



# City of Racine

City Hall  
730 Washington Ave.  
Racine, WI 53403  
www.cityofracine.org

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Public Safety and Licensing Committee

*Chairman Jeff Coe*  
*Vice Chair Raymond DeHahn*  
*Tracey Larrin*  
*Steve Smetana*  
*Melissa Lemke*

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Tuesday, August 22, 2017

5:30 PM

City Hall, Room 307

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#### Call To Order

**PRESENT:** 5 - Jeff Coe, Raymond DeHahn, Tracey Larrin, Steve Smetana and Melissa Lemke

#### Approval of Minutes for the August 8, 2017 Meeting.

*Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed on a motion of Alderman Smetana, seconded by Alderman DeHahn.*

**to Approve the Minutes**

[725-17](#)

**Subject: (New)** Application for a "Class B" Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License for Plush Sports Bar and Lounge, located at 509 Sixth Street, Tamara Young, Agent. (1st District)

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee on 08-08-17:** That the application for a "Class B" Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License for Plush Sports Bar and Lounge, located at 509 Sixth Street, Tamara Young, Agent be deferred for two weeks in order for Ms. Young to provide more detail regarding her plans for the establishment.

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee on 08-22-17:** That the application for a "Class B" Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License for Plush Sports Bar and Lounge, located at 509 Sixth Street, Tamara Young, Agent be denied.

Fiscal Note: N/A

*Tamara Young and Shantel Stonewall appeared before the committee. Tamara advised the committee that she was submitting a revised business plan and passed around the revised plan to the committee members. Tamara said that although she does not have any bartending experience, she will hire Ms. Shantel Stonewall as the manager, in place of Mr. Smith, given Ms. Stonewall's 18 years of experience running a bar. Shantel Stonewall spoke on behalf of Tamara stating that she did run her own bar in Milwaukee back in 2010 until closed in 2014. When asked why it closed, Ms. Stonewall stated that she was placed in a position where she either had to close it or be forced to shut down. Shantel also said that she simply did not bring in enough*

*business to keep the establishment running because it was in a mostly residential area. Shantel told the committee that she has since learned more of the in's and out's of how to run a bar successfully and will be helping Tamara every step of the way. Alderman Larrin expressed a strong concern about Tamara Young's previous arrests and conviction record where she had been involved in several fights. Attorney Tran again explained that no license may be issued to a habitual law offender, if the alderman find the offenses to be substantially related to the licensed activity. Ms. Young acknowledged that she had a record, but states that it was a long time ago and that she is now a different person. Alderman Coe indicated he was concerned about the incident where Ms. Young was found in a bar underage. Alderman Coe also expressed concern about Tamara's lack of funds to start up her business and keep it running. Alderman Lemke made a motion to deny based on all the reasons discussed, seconded by Alderman Larrin.*

**Recommended For Denial**

[787-17](#)

**Subject:** [Direct Referral] Application of Aldi, Inc. (Aldi #28), Tracy L. Brewer, Agent, for a **Change of Agent** for a "Class A" Retail Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License for 3110 Douglas Avenue. (7th District)

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee on 08-22-17:** That the application of Aldi, Inc. (Aldi #28), Tracy L. Brewer, Agent, for a **Change of Agent** for a "Class A" Retail Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License for 3110 Douglas Avenue be approved.

Fiscal Note: N/A

*Tracy L. Brewer appeared before the committee. Tracy stated she has been working for Aldi's for 18 years and was asked by the new manager to become the agent. Alderman DeHahn made a motion to approve, seconded by Alderman Larrin.*

**Recommended For Approval**

[794-17](#)

**Subject: (Direct Referral)** Request of the Committee for the appearance of Branden M. Benavente, applicant for an Operator's License.

**Recommendation of Public Safety and Licensing Committee on 8-22-17:** That the application for an Operator's License for Branden M. Benavente, be approved.

*Branden M. Benavente appeared before the committee. Branden received an OWI on February 7, 2017. Alderman Coe expressed hesitation about a person with an OWI conviction in this position. Branden said he feels he has learned a serious lesson and was ordered by the court to attend a "Responsible Driver's" course. Branden explained that he was out with friends one night and made the wrong decision to drive home. He currently works at Pepi's Pub and Grill and the employer does require that all his bartender's obtain a Operator's License. Branden said that if he is not granted his Operator's License he would be forced to quit and it would affect his income. Alderman DeHahn made a motion to approve, seconded by Alderman Coe.*

*Ayes: Lemke, Smetana, and DeHahn.*

*Abstain: Larrin*

**Approved**

[766-17](#)

**Subject: (Direct Referral)** License Premise Report for August 22, 2017.

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee on 8-22-17:** That the Licensed Premise Report for 8-22-17 be received and filed.

*There was a discussion amongst the committee regarding the recent incidents at both Curmudgeon's and BJW's. The committee has asked that the agent for Curmudgeon's be called in to discuss the chronic nuisance calls to the establishment. The committee has also asked that the agent for BJW's be called in to discuss the recent incidents on 07/26/17 and 6/3/17.*

*Sgt. Freidel stated that the video surveillance provided by Mr. Winston, agent of BJW's, contained no video and that he has been non-compliant in the ongoing police investigation. Sgt. Freidel also stated that because the video surveillance system contains no video it could be returned to Mr. Winston.*

**Received and Filed**

### **Public Comment**

*None*

### **Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.*