



Licensing Board
CITY OF WATERTOWN
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
149 Main Street
Watertown, Massachusetts 02472
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BOARD MEMBERS

DONNA B. DOUCETTE
SANDRA KASABIAN HOFFMAN
JOHN LABADINI

ALTERNATE MEMBER
JIM TSEKREKAS

MINUTES APRIL 21, 2022

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: MARCH 17, 2022 Approved 3-0

1. Special Licenses:

- Taxiarchae Archangels Greek Orthodox Church Approved 2-0

Annual Greek Festival

35 Bigelow Avenue

One Day All Alcohol Licenses

June 24, 2022 5:00pm – 11:00pm

June 25, 12:00 noon – 11:00pm

June 26, 12:00 noon – 9:00pm

George Faggas appeared on behalf of the applicant. Chair Doucette recited the proposed dates and information from the application: an anticipated 500+ attendees for an indoor and outdoor event, for all ages; two crowd manager certificates, four TIPS certificates for alcohol servers. Mr. Faggas stated that the event has not been held since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and it is the biggest fundraiser for the church. The event will include music by a band. He commented that for prior events there have not been any issues except perhaps some noise later in the evening or parking of vehicles in the area, because of the congested neighborhood. Mr. Faggas explained that there will be additional TIPS certified servers and their certificates will be available on-site. He added that food to be served will be prepared in the church's kitchen, and that id's will be checked for each alcohol purchase. Sgt. Swift stated that he was not aware of any complaints regarding the festival from prior years, and reported that the Police Department had no objection to the granting of the licenses requested, subject to the conditions in the department's written report. The Board acknowledged receipt of a report from the Health Department, and voted to grant the licenses, subject to the conditions requested by the Police and Health Departments. [Board member Tsekrekas recused himself from this matter, on account of his affiliation with the church.]

- Saint Stephen's Armenian Elementary School Approved 3-0

5K Road Race Fundraiser and Block Party May 7, 2022
Course route and 17 Nichols Avenue

Serge Kechichian, PTO representative, appeared on behalf of the applicant. He described the event as 5k community run and block party. The event is a 100% fundraiser for the school, which was closed for part of a year, and then only partially open. It is estimated there will be 150 – 200 participants; and tickets will be sold in advance and on the day of the event. The road race time period is 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This is the initial year for this event. The start area will be used for the beginning of race and finish line ceremonies only. There are 58 runners currently registered, and another 25 to 30 are anticipated. Chair Doucette displayed the race route, which will include Mt. Auburn Street, Walnut Street, Elm Street, Arlington Street, and Arsenal Street, along the Arsenal Yards development (but not into the Arsenal Yards area). There will be about 30 volunteers throughout the course – one at each street crossing and each mile marker, a quarter or third of a mile. Sgt. Swift reported that the Police Department had no objection to the granting of the licenses requested, subject to the conditions in the department's written report. The Board acknowledged receipt of a report from the Health Department, and voted to grant the licenses, subject to the conditions requested by the Police and Health Departments.

- Watertown Police Supervisor's Association Approved 3-0
5k Road Race May 22, 2002

Captain Raymond Dupuis appeared on behalf of the applicant. He stated that this is the 7th annual event, which began after the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing. The event benefits the police relief committee, which makes donations during the year. The race route will start behind the Best Buy store at the Watertown Mall and include Arsenal Street toward Watertown Square, Irving Street, Mt. Auburn Street, Arlington Street, and Elm Street, finishing at the mall near the Target and Best Buy stores. Watertown DPW will place cones along the route. An award ceremony will be held at Arsenal Yards. It is expected there will be 500 participants. Sgt. Swift reported that the Police Department had no objection to the granting of the license requested, subject to the conditions in the department's written report. The Board voted to grant the license, subject to the conditions requested by the Police Department.

