

LA GRANGE LIQUOR COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING

53 South La Grange Road  
First Floor Conference Room  
La Grange, IL 60525

Monday, April 14, 2014 – 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The special meeting of the La Grange Liquor Commission was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Liquor Commissioner Tom Livingston.

Present and constituting a quorum: Liquor Commissioner Tom Livingston, Commissioner Mark Langan and Commissioner Mark Kuchler

Absent: None

Also present: Village Manager, Robert Pilipiszyn, Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson, Village Attorney Mark Burkland, and Kristen Pedicini, Reporter Suburban Life

2. Approval of the Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Kuchler and seconded by Commissioner Livingston to approve the minutes of October 21, 2013, as submitted. The motion carried on a voice vote.

3. Liquor License Request – 7-Eleven, Inc.

Commissioner Livingston asked for introductions of the applicants and Commission members. Individuals representing the applicants included Mr. Marcello Reyes, District Manager; Craig Howell, Store Manager; and Sue Swanson, licensing consultant. Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson introduced the application from 7-Eleven and noted that the corporate office of 7-Eleven is assuming ownership of a previous franchise.

Commissioner Kuchler asked how long the store would remain under corporate ownership and Mr. Reyes responded that normally it is for three to six months. Mr. Reyes indicated that they will be actively seeking a franchise owner in the interim.

Commissioner Kuchler asked if there were any policy changes related to liquor sales and / or the cost of liquor while it is under corporate ownership. Mr. Reyes indicated that 7-Eleven operates the same whether it is a corporate or franchise store. 7-Eleven has high standards and provides internal liquor and tobacco training to all of their employees.

Commissioner Kuchler inquired about the reason for the change to a corporate store and Mr. Reyes responded that the previous franchisee provided short notice that they no longer wanted to operate.

Commissioner Langan inquired about the liquor manager and whether he was a part of the corporate group. Mr. Howell noted that he is a corporate employee and that he would be leaving once a franchisee is determined. Training for new employees would be provided through the corporate training program.

Commissioner Livingston expressed his appreciation of 7-Eleven's continued investment in the Village.

It was moved by Commissioner Langan and seconded by Commissioner Kuchler that the Liquor Commission recommend (a) that the Village Board of Trustees create one new Class B Liquor License and (b) that the Liquor Commissioner issue that license to the corporate owners of 7-Eleven at 6 East 47<sup>th</sup> Street.

Commissioner Livingston stated that the recommendation would be made to the Village Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting on April 28, 2014.

4. Liquor License Request – Lucca's Pizzeria, Inc.

Commissioner Livingston asked the applicants to introduce themselves. Ken and Kim Heimke, owners of Lucca's and their new liquor manager Michael Brockob were in attendance.

Ms. Peterson provided an overview of the application which includes expanding the current business into an adjacent space in order to include additional seating as well as a full bar.

Commissioner Kuchler inquired about the expanded kitchen facilities. Mr. Heimke indicated that the larger kitchen will have new equipment thus enabling them to serve more patrons.

Commissioner Kuchler inquired about the percentage of pick-up orders versus delivery. Mr. Heimke responded that the percentage of patrons who pick-up, request delivery, and eat in is currently equally divided. Mr. Heimke feels that with the expansion more patrons will initially dine in.

Mr. Heimke noted the new restaurant would have a hostess area and additional raised seating. Mr. Heimke also indicated that he was considering the sale of packaged beer and wine. Ms. Peterson verified that the liquor license classification does not allow for sales of carry-out liquor. Patrons are only allowed to purchase a bottle of wine to take home if they have just dined at the establishment.

Village Attorney Burkland explained that liquor ordinances are actively reviewed and analyzed by staff and the Liquor Commission. When considering amendments to the Code, the Commission must consider all sides of how a change could impact the community. Commission

members generally indicated a willingness to consider the matter further in the future as part of the Code evaluation process.

Commissioner Kuchler inquired when the renovation would be completed and Mr. Heimke responded possibly by the first of June.

Commissioner Livingston expressed his appreciation to Lucca's for their continued investment in La Grange.

It was moved by Commissioner Langan and seconded by Commissioner Kuchler that the Liquor Commission recommend (a) that the Village Board of Trustees create one new Class A-2 Liquor License and (b) that the Liquor Commissioner issue that license to Lucca's Pizzeria.

Commissioner Livingston stated that the recommendation would be made to the Village Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting on April 28, 2014.

5. Other Business

None.

6. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Langan and seconded by Commissioner Kuchler that the meeting of the Liquor Commission be adjourned. The motion carried on a voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Submitted by:  
Andrianna Peterson  
Assistant Village Manager

Date Approved: June 23, 2014