoman Germain, seconded by Councilman Donegan, it was voted to approve this license application. Motion passed unanimously.

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS and/ or NEW MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

A. PUBLIC HEARINGS

AUTO REPAIR LICENSE – NEW

Atlantic Auto Center (*Charles Russo*)

616 Atwood Ave.

Charles Russo appeared to speak and stated hours of operation to be 9-5 Mondays thru Saturdays.

No one appeared to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Paplauskas, seconded by Councilwoman Germain, it was voted to approve this license application. Motion passed unanimously.

Delta Auto Body (*Edward Pontarelli*)

1398 Park Ave.

Joseph Lamy appeared to speak.

No one appeared to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Paplauskas, seconded by Councilwoman Germain, it was voted to approve this license application. Motion passed unanimously.

CLASS A LIQUOR LICENSE – TRANSFER (*change of ownership*)

From: *Reservoir Liquors, Inc. D/B/A Heritage Liquors*

529 Reservoir Ave.

To: *Rhode Island Wine & Spirits, Inc.*

D/B/A Heritage Liquors Superstore (Pricilla Reay)

- [Clearance on Tangible Taxes](#)
- [Certificate of Good Standing](#)

Chair stated that according to the Clerk's Office, there are still two items that are still due: 1) tangible tax has been cleared and 2) certificate of good standing from the State is due. The State requires applicants to advertise two times when looking for certificate of good standing and because of one day, the State required them to advertise this a second time. They have only had one day and the State could not review it today, but they could get it tomorrow and then they would have to wait another month to get their license. He recommends approving this this evening and let the Clerk issue the license only if the certificate of good standing is received from the State, but not issue the license until then.

Priscilla and Matthew Reay appeared to speak and stated that everything will stay the same as previous business.

Chair asked City Clerk to speak regarding what he stated about the advertising for the certificate of good standing.

Ms. Nelson stated that as the Chair stated, the certificate of good standing cannot be issued by the State until the license has been advertised for two consecutive advertisements and with the Cranston Herald running once a week on Thursdays, the second ad was on Thursday, March 30th. So, the first day that the certificate of good standing can possibly be issued would have been on Friday, but the State usually is not that prompt so as of today, it has not been issued yet, but that is not unusual.

Chair asked Counsel to weigh in on this.

Solicitor stated that basically, liquor license that is granted and not issued until certain criteria has been satisfied and that is a rule that DBR has enacted. There is talk about DBR rescinding this rule. He does not know that that has been done just yet, however, the Committee can assume to that rule and grant the license with the understanding that it is not going to be issued by the Clerk's Office until any and all criteria are met, so you can grant the license but it won't be issued.

No one appeared to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Paplauskas, seconded by Councilman Donegan, it was voted to approve this license application pending certificate of good standing be presented to the City Clerk. Motion passed unanimously.

CLASS BV LIQUOR LICENSE – NEW

999 Restaurant, Inc. d/b/a Ginza Asian Bistro

734 Park Ave.

(Yulin Zhang) (Over the BV Cap; Needs Council Approval)

- **Certificate of Good Standing**

Chair stated that this is the same situation as prior business we just voted on.

Solicitor stated that this is correct. The Committee can do the same exact thing. The license can be granted, but not issued until the condition is complied with.

Yulin Zhang appeared to speak and stated that she is working on getting the certificate of good standing issued sometime this week. The hours of operation will be 11-10 and 11-10:30 Fridays and Saturdays and will be open seven days a week.

Solicitor stated that, as indicated on the agenda, this will have to get approval from the full Council at the end of the month so the license cannot be issued and they won't be able to operate pending that approval.

On motion by Councilman Donegan, seconded by Councilman Paplauskas, it was voted to approve this license application subject to receiving the certificate of good standing. Motion passed unanimously.

B. NEW MATTERS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

HOLIDAY SALES LICENSE – NEW

Eden, LLC (Cecilia Ithurburu)

2154 Broad St.

Stephanie Hawkins and Cecilia Ithurburu appeared to speak. Ms. Hawkins stated that the hours of operation will be 10-6 Tuesdays thru Sundays and 10-5 Fridays and Saturdays.

No one appeared to oppose.

On motion by Councilwoman Germain, seconded by Councilman Paplauskas, it was voted to approve the above license application. Motion passed unanimously.

KEEF Smoke Shop, LLC (Rachida Khiara)

1300 Park Ave.

Rachida Khiara appeared to speak and stated hours of operation to be 9-10 weekdays and 9-11 weekends and they will be open to age 21 and over.

