

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Date and Time: Monday, September 21, 2020, at 5:15 pm, (Council Chambers)

Members Present: Rasmussen, Herbst, Peckham, Wadinski, McElhaney

Others Present: Alfonso, Bliven, Kremer, Kujawa, Rosenberg, Frances Howe

Minutes of previous meetings. (8/17/20)

Motion by Peckham, second by Herbst to amend and approve the minutes of the previous meeting on 8/17/20, to change the word “comfortable” to “uncomfortable” in a comment by McElhaney on page 2. Motion carried 5-0.

Consider approval or denial of various license applications.

Rasmussen stated there was one Operator’s License application recommended for denial for Justin Zastrow. It was noted Mr. Zastrow was not present to appeal.

Motion by Wadinski, second by Herbst to approve or deny licenses as recommended by staff. Motion carried 5-0.

Consider request for waiver of 3.06.010 Payment of taxes, claims, forfeitures, judgments prior to issuance of license or permit. (Frances Howe)

Rasmussen noted this request was carried over from the last meeting to give Ms. Howe the opportunity to be present to answer questions. The delinquent bill is \$1,330.52.

Frances Howe, 231 N 9th Ave, stated she needs her Public Transport Driver License to work so she can make payments on her water bill. Rasmussen questioned how long the water bill has been accumulating. Howe indicated since the previous year when she was in an accident. Committee discussion was for Ms. Howe pay off the water bill prior to renewal of the license for next year. (*Note: The Public Transport license year runs July 1st – June 30th*)

Motion by Peckham, second by McElhaney to approve the waiver for Frances Howe to obtain her Public Transport Driver license and that the license not be renewed if the balance is not paid in full. Motion carried 5-0.

(*Note: Delinquent water bills are transferred to the owner’s property taxes on November 15th of each year. Frances Howe is a tenant and is not the owner of the property.*)

Discussion and possible action on Ordinance amending Section 8.08.170 Licenses

Rasmussen stated these are housekeeping cleanup revisions to the animal ordinance in reference to pet licensing.

Motion by Wadinski, second by McElhaney to approve the ordinance. Motion carried 5-0.

Operations Report from Fire Department for August 2020

Wadinski stated the media reported there was a second response from outlying communities to the Linetec factory fire last week. He questioned what that entails and whether the city would ever have to respond to those communities.

Chief Kujawa explained the fire was a significant event and this was a Mutual Aid Box Alarm System, which was put in effect four or five years ago. It has five different alarms and gives you access to different resources, whether it’s fire trucks, ladder trucks, engines, ambulances, rescue squads, or other command staff. In this particular case our Incident Commander called for a second box alarm to get engines, ladders, ambulances, and incident commands from area departments. She indicated he also called a second box alarm which took us to Merrill and Stevens Point and Marshfield to get additional resources. It was that big that additional resources were needed to rotate inside the building and for rehabilitation. She noted there were at least 10 or 12 departments present. She stated we normally only request one resource from each department, so as not to diminish their ability to respond. The Wausau Fire Department is on the box alarms of many fire services in Marathon County and outside of it.

Tavern Activities / Compliance Checks / Law Enforcement Activities

Chief Bliven presented the Tavern Report from August 1, 2020 through August 31, 2020. (*See attached*)
Report placed on file.

Communications

None

Adjourn

Motion by Wadinski, second by Peckham to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.



Wausau Police Department

515 Grand Ave

Wausau, WI 54403

Ph. 715-261-

Date 09/08/2020

To Chief Bliven

From Lt. Mike Felder

Subject TAVERN REPORT August 1, 2020 through August 31, 2020

ROUTINE TAVERN INSPECTIONS (No violations unless noted)

None have been conducted up to this point as openings have been inconsistent and COVID-19 concerns.

CONVENIENCE/GROCERY STORE INSPECTIONS (No violations unless noted)

None.

RESTAURANT INSPECTIONS (No violations unless noted)

None.

ALCOHOL COMPLIANCE CHECKS

None.

NOTABLE INCIDENTS AT TAVERNS TO WHICH POLICE WERE DISPATCHED.

Cop Shoppe Pub, 701 Washington Street

- (1) Case #20005852, 08/07/2020 at 1:55 PM: Officers responded to the business for a commercial burglar alarm. The alarm was caused by an employee error. A false alarm sheet was completed.
- (2) Case #20005997, 08/12/2020 at 1:29 PM: The **manager** reported an incident that had occurred the day before. A patron pushed a bartender down onto the ground, and threw a bottle of beer that broke another bottle of vodka. Police were not called at the time of the incident. The bartender that was pushed declined to pursue charges. Bar management was inclined to pursue charges of criminal damage to property against the patron for breaking the bottle of vodka. The investigation continues.

Domino Bar, 740 Washington Street

- (1) Case #20006358, 08/20/2020 at 11:33 PM: A **bartender** called to report a patron through a glass and spat at the bartender. The bartender did not know who the patron was, and reported that the patron was leaving while he was calling. Officers located the suspect outside the bar, at which point he became uncooperative and even threatening. The male was taken into custody under threat of being tased, and was eventually charged with battery, disorderly conduct, and threats to law enforcement (the male threatened to beat the arresting officer).
- (2) Event #20109137, 08/30/2020 at 6:43 PM: Law enforcement from another jurisdiction requested mutual aid to check the bar for a person wanted for theft. Officers responded and did not locate the vehicle involved or anyone matching the description of the suspects.

El Jalapeno's Restaurant and Bar, 300 N. 3rd Street

- (1) *Event #200094970, 08/02/2020 at 12:40 AM:* An officer was driving by when she observed a male being disruptive with one of the bouncers. The male believed his "wife" was still in the bar, however when the officer checked in the bar for the woman it was not who the male thought she was. The male was asked to move on, and the bouncer declined to pursue any charges.
- (2) *Event #20105401, 08/23/2020 at 1:40 AM:* An officer was flagged down by a male outside of the bar who expressed concern about an intoxicated female who've may have been getting into a car to drive away. Officers located the female crouching between two vehicles searching through her purse. The officers attempted a conversation with the female in an attempt to find her a safe way to get home. During the interaction, another woman interjected herself into the contact, with the expressed purpose of "making sure the officers that were towering over the woman were not accosting her." In the second woman's concern for the first woman, she advised the first one that she did not need to provide identification, which the officers had asked for in order to determine where the woman could go, as she was too intoxicated or emotionally upset to express to the officers. In the end, the first woman left with the second woman, who promised to find her a cab or other safe ride home. The second woman, who at one point identified herself as a trauma ICU nurse, seemed to have a misconstrued idea that the first woman was in danger from the officers and felt the need to observe the incident as a witness in the event that the officers overstepped their boundaries.
- (3) *Event # 20108851, 08/30/2020 at 1:35 AM:* Officers were dispatched to the bar in reference to three men fighting. Officers responded and located two men outside the bar, and a third male who took off running. The third male was stopped two blocks away. All three admitted to being friends, and having a heated verbal argument. Nobody wished to pursue charges, and bar management had no problems to report. The one male ran from the scene because he was on probation and shouldn't have been drinking. He was ordered to report to his probation agent as soon as possible. All of the people involved were released at the scene.

Intermission Bar, 325 N 4th Street

- (1) *Case # 20006617, 08/29/2020 at 8:45 AM:* An officer was dispatched to make contact with a person that was bitten by a dog in the bar. A male reported that he had been bitten by a dog that was brought into the bar by another patron, who claimed the dog was a service dog. There has been history of this same male bringing his dog into other taverns while making a similar claim, however the dog is not a service dog as defined by the American with Disabilities Act. They report was completed by the officer and forwarded to the Animal Control Officer.
- (2) *Event #20108766, 08/29/2020 at 9:43 PM:* An officer was flagged down by a citizen who had witnessed a moped crash at the intersection of N 4th St at Jefferson St. The citizen described the operator as having been on the ground for short period of time. The time the officer arrived the operator and moped were gone. The officer checked with the bartender who claimed they did not know who the male was. I reviewed camera footage from the 400 block, which showed the operator had left Intermission bar, and gotten on his moped which was parked against a light pole in front of the bar. The operator crashed his moped as he was coming to a stop for the stop sign. From what I could tell, based on how long the moped had been parked there, the operator had been in the bar for approximately eight hours. The operator was never identified.

Loppnow's Bar, 412 N. 3rd Street

- (1) *Case #20005824, 08/06/2020 at 11:45 PM:* A patron called to report that his truck was stolen while he was inside the bar. A few hours later OnStar called to report that the vehicle was located on GPS heading into Minnesota. Law enforcement Minnesota was contacted and the vehicle was stopped. Male was arrested for operating the vehicle without owner's consent, and a gun was also located in the car. The owner of the truck and arrangements to retrieve it from Minnesota.

Wausau on the Water, 1300 N River Drive

- (1) *Event #20098561, 08/09/2020 at 2:17 PM:* An **employee** called to report that there was a male who had been asked multiple times to leave the premises because he was not wearing a mask. On arrival, officers located a male outside. The male admitted he had not been wearing his mask because it makes him claustrophobic and it is hard to breathe. The officer made contact with an employee who wanted nothing further done as long as the male was outside.

Denmar Bar, 601 W. Thomas Street

- (1) *Event #20097734, 08/07/2020 at 5:45 PM:* An **employee** called to report a physical fight had taken

place. Officers responded and made contact with those involved in the fight. Two males had fought over words exchanged at the bar. One male struck the other male first, apparently over a comment about the first male's wife. Officers checked with bar employees, who only wanted the instigating male removed, along with his wife. They do not wish to pursue any charges of disorderly conduct against anyone involved. The male and his wife left without issue.

Roc's Place Bar, 810 S. 3rd Avenue

- (1) *Event #20094956, 08/02/2020 at 12:04 AM:* An anonymous caller reported that there were underage girls in the bar. An officer responded and checked inside the bar. They did not observe anybody that appeared underage, and the bar claimed they were checking IDs at the door.

M & R Station, 818 S. 3rd Avenue

- (1) *Case #20005602, 08/01/2020 at 3:14 AM:* An **employee** called to report criminal damage to property. After closing, a customer that had been in the bar earlier returned because he had left his phone inside the bar. The male ended up breaking the door open to come in and get his phone. The suspect left prior to the officers' arrival. The suspect was known to the employee, and was referred to the District Attorney's Office for the damage. The officer later contacted the owner, who indicated he wished to drop the case and declined to press charges.
- (2) *Event #20105285, 08/22/2020 at 8:47 PM:* An **employee** called because they had a male that had been asked to leave and was now returning to the bar. Officers responded, however the male had left the bar again and was unable to be located. Contact was made with the employee who agreed to call again if the male returned.

Hutch's Bar, 4411 Stewart Avenue

- (1) *Event #20109213, 08/30/2020 at 9:52 PM:* A **bartender** called to report two males were denied entry into the bar because they did not have identification. She further reported that they were acting strange in the bar and now had been in the parking lot for approximately an hour. The employee wished to have the males removed from the property. Officers made contact with the males in the parking lot, who advised they were watching videos on their phones since they could not get into the bar. They agreed to leave the property.

Whiskey River Bar & Grill, 5512 Stewart Avenue

- (1) *Case #20006097, 08/15/2020 at 2:35 AM:* Officers responded to several calls, including from an **employee**, regarding a fight involving up to four people. In the end, the fight was between two males, one of whom believe the other had been hitting on his fiancée. The suspect had left the bar prior to officers' arrival. While officers were still on scene investigating, the suspect returned. He admitted to full involvement, including driving from the scene of the bar. He was arrested for domestic battery, for pushing his fiancée, battery for punching the other male, and OWI first offense. The male was taken to jail.
- (2) *Case #20006223, 08/17/2020 11:05 AM:* A citizen called to report his vehicle keys had been stolen from the bar during the previously reported fight incident. Employees check the bar and video surveillance and were not able to determine where the keys are gone report was filed for theft in the victim made arrangements with a locksmith to obtain a new key.

Aftershock Bar and Grill, 1418 Lenard Street

- (1) *Event #20102862, 08/17/2020 at 11:14 PM:* A refused complainant called to report observing a male urinating outside of the bar. Officers arrived and identified a possible suspect. The male admitted to being the one that had been urinating outside, as he had been smoking he could no longer "hold it" and had to go. The male was issued a verbal warning.

Campus Pub, 1110 W. Campus Drive

- (1) *Event #20105386, 08/23/2020 at 1:01 AM:* A refused complainant called to report a fight that was occurring at the bar. On officers' arrival, the fight had been concluded and the male suspect was seated on the ground. It was determined that the male suspect, who was relatively intoxicated, had noticed that his ex-girlfriend was at the bar with a new friend. The suspect took issue with the ex-girlfriend regarding the race of the new friend, and had made several offensive comments. Eventually the bartender escorted the male outside, where he continued to be belligerent. The suspect's father had arrived at the same time as officers, and the suspect begrudgingly left with his father.

Cruise Inn 1724, 1724 Merrill Avenue

- (1) *Event #20095622, 08/03/2020 at 2:57 PM:* A patron called to report that he had been getting threatened on Facebook, after having a verbal confrontation with two “bikers” in the bar. The patron didn’t want to pursue any charges, however wanted it reported in the event that anything further happened.

ALCOHOL BEVERAGE DEMERIT POINTS ASSESSED

- **Labor Temple** and **Malarkey’s** had their Demerit Points fall to zero, due to time. They are at zero (0) Demerit Points. **Jalapeno’s** had their Demerit Points fall 25 Points, due to time. They are at 25 remaining Points.

Respectfully submitted,
Lt. Michael Felder