



Mayor & Council Work Session

January 27, 2022 at 4:00 P.M.



City Council Work Session

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1. Purpose of Today's Meeting
 - a. Discuss the Ordinance for Package Sale
 - b. Administrative Process to Issue the First Group of Package Sale Licenses



First Applications will be received 30 days after Statesboro City Council approves the local ordinance

- March 15, 2022



1. Will the City Council limit the number of licenses issued for Package Sales?
 - Based on population?
 - Based on feel of Council?
 - Recommend setting a limit to 5 or 6 licenses to begin.
 - If demand is strong City Council can issue additional licenses later.
2. Process for first group of licenses.



In determining whether any alcoholic beverage license applied for shall be granted, the Mayor and City Council shall, in the interest of public safety and welfare, consider the following:



(1)**Reputation.** The reputation, character, trade and business associations, and past business ventures of the applicant, owner, designated manager or any other person associated with the business.



(2) Previous violations of alcoholic beverage laws. If the applicant, owner, designated manager and any other person associated with the business is a previous holder of a license to sell alcoholic beverages, whether the applicant, owner, designated manager or any other person associated with the business has violated any law, regulation, or ordinance relating to such business.



(3) Manner of conducting prior alcoholic beverage business. If the applicant, owner, designated manager or any other person associated with the business is a current or previous holder of a license to dispense alcoholic beverages, the manner in which the applicant, owner, designated manager and any other person associated with the business conducted the prior business, especially as to the necessity of unusual police observation and inspection in order to prevent the violation of any law, regulation, or ordinance relating to such business.



(4)**Location.** The location for which the license is sought, as to traffic congestion, general character of the neighborhood, and the effect such an establishment would have on the adjacent and surrounding property values.



(5)Number of licenses in trading area. The number of licenses already granted for similar businesses in the trading area of the place for which the license is sought.**(6)Previous revocation of license.** If the applicant, owner, designated manager or any other person associated with the business is a current or previous holder of a license to dispense alcoholic beverages license issued under the police powers of any governing authority, and has had corrective action taken against said license including, but not limited to, suspension or revocation



(7) Previous denial or revocation for location. The denial of an application or the revocation of a license which was based on the qualifications of the proposed location.



(8)**Prior incidents at location.** Evidence that a substantial number of incidents requiring police intervention have occurred within a square city block of the proposed location during any 12-month period in which the location was licensed to sell alcohol.



(9) Compliance with all matters bearing upon the conduct of any business venture within the city, including but not limited to zoning, permitting, taxes, code compliance, licensing and fees;



(10) **The type and number of schools, colleges, religious institutions, libraries, public recreation areas or other circumstances in the vicinity of the premises** cause minors or those under 21 years of age to frequent the immediate area even though in compliance with the minimum proximity requirements provided in this chapter and in state law.



Mayoral ad hoc committee met on December 14, 2021 with the following discussion points. Directives made by Mayor and Council at December 21, 2021 meeting are in bold print



1. Number of licenses allowed. Suggestions included the following:

a. could limit one per district

b. could increase proximity requirements between stores to indirectly limit number of outlets

c. could base on population with example given to start with 6 licenses, allow additional license at each 5,000 person threshold beginning with seventh issued when CRC or Census numbers reach 35,000

NO DIRECTIVE TO LIMIT NUMBER OF LICENSES



2. Square footage/ inventory

No recommendation on minimum square footage

Recommendation to require \$200,000 in distilled spirits inventory was discussed, with no final number set

NO DIRECTIVE TO MANDATE SQUARE FOOTAGE OR INVENTORY MINIMUMS



3. Recommendation to follow state proximity law. Recommendation made to mandate 100 yard distance from Housing Authority properties. This mandate is already included in OCGA 3-3-21 (e)(2) and will be added to submitted proximity requirements prior to directed first reading presentation at 12/21 work session.

DIRECTIVE TO FOLLOW STATE REGULATIONS WITHOUT LOCAL ENHANCEMENT



4. Proximity between licensed establishments.
Option of increasing distance between stores to indirectly limit the number of licenses was discussed.

NO DIRECTIVE TO INCREASE BEYOND 500 YARD STATE REGULATION



5. Recommendation to allow in zoning districts already set out in Chapter 6 (HOC, LI, CR, and CBD)

DIRECTIVE TO LIMIT TO HOC, CR, AND CBD ZONING DISTRICTS



6. No discussion of products available for sale in liquor stores

**DIRECTIVE TO FOLLOW STATE REGULATION WITHOUT LOCAL
ENHANCEMENT**



7. Hours of operation recommended to track state law

DIRECTIVE TO LIMIT FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 10:00 P.M. MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY



8. No restriction to limit to freestanding was recommended

NO DIRECTIVE TO LIMIT TO FREESTANDING



9. No final recommendation made as to lottery or application process. Should number of licences be limited there will be a need for process such as Newnan's model of application window and lottery.

LOTTERY ISSUE IS RENDERED MOOT IN ABSENCE OF LICENSE LIMITATION



Alcohol License Process: (Reservations) for first group of licenses.

- Complete application, turning in all required attachments on the checklist provided. Required submissions include copy of lease or proof of ownership, floor plan, proximity map by registered surveyor, alcohol liability insurance policy declaration.

Pay the \$200 application fee once application is turned in to the tax department.

- Upon submission of completed application, all people who need to be fingerprinted will be registered and given instructions on how to proceed with this requirement.
- Once fingerprinting results are available, entire application and results are sent over to the Police Department for review.
- Once Fire, Police, and Zoning have evaluated application and submitted comments, City Attorney will review and submit his comments.
- Sign giving public notice of place and time for meeting of Mayor and Council consideration of application is posted in front of the establishment for 7 calendar days prior to that meeting.
- Application has 180 days after approval to be substantially under construction or license reservation will be forfeited. Building or renovations should be completed within 12 months.



- Notes: Occupational tax certificate must be obtained in addition to alcohol license. Failure to open within 45 days of license issuance results in forfeiture and cancellation of license. Licenses are completely non-transferrable (even change in name of corporate entity triggers need for new application). All licensure must be approved by Mayor and Council at open meeting of body.



Questions?