No one appeared to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Donegan, seconded by Councilman Paplauskas, it was voted to approve the above license application.

Under Discussion:

Councilman Donegan asked applicant to be mindful making sure that everyone that is in the store and purchasing is over 21 years of age. Ms. Khiara stated that they will have signs up and she has a system where any tobacco product being sold will require an ID and it will scan it.

Roll call was taken on motion to approve this license application and motion passed unanimously.

To: Rhode Island Wine & Spirits, Inc. 529 Reservoir Ave.
D/B/A Heritage Liquors Superstore (Priscilla Reay)

Priscilla Reay appeared to speak. No one appeared to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Donegan, seconded by Councilman Paplauskas, it was voted to approve the above license transfer application. Motion passed unanimously.

MASSAGE THERAPIST LICENSE – NEW
Tree of Life Massage Therapy (Jessica Beaudreau) 1 Starline Way

Jessica Beaudreau appeared to speak and stated that she currently practices in Warwick.

No one appeared to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Donegan, seconded by Councilman Paplauskas, it was voted to approve this license application. Motion passed unanimously.

TEMPORARY MASS GATHERING LICENSE – NEW
The Cranston Spring Festival from Rolfe Square to Pontiac Ave.
(Event Date: May 21, 2023 10AM-4PM)
(Rain Date: June 4, 2023 10AM-4PM)

Director Moretti stated that Cranston Police has done Fall Festival in the past off Sockanosset Crossroad. They want to bring it out more to the community onto the streets and asked to do a one-day event. A community event with various booths

No one appeared to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Paplauskas, seconded by Council Vice-President Vargas, it was voted to approve this license application. Motion passed unanimously.

Gilmore Academy LLC

Mulligan's Island 1000 New London Ave.

(Event Date: May 27, 2023 2PM-10PM and May 28, 2023 3PM-10PM)

Joseph Triburcio appeared to speak.

No one appeared to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Paplauskas, seconded by Councilman Donegan, it was voted to approve this license application. Motion passed unanimously.

USED CAR LICENSE – NEW

Atlantic Auto Center (Charles Russo)

616 Atwood Ave.

Charles Russo appeared to speak.

Clerk indicated that scrivener error. Agenda should state that this license application is a Renewal not a New license.

No one appeared to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Paplauskas, seconded by Councilwoman Germain, it was voted to approve this license renewal application. Motion passed unanimously.

VICTUALLING LICENSE – NEW

Laila & Athena's LLC d/b/a Athena's Restaurant

1482 Park Ave.

(Existing business under new ownership) (Amjad Aboualchamlat)

Amjad Aboualchamlat appeared to speak and stated that the business will stay the same and hours of operation will be the same. This will be a breakfast and lunch seven days a week.

No one appeared to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Paplauskas, seconded by Councilwoman Germain, it was voted to approve this license application. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. TRAFFIC ENGINEER

No Business.

V. SHOW CAUSE

No Business.

VI. POLICE DEPARTMENT

No Business.

VII. FIRE DEPARTMENT

No Business.

VIII. LICENSE RENEWALS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

AUTO REPAIR LICENSE

American Auto Body

American Performance Petroleum

Arlington Auto Body

Autosport Sales & Collision, Inc.

Balasco's Garage, LLC

BMC Petroleum, Inc.

Catalan Auto & Truck d/b/a Stamas Auto

Central Truck Service

Cranston Auto Ignition

Maaco Collision

Oil & Grease on Wheels, Inc.

Power Products

Sam's Auto Group

Ultra Motor Car d/b/a Fleet Auto Body

Ultra Motor Car d/b/a Gershkoff Auto Body

Woodward's Auto Spring Shop, Inc.

1006 Cranston St.

964 Cranston St.

1211 Cranston St.

640 Atwood Ave.

1850 Cranston St.

905 Cranston St.

1045 Cranston St.

131 Fletcher Ave.

1152 Park Ave.

1452 Park Ave.

154 Fletcher Ave.

1 Southern Industrial Dr.

936 Cranston St.

446 Dyer Ave.

1085 Cranston St.

8 & 9 Cutting Ave.

