



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 MAY 19, 2022

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: APRIL 21, 2022 Approved 3-0

1. Special Licenses:

- American Runners League** Continued to June 16, 2022 3-0

Foot Race Fundraiser

September 17, 2022

No one appeared on behalf of the applicant. The Board voted to continue consideration of the application to its June meeting, June 22.

- St. James Armenian Church** Approved 3-0

One Day All Alcohol License for Birthday Party
456 Mt. Auburn Street

June 4, 2022

John Piranosian, the new facilities manager for the church, appeared on behalf of the applicant. This is a first birthday party. The event will be held in the church basement, and there will be a DJ. Wristbands will be given to persons 21 and over, to confirm approval for service of alcohol. 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 acknowledged receipt of a report from the Health Department, noting that if a caterer is used for the event a food permit will be required. The Board voted to grant the license, subject to the conditions requested by the Police Department.

- Arsenal Yards Approved 3-0
Entertainment License for Outdoor Picnic Event Series
on the River Green at Arsenal Yards
May 22, June 22, July 20, August 31, 2002

Jessica Reed, marketing director for Arsenal Yards, appeared on behalf of the applicant. She described the picnic event series, which will include a different offering for each of the dates, such as a trivia contest, a magician/comedian, and bands – *Fishhouse* and *Couch*. The event series was started in 2021 and was very successful; this year there will be four events over the course of four months. The events will be held in the River Green section of Arsenal Yards, and the area will be blocked off for the duration of the events. Maximum capacity is 175 guests, and tickets will be sold in advance. Rain dates are June 1, June 29, July 29 and September 7. Attendees will have take-out food options from the Arsenal Yards restaurants. 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 acknowledged receipt of a report from the Health Department, noting that a food permit will be required if food service is offered. The Board voted to grant the license, subject to the conditions requested by the Police Department.

- Arsenal Yards Approved 3-0
Special One-Day Alcohol Licenses for Outdoor Picnic Event Series
on the River Green at Arsenal Yards
May 22, June 22, July 20, August 31, 2002

Jessica Reed, marketing director for Arsenal Yards, appeared on behalf of the applicant. The licenses are being requested in connection with the event series for which an entertainment license has been requested. Ms. Reed stated that persons 21 and over who want to purchase alcohol will be given a hand stamp after their id is checked. The contracted alcohol server is Cocktails, LLC. She added that for River Green events, Arsenal Yards usually has a security officer at the front area and that, if needed, a police detail will be hired. There will also be dedicated Arsenal Yards staff available for the events. 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 acknowledged receipt of a report from the Health Department, noting that a food permit will be required if food service is offered. The Board voted to grant the license, subject to the conditions requested by the Police Department.

2. Mahakali Resource, Inc. Approved 3-0
d/b/a Yogi's General Market
218 Waverley Avenue
3. Vardayini, Inc. Approved 3-0
d/b/a Victoria Spa
603 Mt. Auburn Street

4. Ole Tapas, LLC
d/b/a Ole Canalla
643 – 649 Mount Auburn Street

Approved 3-0

5. 8G Arsenal Yards LLC
d/b/a Taffer's Tavern
541 Arsenal Street

Approved 3-0

6. Comments by Board Clerk and Police Department

There were no comments.

Start: 7:15PM
End: 8:17PM


Donna B. Doucette, Chairman

Present: Donna B. Doucette, Sandra Kasabian-Hoffman, John Labadini

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

Mahakali Resource, Inc.
d/b/a Yogi's General Market
218 Waverley Avenue
Watertown, MA 02472

The Watertown Licensing Board met to consider the application of Mahakali Resource, Inc. d/b/a Yogi's General Market for approval of a change of manager of its premises at 218 Waverley Avenue licensed for wine and malt package store sales

Attorney Ken Leitner appeared in support of the application, together with Amandeep Kaur, the proposed new manager.

Attorney Leitner stated that a transfer of the license had been approved about 11 months ago, and since then Amandeep Kaur, who is also president of the corporation, has become a U.S. citizen and can therefore assume the manager role. The current manager, Colleen Kelly, will remain as an employee.

Sergeant Swift reported that the Police Department had no objection to the proposed change of manager, provided that the conditions stated below were imposed.

After hearing, the Licensing Board voted unanimously to approve Amandeep Kaur as manager, subject to the following conditions:

1. The new manager of record, Amandeep Kaur, and all employees of the licensed establishment shall attend and successfully complete an alcohol awareness training program (e.g., TIPS) immediately upon hire or expiration of certification. Copies of all alcohol awareness training certifications shall be maintained by the licensee and reviewable upon request.
2. All other conditions of the license shall remain in place.

Vardayini, Inc.
d/b/a Victoria Spa
4 Carroll Street
Watertown, MA 02472

The Watertown Licensing Board met to consider the application of Vardayini, Inc. d/b/a Victoria Spa for a transfer to it of the wine and malt package goods store license held by Miten Mart, Inc. d/b/a Victoria Spa for exercise at 603 Mt. Auburn Street.

Attorney John Mooradian appeared in support of the application, together with Surekha Patel, a shareholder of the applicant and the proposed manager.

Attorney Mooradian explained that there will be a pledge of the license to Miten Mart, Inc. Surekha Patel is buying out the other shareholders, and the same business operation will continue. The applicant will give a two-year promissory note to Miten Mart, Inc. for \$85,000, with monthly payments.

Chair Doucette stated that a completed floor plan must be submitted to the Town Clerk's office.

Sgt. Swift reported that the Police Department had no objection to approval of the proposed transfer, provided that the conditions stated below were imposed.

The Health Department reported that a new food permit, with plan review, must be obtained.

After hearing, the Licensing Board voted unanimously to approve the transfer of the license, subject to the following conditions:

1. The description of the licensed premises is as follows: approximately 1,144 square foot retail space, front entrance with rear exit door, restroom and basement storage.
2. The hours of operation shall be 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Monday through Sunday. No sale of alcohol shall be made before 8:00 a.m. daily, nor before 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, pursuant to the Licensing Board's rules and regulations.

3. The area designated for the storage of wine and malt beverages shall be as shown on the submitted plan (sketch plan entitled "Victoria 603 Mount Auburn St. Watertown MA 02472).
4. The owner, manager, and any employees engaged in the sale of alcohol must complete an alcohol awareness training program (e.g., TIPS) immediately upon hire or expiration of certification. A copy of employee certifications shall be maintained by the licensee and available for review upon request.
5. No alcoholic beverages shall be consumed on the premises.

The Licensing Board also voted unanimously to approve a pledge of the license, to Miten Mart, Inc.

Ole Tapas, LLC
d/b/a Ole Canalla
643 – 649 Mount Auburn Street
Watertown, MA 02472

The Watertown Licensing Board met to consider the application of Ole Tapas, LLC d/b/a Ole Canalla for approval of a transfer to it of the All Alcohol Common Victualer License held by J.M.R., Inc. d/b/a Mount Auburn Grill for exercise at 643 – 649 Mount Auburn Street.

Attorney Andrew Upton appeared in support of the application, together with Peter Pyne, the proposed manager.

Attorney Upon stated that Peter Pyne is a chef and part owner; he has worked in restaurants in Spain, Rhode Island and Massachusetts, and is TIPS trained. He is putting his own funds into the venture; Andrey Omeltchenko, a friend and partner, is an investor in the restaurant. The two are purchasing the business, and Mr. Omeltchenko is purchasing the building in which the restaurant will operate and will rent it to the applicant. In response to a question from the Board Attorney Upton stated that the kitchen is in good shape, but there will be some cosmetic improvements to the premises.

Sgt. Swift reported that the Police Department had no objection to approval of the proposed transfer, provided that the conditions stated below were imposed.

The Building Department reported that any proposed work will require a building permit and a certificate of inspection; and the Health Department reported that a new food permit, with plan review, is required.

After hearing, the Licensing Board voted unanimously to approve the transfer of the license, subject to the following conditions:

1. The description of the licensed premises is as follows: 645 Mt. Auburn Street – one floor approximately 3,200 square feet, three rooms, bar, kitchen, basement for storage, four restrooms, two front entrances/exits, one rear exit and seating for 230.
2. The hours of operation shall be 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight on Sunday.
3. Seating shall be 230 persons, as shown on the plan submitted (“Project: Floor Plan Layout, Address: 645 Mount Auburn St Watertown MA 02472” by GJ Design Group. Dated 10/27/2021).
4. The manager, Peter Pyne, and all servers employed by the licensed establishment shall attend and successfully complete an alcohol awareness training program (e.g., TIPS) immediately upon hire or expiration of certification.
5. Copies of all alcohol awareness training certifications shall be maintained by the licensee and reviewable upon request.

The Licensing Board also unanimously voted to grant a common victualer license, in accordance with the conditions for the alcohol license.

8G Arsenal Yards LLC
d/b/a Taffer’s Tavern
11 Hayden Drive
Foxboro, MA 02035

The Watertown Licensing Board met to consider the application of 8G Arsenal Yards LLC d/b/a Taffer’s Tavern for a 6-day Entertainment License (Monday through Saturday) to be exercised at 541 Arsenal Street, and for approval of a change of hours for the All Alcohol Common Victualer License authorized for exercise at 541 Arsenal Street.

Marc Magerman, a manager of the LLC, appeared in support of the application.

Mr. Magerman stated that the applicant would like the option to offer music to its guests, though it does not anticipate that such entertainment will be a major part of the business. With respect to the change in hours, he explained that the request for an ending hour of 1:00 a.m. is intended to correct an inadvertent error in the initial application, even though it is likely that the restaurant will not be open every night until 1:00 a.m.

Sergeant Swift reported that the Police Department had no objection to the grant of the requested entertainment license, provided that the conditions stated below were imposed.

The Health Department reported no objection to the application, and the Building Department reported that the premises are still under construction.

After hearing, the Licensing Board voted unanimously to grant the requested license, for musical entertainment, subject to the following conditions:

1. The hours of exercise will be Monday through Friday, 6:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., and Saturday 12:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.
2. Musicians shall be limited to three, including one singer.
3. Neither the band nor the patrons shall impede access to the entrance or exits of the restaurant.
4. The entertainers shall perform in the area designated on the plan submitted (plan sheet P2, entitled "Live Performance Configuration" prepared for Tafffer's Tavern, by LYF architects, dated 08 April 2022).
5. Music must be kept at a reasonable and unobtrusive level.
6. A full-service menu must be available during hours of entertainment.

The Licensing Board also voted unanimously to approve a change in the hours of operation for the All Alcohol Common Victualer License from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. (midnight) Monday through Sunday to 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Monday through Sunday.