- Naveen Pawar

Approved 3-0

**One Day All Alcohol Licenses and Entertainment License
for Outdoor Beer Garden**

130 Bond Square

**Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from Thursday, April 28, 2022
to Thursday, June 16, 2022, and the Memorial Day holiday, Monday, May
30.**

Mr. Pawar appeared on behalf of the applicant. He stated that he is a co-founder of the Mighty Squirrel Brewery in Waltham, with his partner Henry Manice. He shared a powerpoint presentation describing the proposed beer garden. The area is 6,895 square feet, and can accommodate a maximum of 300 customers. Operations would be similar to those for the outdoor area at the brewery's location in Waltham during the last two years, with operating dates generally being Thursday through Sunday and Monday of long weekends. Hours proposed are 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. They will serve only beers produced at the brewery, which is licensed as a farmer brewery by the ABCC. All servers are TIPS certified, and have experience from working at the Waltham location. Food trucks will not be part of the operation because there are so many restaurants at Arsenal Yards. The beer garden area will include picnic tables and benches, and outdoor couches that are part of the adjacent Arsenal Yards facilities. For storage and service of the beer, a special refrigerated van is in production. The vehicle can hold up to 20 kegs (which is 3,300 beer servings), and beer will be dispensed at one location. Entrance to the beer garden will be adjacent to the dispensing van. At the entrance, id's will be checked and wristbands will be issued to eligible alcohol purchasers during busy hours, which will be determined based on the first weeks of operation. Those are expected to be 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, based on typical times that families are out and about for weekend activities. Identification will be requested at the point of service for persons who do not have a wrist band. The band color will change every day. There are portable restrooms adjacent to the entrance. There will be up to eight employees at peak hours, with up to 3 bartenders, 3 bussers cleaning up and observing, and one manager of the whole operation. The food plan includes offering chips, salsa and guacamole, and partnering with adjacent restaurants Chipotle, Shake Shack, and Poke Works, from whom customers will purchase food directly. There will be indoor space for food storage. Tom Wilder, of Arsenal Yards, stated that Bond Square will be closed off at the end to create a large courtyard, and allow for opportunities to walk around the area. He stated he has known the Mighty Squirrel team for two years and is impressed with the Waltham operation. Sgt. Swift reported that the Police Department had no objection to the granting of the licenses requested, subject to the conditions in the department's written report. The Board acknowledged receipt of a report from the Health Department, and voted to grant the licenses, subject to the conditions requested by the Police and Health Departments.

- Henry Manice Approved 3-0
One Day All Alcohol Licenses for Outdoor Beer Garden
130 Bond Square
Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays starting Friday, June 17, 2022
to Thursday, August 4, 2022, and Monday June 20 and Monday July 4

Mr. Manice appeared on behalf of the applicant. Chair Doucette explained that the application is proposing the same operation as was just described for the Naveen Pawar application, which was approved by the Board. Sgt. Swift reported that the Police Department had no objection to the granting of the licenses requested, subject to the conditions in the department's written report. The Board acknowledged receipt of a report from the Health Department, and voted to grant the license, subject to the conditions requested by the Police and Health Departments.

- Express Tire & Auto Service, Inc. Approved 3-0
 433 Main Street
 Motor Vehicle Repair License and
 Class II Used Motor Vehicle Dealer's License

- Poke Arsenal Yards LLC Approved 3-0
 d/b/a Pokeworks
 130 Bond Square (Arsenal Yards Boulevard)
 Common Victualer License

- Hackney (Taxi) and Livery License Renewals Approved 3-0

Hackney drivers: Moe Taha, Greg Djivinis, Imran Pithawala,
 Kamal Najm, Fred Petithomme

Livery license: Hadi Coach, 153 Pleasant Street

- Comments by Board Clerk and Police Department

Board clerk Escobar reported that she had discussed with Sgt. Swift giving a notice to restaurants regarding the Board's approval of earlier Sunday hours for service of alcohol. David Doneski, of City Attorney KP Law, stated that he could work with Sgt. Swift on a notice form to be sent to all 7-day license holders.