EMPLOYMENT AGENCY LICENSE

Kelly Services USA, LLC

Kelly Services Global, LLC

EXPANSION OF PREMISE LICENSE

LSF Cranston LLC d/b/a Legal Sea Foods

(Seasonal License Dates April 1, 2023 – October 31, 2023)

175 Hillside Rd.

EXTENDED HOURS LICENSE

Coffee Bean Express

7-Eleven Store #33614D

7-Eleven Store #33080B

1111 Cranston St.

1394 Plainfield St.

535 Reservoir Ave.

FIREWORKS VENDOR LICENSE

Stop & Shop #707

Stop & Shop #714

Stop & Shop #2702

200 Atwood Ave.

204 Garfield Ave.

275 Warwick Ave.

HOLIDAY SALES LICENSE*Anthropologie**Aum Shakti, Inc. d/b/a Cranston Liquors**BD Mart, Inc.**Bob's Stores**Dollar General #15772**Dollar General #22027**Dollar General #18251**Expo Nails**GJ Corporation d/b/a Capital Liquors**Plaza Liquors, Inc.**Prime Comms Retail, LLC d/b/a AT&T Authorized Retailer**Recreational Equipment, Inc.**Reshan, Inc. d/b/a Gulf Express**Sally Beauty Supply #2780*

56 Hillside Rd.

1219 Cranston St.

1356 Cranston St.

1400 Oaklawn Ave.

1548 Broad St.

550 Dyer Ave.

1315 Park Ave.

800 Oaklawn Ave.

1358 Plainfield Pike.

212 Garfield Ave.

540A Reservoir Ave.

22 Chapel View Blvd.

2149 Broad St.

236 Garfield Ave.

SECONDHAND LICENSE*Abrakadabra Used Furniture & More**Manny and Sons*

386 Dyer Ave.

391 Dyer Ave.

USED CAR LICENSE*Sam's Auto Group*

936 Cranston St.

On motion by Councilwoman Germain, seconded by Councilman Donegan, it was voted to take all the above-listed license renewal applications as a block. Motion passed unanimously.

On motion by Councilman Paplauskas, seconded by Councilman Campopiano, it was voted to take all the above-listed license renewal applications as a block. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. MONTHLY SCHEDULES (*Votes will be taken to enter lists of events in to record*)**RHODES ON THE PAWTUXET**

On motion by Councilman Donegan, seconded by Council Vice-President Vargas, it was voted to enter this list into the record. Motion passed unanimously.

HISTORIC PARK THEATRE

On motion by Councilman Donegan, seconded by Council Vice-President Vargas, it was voted to enter this list into the record. Motion passed unanimously.

CRANSTON STADIUM (*None*)

X. LICENSES ISSUED ADMINISTRATIVELY *(For informational purposes; no votes to be taken)*

MOBILE FOOD ESTABLISHMENT LICENSE(S) - NEW

None.

MOBILE FOOD ESTABLISHMENT LICENSE(S) – RENEWALS

Kay's Ice Cream MFE-309

Mac's Screaming Corn & Tacos MFE-556

The Hot Potato MFE-715

The Moo-Mobile MFE-352

No action needed.

XI. COMMUNICATIONS

Councilman Donegan:

- *“Warming Centers” - discussion about how we can better plan and advertise warming centers for next winter.*

Councilman Donegan stated that during the Winter there was severe cold and the Mayor's Office and his team worked hard to make sure there was a warming center open 24/7 at the Senior Center. He questioned if the City, going forward for next year, should have some sort of permanent plan for when it hits X degrees that there will be a warming center open that way people will be well-prepared for that and can be better informed and may be left wondering.

Chief Warren stated that they work with in conjunction with RI EMA until they get the message out and use social media and immediate outlets 211. That is how we get the message out. Every Monday, they have a weather update just to see how cold it is going to be in the next 4,8,14 or thirty days, that is how they point it. If it is super cold, they do try to open up the Senior Center. In response to last winter's cold, they had done so. They set the Senior Center up and they also visited the Cranston St. Armory and if they needed to move people quickly through the night, they would do it through that. They did try to go to the homeless encampments and warn people of the cold weather and if they needed to be moved, they would move them.

Councilman Donegan asked for next year, if we know it is going to be under 15 degrees, for example, there will be definitely something open that we can get word out or is that something that we would have to manually do? Chief Warren stated that we do use social media and large media outlets and we also use our website. He is sure we can have something in place or a plan to move forward if it does get to whatever we determine to be a good temperature to bring the system up and running.

Chair stated that the faster we know, the better it will be for even the City Council to put on social media and let our constituents know. Chief Warren stated that we realize a lot of people that do need the warming center do not have social media or access to that. The Police do go out and ask people if they need a ride and get them somewhere to be warm.

Council Vice-President Vargas asked if information can also be given to the Churches for them to possibly share with people, as a thought.

XII. PRESENTATIONS

None.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees