

Item 25-0295: Approve Loading Zone request from Trout Museum of Art

Item 25-0258: Class "B" Beer and "Class B" Liquor License Change of Agent for Tandem Wine and Beer LLC d/b/a Tandem Wine and Beer, New Agent, Karter Thompson, located at 101 W. Edison Ave Ste 100

Item 25-0328: Request to approve the Dorn Annexation consisting of approximately 95.949 acres located at 4700 North Richmond Street, currently in the Town of Grand Chute

Common Council

Wed, Apr 16, 2025 7:00PM

Mayor Jake Woodford 14:32

Also, we have no items referred back to committee, so we'll get going with the order of the day—the items that were request for separate votes. We'll take these up in committee order. So first will be 25-0295 from municipal services committee, and this is to approve a loading zone request from the Trout Museum of Art. We have a motion and a second to approve. We'll open the floor for discussion. All right, and Alder Fenton.

Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 15:10

Thank you, Your Honor. I separated this out, not necessarily because I wanted to have a long discussion on it, but just because I wanted to thank a lot of people who I think were really—were involved in coming to a really, I think, a good solution here. There were some concerns from businesses and their customers about the availability of parking. And first, I want to thank Alder Meltzer for coming up with the proposal to do a six-month trial, as we do on a lot of traffic signal changes, etc. And special kudos to Department of Public Works, particularly Traffic Engineer Lom, for monitoring the parking situation and being able to come to present us with very concrete data showing that, you know, there were almost—there was always a parking place within a block. So, I think moving forward, this is just an example of how government ought to work with our community and our constituents. Thank you.

Mayor Jake Woodford 16:19

Alder Croatt.

Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 16:21

I'm sorry. Didn't mean to be in.

Mayor Jake Woodford 16:24

You sure? No, I'm [sorry, Jack]. All right. Any other discussion? We have a motion and a second to approve. Please cast your votes. All right, that motion passes 14 zero, and Alder Schultz we'll note your abstention.

Mayor Jake Woodford 16:51

All right. Moving on to the item from safety and licensing committee. This is item 25-0258, class B beer and Class B liquor license, change of agent for Tandem Wine and Beer. Alder Fenton.

Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 17:06

Can you just note the recommendation that came through from committee on that one for—especially for our newer colleagues?

Mayor Jake Woodford 17:13

Yes, so Alder Fenton is pointing out that on the legislative history—and you'll see that under the item on your agenda. We post a legislative history; that's all the action that was taken on this item. So, the item was first held in March, then came up before the committee again in April, early April, the ninth. There was a recommendation to approve the change, and that failed four - oh, and so it came out of committee with a recommendation for denial. So, what that means now is, let's say this item wasn't separated out. It just sat in the consent agenda. It wasn't separated. When the balance of the agenda is approved by the council, this item would be approved, and what would be approved is the denial coming out of committee. Okay?

Mayor Jake Woodford 18:07

So, what we what we have now is the items being brought back up before the council for a separate vote, and you'll all discuss, but right now, the motion that has been made and seconded is to approve the denial coming out of committee. Okay? So that's, that's what we're going to take up now, and Alder Croatt is going to get us started with discussion. Thank you, Alder Fenton for pointing that out.

Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 18:31

Yes, thank you, Alder Fenton, for pointing that out. I'll get this started and hopefully make it a little bit easier for everyone. So, first of all—and Mayor, you might want to explain this a little bit—but I'd like to request notwithstanding vote.

Mayor Jake Woodford 18:45

Right.

Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 18:45

So, to make an aye vote approve and a nay vote deny.

Mayor Jake Woodford 18:49

Great. So, yes, a vote not withstanding. Sometimes it gets confusing when we're talking about an item coming with a recommendation for denial. So, Alder Croatt is requesting a notwithstanding vote. Now what that means is that we forget about the language of the recommendation coming out of committee, not forgetting about the work that was done at committee, but forget about the language, and we're going to make it really simple, which is when discussion is done and we take a vote on this item, an aye vote will approve the change request, a nay vote would deny the change request. Okay? And we'll—I'll remind you of that when we get to voting. So, so don't worry, because we're throwing a lot at you right now. But don't worry, but Alder Croatt, go ahead and continue with discussion.

Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 19:35

Thank you. And I think this is a good opportunity for some to learn part of the process, right? So, what you'll see in your packet is basically two applications, the original and then there's an amended application. So, what the committee took up last week was the original application, and the reason why it came out as a denial is because there was some issues identified with the application. Uh, one issue was—for me—was the in box six, the reason for appointing a successor agent was quite vague. And then the bottom part, which is part D and E, it was—the person that was requesting the transfer was also the person basically transferring.

Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 20:24

So, since we took action at the committee, there has been an amended application, and that is what we are actually considering (correct me, if I'm wrong, Attorney Behrens) is the amended application that what—that

has some corrections on it, including the current agents name and, I think, signature at the bottom part, and then a little bit more clarity as to the reasoning for the transfer.

Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 20:51

I would also add that there has been input from the community on this item. I think we've all probably received some emails. I've received some calls related to the current agent. It's my understanding that the concerns that were brought forward are more applicable to a license renewal, so not—and I guess I would say, not really applicable to a transfer, but more applicable to a renewal. So, with that said, I'm going to vote for the transfer of agent for this establishment based on the fact that the application issues have been addressed, and there was better definition as to the why, and the bottom part, most importantly, was the current agent transferring to the new agent. Hopefully that helps.

Mayor Jake Woodford 21:39

Yeah, thank you. All right, we'll continue on with discussion. Alder Wolff.

Mayor Jake Woodford 21:51

Oh, it was on.

Aldersperson Nate Wolff (District 12) 21:52

Yeah, I saw it go green in there, on red, I don't know. Thank you. So, I am in agreeance with Chris Croatt. I am also going to vote the same way. I will ask Chris to perhaps explain some of the emails for the people who haven't gotten them, especially because we have three people who haven't gotten any emails, especially on this topic. And I did, also, did not get any emails on it, but I would like more context to this situation if I can get maybe staff to fill me in.

Mayor Jake Woodford 22:36

Okay. What—what I'll say is you've stated, you stated a question. We'll will treat your question as rhetorical at this time, and if any, if anybody would like to speak on your questions in the course of debate, they're welcome to do so. Alder Croatt.

Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14) 22:54

Yeah, thank you. And I can address that, and I'll do it in a bit of a general term, without getting into the detail of what was brought to my attention and to others' attention. It has to do with the current agents record, including some violations and some more serious penalties that were incurred due to those violations. So that's why I say it's more—I feel it's more applicable to a renewal situation than it is a transfer situation. So, hope that helps a little bit, Alder Wolff.

Mayor Jake Woodford 23:26

All right, further discussion. Alder Heffernan.

Aldersperson Patti Heffernan (District 8) 23:33

Yeah, I just want to make sure that I am understanding, because we went back and forth on the approval or disapproval—or approving the disapproval. So, as I'm understanding it is that there were application issues, and those have been addressed, and now an aye vote would approve it, and Alder Croatt is recommending that we approve it because the application has been addressed.

Mayor Jake Woodford 24:04

You got it.

Aldersperson Patti Heffernan (District 8) 24:05

Okay.

Mayor Jake Woodford 24:05

Yeah.

Aldersperson Patti Heffernan (District 8) 24:06

Got it. Okay. Thank you.

Mayor Jake Woodford 24:08

Yeah. Alder van Zeeland.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 24:11

Thank you, Chair. Would the City Attorney be able to provide us with any information as far as the guidelines for approving a transfer?

Mayor Jake Woodford 24:22

Attorney Behrens.

Attorney Christopher Behrens 24:23

I think the question might be based more on some of the things you have to consider when it comes to licensing and renewal. And that's not what we're talking about tonight. This is simply an application to change agents. There were issues with the application that were brought up at committee by staff, discussed by committee. Those were corrected since committee. Talking with the city clerk, talking with my staff, staff is comfortable with the changes that were made. So essentially the application that you now have before you, that you're voting on is in order to change that agent. There will be another day for discussion regarding license renewals, but that's not tonight.

Mayor Jake Woodford 25:12

Okay. Further discussion. Okay. So, one more time, we had a motion a second to get this on the table. Alder Croatt requested a vote notwithstanding. So, an aye vote would approve the transfer of the license. A nay vote would deny the transfer of a license. Everybody clear on what you're voting on and options? Okay. So please cast your votes. Excuse me, change of agent. All right, that motion passes 13 to zero with Alder Smith and Schultz abstaining.

Mayor Jake Woodford 26:15

All right, moving on to the item from plan commission. All right, this is item 25-0328 request to approve the Dorn annexation, consisting of approximately 95.9 acres located at 4700 North Richmond Street, currently in the town of Grand Chute. We have a motion and a second to approve and discussion. Alder Hayden.

Aldersperson Patrick Hayden (District 7) 26:47

Thank you, Chair. I don't have any objections to this. I just wanted to convey some concerns from constituents about the speeding that already happens on Apple Creek Road. There are additional concerns that I've heard of when this hooks up to 47. I know it's a state highway, and there's a lot of additional hoops for us to jump through, as we've kind of seen as we've discussed other hookups on that road, but if the Police Department could keep an eye on that, it would be greatly appreciated.

Mayor Jake Woodford 27:19

Duly noted. Further discussion on the annexation. All right, we have a motion and a second to approve. Please cast your votes. Motion passes 15 to zero. That item has been approved.