

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF 10 AUGUST 2020

20C-0309 – CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Renner called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Chambers at 101 Green Street on 10 August 2020.

20C-0310 – ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following members were present via Zoom teleconference: Allendorf, Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Renner

20C-0311 – ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Mayor Renner announced a quorum of Board members present to conduct City business.

20C-0312 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge was recited.

20C-0313 - REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEE

No reports.

20C-0314 – CITIZENS COMMENTS

Jane Guill, 400 N. Dodge Street – City Clerk Hyde read a submitted comment. Guill urged the Council to increase the vacation rental licenses in residential districts by another 10 units.

J. M. Downey, resident – City Clerk Hyde read a submitted comment. Downey urged the council to allow for more short-term rentals.

William Grosshans, 418 Harrison – City Clerk Hyde read a submitted comment. Grosshans urged the Council to rescind action taken on June 22 to allow for outdoor amplified music as conditions were violated.

Catherine Kouzmanoff, 242 N. Main Street – Kouzmanoff urged the Council to consider keeping the outdoor amplified music. She advised it was her understanding the music could go until 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday which is what she was doing the entire time. She advised she had a canopy come down in a storm which she believes may have caused the change. That has since been resolved. She feels we need to work together to resolve problems. Kouzmanoff noted people are getting COVID indoors. The spread of COVID is made worse with loud speech. Music indoors causes more loud speech indoors. Kouzmanoff questioned if the sound has been investigated from the location of the person making the complaint. She feels amplified speakers are no different than acoustic music as they are literally the same devices. Since passing the temporary live music, no complaints were received until the weekend of July 31-August 1. She advised all music was stopped after the second complaint.

LIQUOR COMMISSION

Motion: Hahn moved, seconded by Bernstein, to adjourn as the City Council and reconvene as the Liquor Commission.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Allendorf, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

20C-0315 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A CORPORATION MANAGER LIQUOR LICENSE BY GLENN M. HARRIS FOR BLACKHAWK NO. 952, DBA FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES, 235 S. MAIN STREET

Motion: Bernstein moved, seconded by Hahn, to approve a corporation manager liquor license by Glenn M. Harris for Blackhawk No. 952, DBA Fraternal Order of Eagles, 235 S. Main Street, 20C-0315.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Hahn, Kieffer, Westemeier, Allendorf, Bernstein, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: McCoy

The motion carried.

20C-0316 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AN APPLICATION FOR A CLASS M LIQUOR LICENSE BY CHRISTOPHER L. LARSON FOR LAMBERSON GUEST HOUSE, 113 S. PROSPECT STREET

Motion: McCoy moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve the application for a Class M liquor license by Christopher L. Larson for Lamberson Guest House, 113 S. Prospect Street, 20C-0316.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Allendorf, Bernstein, Hahn, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

20C-0317 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AN APPLICATION FOR A CLASS D LIQUOR LICENSE BY SOPHIA A. JOHNSON AND TIMOTHY A. PFILE FOR CANNOVA'S GALENA, IL, LLC DBA CANNOVA'S PIZZERIA, 247 N. MAIN STREET

Motion: Allendorf moved, seconded by Kieffer, to approve the application for a Class D liquor license by Sophia A. Johnson (Pfile) and Timothy A. Pfile for Cannova's Galena, IL, LLC DBA Cannova's Pizzeria, 247 N. Main Street, 20C-0317.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: McCoy, Westemeier, Allendorf, Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

Motion: Bernstein moved, seconded by Kieffer, to adjourn as the Liquor Commission and reconvene as the City Council.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Westemeier, Allendorf, Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA CA20-15

20C-0318 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 27, 2020

20C-0319 – APPROVAL OF BUDGET AMENDMENT BA21-04 FOR CORONAVIRUS PREVENTION MEASURES

20C-0320 – ACCEPTANCE OF JUNE 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

Motion: Hahn moved, seconded by Allendorf, to approve Consent Agenda, CA-15.

Discussion: Westemeier recommended trying to get a billboard on each end of the county for coronavirus prevention. Moran advised he will look at possibilities in East Dubuque and Stockton.

Roll Call: AYES: Allendorf, Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

20C-0321 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A RETAIL SPACE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GALENA AND THE GALENA CULTURAL ARTS ALLIANCE FOR SPACE IN THE MARKET HOUSE RESTROOM BUILDING

Motion: Hahn moved, seconded by Kieffer, to table item 20C-0321 to the next meeting.

20C-0322 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A REQUEST BY JUAN DORANTES TO ADD A CLASS A LIQUOR LICENSE FOR GALENA CONVENIENT LIQUOR STORE, INC., 234 N. MAIN STREET

Motion: Westemeier moved, seconded by Hahn, to table the request by Juan Dorantes to add a Class A liquor license for Galena Convenient Liquor Store, Inc., 234 N. Main Street.

