

**FREEPORT LIQUOR COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2017**

With a quorum being present, the regular meeting of the Freeport Liquor Commission was called to order by Mayor and Liquor Commissioner Jodi Miller at 4:00 p.m. on September 14, 2017, in Conference Room 1-B at City Hall, 314 West Stephenson Street, Freeport, Illinois.

Present upon roll call were Commissioners: Mayor and Liquor Commissioner Jodi Miller, Commissioners Jeff Davis, Tim Mahoney, and Don Parker. Commissioner Stacy Fernstaedt was absent.

Also present for the City of Freeport: City Clerk Dovie Anderson and City Legal Counsel Steve Cox, Esq.

Others Present: Brian Borger, Small Business Collaborative, and Mike Marten, Mort's

**Minutes**

Commissioner Mahoney moved and Commissioner Davis seconded to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2017, Liquor Commission meeting. Motion prevailed unanimously by a voice vote.

**Public Comments**

Mike Marten thanked Clerk Anderson and everyone at the City for the last two weeks in getting the parklet installed. He is receiving a lot of positive comments.

**Old/Pending Business**

Clerk Anderson gave a status update report. Danaro Thomas with Signature Lounge reported that indoor painting is nearly done and outdoor painting will start soon. His attorney advised that he finish remodeling prior to obtaining State Liquor License. Troy Barr with 219 Ventures reported that new equipment has been installed. Flooring is nearly complete and then they will contact the Building Inspector. A Certificate of Occupancy is the only outstanding document. Anticipated opening date is September 25, 2017, no later than October 2, 2017. This Is It Eatery has all required documentation on file.

Danielle Rogers with Freeport Downtown Development Foundation (FDDF) entered at 4:05 p.m.

**New Business**

**Consideration of T-2 Temporary Liquor License Request from Mort's for Outdoor Food and Alcohol Sales on Parklet/Sidewalk Café**

Attorney Cox stated that Mort's has already obtained a Parklet Permit and a Sidewalk Café Permit and are holders of a Classification A Liquor License, which allows alcoholic liquor sales indoors. Liquor Code 806.17 states that liquor sales may be permitted outdoors to Classification A-R license holders and requires an ornamental fence five feet in height. Section 806.17(c) gives relief in allowing outdoor liquor sales at Outdoor Cafes which do not require fencing. Zoning Ordinances still need to be complied with. Problem is that Section 1252.01(b)(10) requires a Special Use Permit for outdoor liquor sales, which process will take too long to be valid by the upcoming destination weekend or even the end of the parklet season on November 1, 2017. As a solution, Mort's is applying for all five T-2 Temporary Liquor Licenses for the next five consecutive weekends. In the upcoming redraft of the Liquor Ordinances, we need to include provisions that the Parklet and Sidewalk Café Permits override zoning to resolve this issue. As a temporary solution, the Liquor Commission could recommend to Council to increase the number of Temporary Liquor Licenses (both T-1 and T-2) from five to ten. This would help extend the service of alcohol at Mort's parklet through the end of the season as well as provide FDDF with a few more events as they have already used

FREEPORT LIQUOR COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

their five. This would become a temporary solution as redrafting the Liquor Codes is forthcoming soon. There was general consensus and Mayor Miller concurred with this temporary solution of increasing the Temporary Liquor Licenses to ten.

Commissioner Mahoney moved and Commissioner Parker seconded that five Temporary Liquor Licenses be granted for Mort's parklet for the next five consecutive weekends. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**Consideration of Application from Mort's to Convert Classification A Liquor License to Classification A-R**

Commissioner Parker moved and Commissioner Davis seconded that Mort's application to convert from Classification A to A-R be approved. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**Other Business**

Mayor Miller gave a reminder of the Public Meetings on September 20, 2017; October 3, 2017; and October 19, 2017, to discuss rewriting the Liquor Codes.

**Public Comments**

There were none.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dovie L. Anderson  
City Clerk