

**Minutes of the February 9, 2023 meeting of the City of Chelsea Licensing Commission.
Location: City Chambers, City Hall. Meeting opened at 6:02 p.m. by Chairperson
Marnie MacAlpine**

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Marnie MacAlpine, Emily Cherniack, Mike McAteer, Alexandria Christmas

ALSO, PRESENT IN COUNCIL CHAMBER ROOM:

Licensing Administrator Naomi Libran, City Solicitor Cheryl Watson Fisher, Police Chief Keith Houghton, Captain David Betz, Officer Nicole McLaughlin, and Councilor Leo Robinson. Commissioner MacAlpine asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the December 8, 2022, Cherniack motioned to adopt, Christmas seconded and vote unanimous.

CLERKS UPDATE:

City Solicitor Fisher stated there is a change of licensing meeting date. Originally, it was scheduled for March 9, 2023 but there were conflicting meetings, and it needed to change to March 16, 2023. City solicitor asked for a motion to approve the new meeting date. MacAlpine motioned to approve, McAteer seconded and vote unanimous.

City Solicitor Fisher spoke about the Special Events and if we should allow special events on Chelsea City Property. Licensing is in process of streamline the application. Some people are having problems getting Bonds, as insurance is extremely expensive. Vendors who would like to serve alcohol outdoors, must go thru ABCC to obtain a license.

Commissioner MacAlpine opened the Public Hearing to consider an Amusement & Entertainment License application for Como En Casa, Inc. d/b/a Como En Casa at 107-109 Shurtleff Street, Chelsea, MA. Present was owner Louisa Bedoya and spoke that she would have a radio for background music. She stated they had just opened this past weekend. MacAlpine opened public speaking portion, no one spoke, and therefore, closed public speaking portion. MacAlpine motion to approved, Christmas seconded and vote unanimous.

Commissioner MacAlpine opened the Public Hearing to consider amending the recreational Marijuana establishment License by adding three new Marijuana licenses. Discussed was the new licenses to see if they will be "First Come, First Serve" basis. Whomever gets their COMPLETED application done first, (should) be granted a license, (every paper is Time and Date stamped" when we receive it, for proof who has all completed paperwork, and by what date. We do however need specific criteria, and a vetting system. In reviewing the census, City of Chelsea may actually qualify for more marijuana license(s), City Solicitor will inquire. These establishments have generated ¼ of a Million dollars as of now. City of Chelsea gets 3% of all gross sales. MacAlpine opened the public speaking portion, no one spoke, and therefore, closed public speaking portion. Chief Betz stated that they had no issues with the current establishments, with either parking or any other regulation ordinances. In fact the establishments have been assisting police with disposing of "bad" marijuana. They also are providing employment to Chelsea residents, in all positions.

City Solicitor, Cheryl Watson Fisher, expressed the interest in issuing licenses for entertainment/food for the Marijuana stores. Looking ahead, should be consumption on premises licensing, will be the next phase of this endeavor. MacAlpine would like to hear from the public regarding the issuance of additional marijuana licenses.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:36 PM
NEXT MEETING: MARCH 16, 2023

Approved: March 16, 2023





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