20C-0323 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON NUMBER OF VACATION RENTAL LICENSES

Motion: Hahn moved seconded by Kieffer, to leave the number of vacation rental license as is until May 2021, 20C-0323.

Discussion: Allendorf questioned if there has been compliance or if there have been any enforcement issues. Moran advised there were two or three compliance issues. Those issues have been addressed. Allendorf stated he would be interested to know if those with compliance issues are on the waiting list.

McCoy feels it is unfair to not at least indicate whether or not we are going to expand the number in May.

Hahn stated he would like to see it expanded; however, on the other had he doesn't want to drive the motels and existing Bed and Breakfasts out of business. He prefers to wait and see how things go. Kieffer agreed.

Bernstein questioned if there was any data on how much business these Air B & B's are doing. Are they full and are they attracting new clients? If they are full that would put more rationale behind expanding.

Westemeier voiced concern if we continue to let Air B & B's in the downtown, we are running out of apartments for people who live and work in the downtown and have no car. He also voiced concern with the parking issues.

Allendorf feels there isn't a lot of overlap between Bed and Breakfasts and Air B & B's. Allendorf recommended adding a parking tax to the Air B & B's as an opportunity to create some type of revenue source on the Air B & B's for parking. Hahn stated he is open to the idea. The City needs to do their homework to justify it and come up with ways to make it work. Westemeier agreed.

Kieffer advised he has received emails and phone calls from people with regard to parking. The people who live on Bench Street can't find a place to park.

Bernstein feels this is an opportunity to address the parking problem in conjunction with expanding the number of units. The City needs to explore possibilities before we can actually expand the number.

Renner stated he is in favor of leaving the number the same and looking for ways to expand. He prefers not to see a ton of them in residential areas. The density measurement should help spread them out.

Roll Call: AYES: McCoy, Westemeier, Allendorf, Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, Renner
NAYS: None

The motion carried.

20C-0324 – DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AMPLIFIED MUSIC ON APPROVED OUTDOOR PATIOS IN THE DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

Motion: Allendorf moved, seconded by Hahn, to reconsider amplified music on approved outdoor patios in the downtown commercial district.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Westemeier, Allendorf, Bernstein, Hahn, Kieffer, Renner
NAYS: McCoy

The motion carried.

Motion: Allendorf moved, seconded by Westemeier, to rescind the approval of amplified music on approved outdoor patios in the downtown commercial districts, 20C-0324.

Discussion: Kieffer was in favor of doing away with the amplified music. It was agreed when this was approved that if any complaints were received it would be taken away. Allendorf agreed.

McCoy stated he was still in favor of the amplified music for all the same reasons he originally supported it. While there have been complaints, he believes they are doing everything they can to correct the problem. McCoy feels the music adds to the ambience of the downtown.

Roll Call: AYES: Allendorf, Bernstein, Kieffer, Westemeier
NAYS: Hahn, McCoy

The motion carried.

20C-0325 – WARRANTS

Motion: McCoy moved, seconded by Westemeier, to approve the Warrants as presented, 20C-325.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Bernstein, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Allendorf, Renner
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: Hahn

The motion carried.

20C-0326 – ALDERPERSONS' COMMENTS

Thank you – Kieffer thanked Mark Moran for being at the meeting while on vacation!

Adult Beverages Sign – Kieffer stated he saw a sign on a business in the downtown that said adult beverages to go. He thought those beverages had to be consumed on the premises. Renner advised at one time the governor did allow bars to sell drinks to go. He will check with Chief Huntington.

COVID signage – Kieffer stated he likes the new signage for COVID. Bernstein agreed.

Apology – Bernstein apologized for misquoting the number of COVID cases at the last meeting.

Thank you – Westemeier thanked Mark Moran, the Downtown Business Association, Galena Chamber of Commerce, Galena Country Tourism and NW IL Economic Development for putting together the information on the coronavirus. Westemeier stated he wishes more people would wear masks downtown when walking around. The new signage will be great for store owners and the city.

20C-0327 – CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

COVID-19 – Moran advised Jo Daviess County has been removed from the warning level as we are seeing a reduced number of cases. Looking into the next week the numbers look even better.

Thank you – Moran thanked the groups involved with the new COVID campaign.

Annexation Agreement – Moran advised the annexation agreement and annexation ordinance for Grant Hills Motel will be on the next agenda.

20C-0328 – MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Renner agreed with everything that was said. Everyone has been kind of coming together to help with the problem. He thanked all for their work.

20C-0329 – ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Allendorf moved, seconded by Westemeier, to adjourn.

Discussion: None.

Roll Call: AYES: Hahn, Kieffer, McCoy, Westemeier, Allendorf, Bernstein, Renner

NAYS: None

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Beth Hyde". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Mary Beth Hyde
City Clerk