

LIQUOR LICENSING & REVIEW COMMISSION
VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN
VILLAGE HALL AUDITORIUM
9446 RAYMOND AVENUE OAK LAWN IL 60453
Meeting Minutes #2021-04 (05-26-21)

I. ROLL CALL: Meeting called to order at 5:03 p.m.

Chairperson: Mayor Terry Vorderer

Members: Cheryl Daly Jack Hopkins
 Larry Daly Chuck Miller
 Tom Dematteo Terry O'Reilly
 Jan Goetz

Staff: Deanne Adasiak, Recording Secretary

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Vorderer.

III. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Member Miller to approve the prior Meeting Minutes of March 24, 2021 #2021-3 and was seconded by Member Goetz.

Roll call: O'Reilly, yes; Miller, yes; Hopkins, yes; Goetz, yes; Dematteo, yes; Daly, L., yes; Daly, C., yes.

Motion to approve passes: 7-0-0.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Liquor License Request for Shake Shack (Class F and Class N)

Mr. Matt Meyer, Area Director, Shake Shack, 4071 W. 95th Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois.

The petitioner explained that beer and wine are only a minor part of Shake Shack's business. According to the petitioner, beer is made specifically for Shake Shack by a Brooklyn-based company. The petitioner stated that they always stock local bottles and cans. He stated that they also sell wine and that, while it is not a significant portion of their sales, they are proud to offer both beer and wine.

Member Miller inquired about the percentages of Shake Shacks that have liquor licenses. According to the petitioner, almost all Shake Shack locations in the United States sell liquor. He stated that there are a few locations in New Jersey that do not sell liquor because liquor licenses in New Jersey are difficult to obtain and extremely expensive. The petitioner stated that he opened Shake Shack locations in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, each of which has a liquor license.

Member O'Reilly asked the petitioner whether liquor will only be available for indoor consumption. The petitioner responded that it is all indoor consumption, but during the pandemic, they were allowed to sell liquor "to go" and patrons were allowed to drink outside. Deanne stated for the record that Shake Shack is applying for a Class N Outdoor Service license. The petitioner commented that their patio is enclosed.

A motion was made by Member L. Daly to recommend for Village Board approval the Liquor License Request for Shake Shack (Class F and Class N). The motion was seconded by Member O'Reilly.

Roll call: C. Daly, yes; L. Daly, yes; T. Dematteo, yes; J. Goetz, yes; J. Hopkins, yes; C. Miller, yes; T. O'Reilly, yes.

Motion passes: 7-0-0.

b. Liquor License Request for Cardinal Liquor Barn (Class N)

Mr. Jim Shirazi, Cardinal Liquor Barn, 9630 Southwest Highway, Oak Lawn, Illinois

The petitioner explained that he opened a hot dog stand last year. He said he would like to offer margaritas to his customers during the months of April to September. He stated that seating will be outside. The petitioner added that he is in talks with Don McKenna of the Building Department about setting up an outdoor patio. He claims it will be a sturdy construction capable of withstanding winds of up to 100 miles per hour. He said Don requested a brick and mortar enclosure.

Mayor Vorderer expressed that he was initially concerned about the impact to the residents. He said he drove past the property today and noticed that a fence has been erected which alleviates his concerns. Mayor Vorderer asked the petitioner the height of the fence. The petitioner replied approximately 5' – 6'. Mayor Vorderer asked what type of material is the fence. The petitioner responded concrete block.

Member O'Reilly asked the petitioner whether he would set aside specific hours for the outdoor patio. The petitioner responded that it would be from April to the end of September. He explained that the hot dog stand is open from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., but if margaritas are added, the patio will likely remain open until 9:00 p.m.

Member Hopkins mentioned access at the west end near the concrete block fence. The petitioner replied that there is no access for cars. Member Hopkins said he understands and asked the petitioner how he plans to monitor for underage drinking. The petitioner responded by saying that he will be carding all customers. Member Hopkins expressed concern that Cardinal Liquor Barn is close to Oak Lawn Community H.S. and he feels there may be some cut through pedestrian traffic with that access section of the fence. The petitioner stated that he would consider closing that access, but he does allow his tenants to use it to bring their garbage out because otherwise they would have to walk the entire perimeter of the property to dispose their garbage. He stated that the tenants would be upset, but he could install a locked gate that only his tenants would be able to access.

Mayor Vorderer told the petitioner that he is responsible for not serving underage people. The petitioner gave an unequivocal response. He assured the Mayor that his employees have received the necessary training.

A motion was made by Member Hopkins to recommend Village Board approval for Cardinal Liquor Barn (Class N). The motion was seconded by Member C. Daly.

Roll call: O'Reilly, yes; Miller, yes; Hopkins, yes; Goetz, yes; Dematteo, yes; Daly, L., yes; Daly, C., yes.

Motion passes: 7-0-0.

c. Tobacco Retailer Application Review (Amended Ordinance)

Mayor Vorderer informed the Commissioners that there has been an influx of requests for tobacco establishments, and that some type of control or regulation is necessary. Mayor Vorderer stated that this is a new Ordinance, and that all tobacco store application requests will be directed to this Board.

d. Mayor's Proposal

Mayor Vorderer asked the Commission if they were willing to change the date of this Commission's meetings. He stated that instead of meeting on Wednesdays, the fourth day of every other month, he would prefer to meet on Tuesdays, the fourth day of every other month. There were no concerns among the Commissioners.

V. REPORTS:

a. Current Gaming Revenue

Mayor Vorderer briefly discussed the current gaming revenue. He expressed that not a day goes by that we do not receive a request for gaming. He said the Village of Oak Lawn does receive a nice revenue stream from gaming. Mayor Vorderer also mentioned the Push Tax Ordinance that our Attorneys are in the process of passing onto the Video Terminal Operators. He said the Village would ultimately receive a penny a push.

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Member O'Reilly and seconded by Member L. Daly.

Voice Vote: All in favor, aye. All opposed, none.

Motion to adjourn passes.

The meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.