MINUTES
CITY OF ST. CHARLES, IL
SPECIAL LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2015

1. Opening of Meeting

The meeting was convened by Liquor Commissioner Rogina at 4:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Liquor Commissioner Rogina, Robert Gehm, Ald. Payleitner, Ald. Lewis, and Chuck Amenta

Absent:

Others Present: Police Chief Keegan, Atty. John McGuirk, Mark Koenen, Tina Nilles

3. Recommendation to approve a proposal of an application for a Class B Liquor License for Northwoods Pub and Grill, d/b/a The Evergreen Pub and Grill, to be located at 1400 W Main Street, St. Charles.

Chief Keegan: The applicants are here tonight from Northwoods Pub and Grill located at 1400 W Main Street, Mr. Tom Trier and Mr. Brian Serland. This is the old Ray's Evergreen Tavern and the applicants are asking for a class B license (restaurant). They have an extensive food menu and their site plan is also attached in the packet. This team has had 35 years of restaurant/ tavern experience. They have three other establishments and this will be their fourth; one is located in Gilberts, IL and two in Chicago. We looked at the site plan and conducted a background locally and also with the State Liquor Control Commission and found nothing of a derogatory nature that would preclude the applicants or the site from issuance of the liquor license.

Brian Serland, 1610 W Illinois Street, St. Charles: My family came here to St. Charles in 2002 and since then Julie, one of our managing partners, has lived here for 18 years – so we're definitely local people. We have extensive food background and that's what we're pushing. It's based on a Midwestern "supper club" type menu; so we'll have a lot of local fare and push on the Friday Fish Fry which people don't seem to experience as much anymore. People are now experiencing more hybrid food options or fusion type options, and we want to take it back to the basics, such as, steaks, chops, higher end dishes, and sandwiches all at a reasonable prices.

Mr. Gehm: It's great to see someone going back into that location. It's kind of prominent on the west side of town and I'm a huge fan of fish-fry so am anxious to try it out.

Ald. Payleitner: I wasn't able to find your other businesses on the website.

Brian: There are all under different names and corporations.

Ald. Payleitner: I recognize you coming to us before with regards to video gaming, is that your long term plan for this establishment?

Brian: We would like to partake in video gaming but that wasn't on our radar when we were looking for a place in St. Charles. It's really most about the food for us.

Ald. Payleitner: If in moving forward that gets on your radar, you'll have to put that in as part of your business plan and your license is attached to your business plan.

Ald. Lewis: It looks like your business will be a great place but at this point in time I won't be able to support it because of the video gaming issue and being tied to a liquor license. Right now we have close to 70 liquor licenses and I want to see how that all plays out, if we're going to limit licenses. Nothing against your business, it's just kind of where St. Charles is right now and until I see where that goes, it's hard for me to grant you a liquor license.

Mr. Amenta: No questions from me, everything looks okay.

Chrmn. Rogina: I'm happy to see this establishment going into Ray's Evergreen, which has been long standing in our city, and I wish you well. The process is you will go forward tonight to committee and next week to City Council for final approval.

Motion by Mr. Gehm, second by Mr. Amenta to recommend approval of this proposal of an application for a Class B Liquor License for Northwoods Pub and Grill, d/b/a The Evergreen Pub and Grill, to be located at 1400 W Main Street, St. Charles.

Roll Call: Ayes: Gehm, Payleitner, Amenta; Nays: Lewis. **Motion carried.**

4. Other Business

5. Public Comments

6. Executive Session (5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(4)).

7. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Ald. Payleitner, second by Mr. Gehm at 4:44p.m.

Voice Vote: Ayes: Unanimous; Nays: none. **Motion carried.**