Start: 7:20PM
 End: 8:57PM

Donna B. Doucette, Chairman

Present: Donna B. Doucette, John Labadini, Jim Tsekrekas

Also Present: Licensing Board clerk Mariela Escobar, Noelle Gilligan – acting clerk, Watertown Police Sgt. Ken Swift, Attorney David Doneski

Express Tire & Auto Service, Inc.
433 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472

The Watertown Licensing Board met to consider the application of Express Tire & Auto Service, Inc. for a Motor Vehicle Repair License and a Class II Used Motor Vehicle Dealer's License, to be exercised at 441 Main Street.

Darren Cummings, president, appeared in support of the application.

Mr. Cummings explained that the application is requesting use of additional area for existing operations, to allow for expansion of the 23-year business. He stated that there is a need for space for repair vehicles and parking of vehicles, and that he believes the enlargement will be an improvement to the community. The expansion site is the current gas station next to the Express Tire location. The underground gas tanks on the site have been certified by the state; they are double iron-walled tanks. Express Tire will continue to operate the site as a gas station, and the hours will be the same as currently allowed.

Chair Doucette noted that the plan did not show markings for the parking spaces, and Sgt. Swift stated he had spoken to Mr. Cummings, who confirmed that they will be the same as in the existing layout.

Sgt. Swift reported that the Police Department had no objection to the granting of the requested licenses, provided that the conditions stated below for the Motor Vehicle Repair License and the conditions stated in items 1 - 5 below for the Class II Used Motor Vehicle Dealer's License, were imposed.

The Health Department reported it had no objection to the application.

After hearing, the Licensing Board voted unanimously to grant the requested Motor Vehicle Repair License, subject to the following conditions:

1. The hours of operation shall be 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday.
2. The hours of operation for the sale of gasoline shall be 5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Saturday, and 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Sunday.

3. The maximum number of vehicles on the property shall be ten.
4. There shall be no alcoholic beverages on the property.

In addition, the Licensing Board voted unanimously to grant the requested Class II Used Motor Vehicle Dealer's License, subject to the following conditions:

1. The sale of used vehicles shall be only through private sale or newspaper advertisement.
2. The total number of used motor vehicles for sale at any time shall not exceed two.
3. A logbook shall be maintained to document the purchase and sale of used vehicles in compliance with MGL Chapter 140, section 62.
4. There shall be no alcoholic beverages on the property.
5. The hours of operation for auto sales shall be no earlier than 9:00 a.m. and no later than 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and no earlier than 12:00 p.m. and no later than 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.
6. The applicant shall confirm the vehicle space markings to the Town Clerk's office.

Poke Arsenal Yards LLC
d/b/a Pokeworks
13 Ellisville Road
Plymouth, MA 02360

On April 21, 2022, the Watertown Licensing Board met to consider the application of Poke Arsenal Yards LLC d/b/a Pokeworks for a Common Victualer License to be exercised at 130 Bond Square (Arsenal Yards Boulevard).

Yan Xu and Man Li, a manager of the LLC, appeared in support of the application.

Yan Xu stated that the concept is a Hawaiian style restaurant. Food will be prepared and served in small cubes, and will include tuna, salmon and chicken, with rice and sauce. Employees will assemble food bowls for customers. He stated that there are other franchises of this corporate business in Massachusetts, including in Somerville. They are hoping to be open by the end of May. Tom Wilder, of Arsenal Yards, was present and commented that he believed this is a great franchise, and it has locations throughout the country.

Sgt. Swift reported that the Police Department had no objection to the granting of the license, provided that the conditions stated below imposed.

After hearing, the Licensing Board voted unanimously to grant a Common Victualer License, subject to the following conditions:

1. The description of the licensed premises is as follows: fast casual self-serve restaurant with two bathrooms and full kitchen.
2. Seating capacity will be 28 seats.
3. The hours of operation will be Monday through Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
4. There shall be no alcoholic beverages on the premises.