



# 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, December 12, 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 November 28, 2017 Meeting.

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

**to Approve the Minutes**

[1166-17](#)

**Subject: (New)** Application of Main Massage, LLC - Jingai Wang, Owner for a Massage Establishment Permit for 1324 N. Main Street. (4th District)

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee on 12-12-2017:** That the **(New)** application for Main Massage, LLC for a Massage Establishment Permit located at 1324 N. Main Street, Jingai Wang, Agent be approved.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*Jingai Wang appeared to speak before the committee with her husband. Attorney Tran asked Mrs. Wang if she needed an interpreter, Mrs. Wang declined and said that her husband can help her. Mrs. Wang recently purchased the property at 1324 N. Main Street and plans to open up a massage parlor. Mrs. Wang has been a massage therapist for 15 years and is licensed by the state to perform massage therapy. Mrs. Wang plans to open daily at 9a.m. and close by 9p.m.*

*Alderman Larrin made a motion to approve, seconded by Alderman Coe.*

**Recommended For Approval**

[1103-17](#)

**Subject: (Direct Referral)** Request of the Committee for the appearance of Natasha C. Wilson, applicant for an Operator's License.

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee**

**on 11-28-2017:** That the Operator's license application for Natasha C. Wilson be deferred until December 12, 2017 to allow for the applicant to appear before the committee.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee**

**on 12-12-2017:** That the Operator's license application for Natasha C. Wilson be approved.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*Natasha C. Wilson appeared to speak before the committee. Alderman Coe asked Ms. Natasha Wilson why she answered in the negative on her application when asked about convictions and pending charges, even though her criminal background showed that she had been convicted of disorderly conduct in 2013 and has an OWI charge pending since October of 2017.*

*Ms. Natasha Wilson stated that she had misunderstood the question and that she did not realize the charges against her were considered convictions. Ms. Natasha Wilson told the committee that she considers herself to be a hard worker and always demonstrates workplace responsibility. Ms. Natasha Wilson said that she regrets obtaining the charges against her but plans to be a reliable and responsible bartender.*

*Alderman Dehahn made a motion to approve, seconded by Alderman Larrin.*

**Approved**

[1104-17](#)

**Subject: (Direct Referral)** Request of the Committee for the appearance of Suzanne M. Wenzell-Wendt, applicant for an Operator's License.

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee**

**on 12-12-2017:** That the operator license application for Suzanne M. Wenzell-Wendt be approved.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*Suzanne Wenzell-Wendt appeared to speak before the committee. Alderman Coe asked Ms. Wenzell-Wendt why she answered in the negative on her application when asked about convictions, even though her criminal background showed that she been convicted of an OWI in 2012 and has a pending charge currently for retail theft.*

*Ms. Wenzell-Wendt stated she had misunderstood the question on her application regarding convictions against her. Ms. Wenzell-Wendt informed the committee that although she is aware that these charges against her look bad; she feels she demonstrates a good work ethic and is a very attentive server. Ms. Wenzell-Wendt also told the committee that she is not currently working as a bartender but would like to obtain her Operator's license so that she can earn extra money.*

*Alderman Dehahn made a motion to approve, seconded by Alderman Coe.*

**Approved**

[1061-17](#)

**Subject: (Direct Referral)** Communication from the Public Safety and Licensing Committee requesting the appearance of Hammes Tavern LLC, Michael J. Hammes, Agent, located at 2005 Taylor Ave to discuss possible violations under section 6-86(a) of the ordinance for failing to operate continuously.

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee on 11-14-17:** That the item be deferred for 30 days to allow for the owner, Michael J. Hammes, to re-open and bring the business back to compliance.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee on 12-12-2017:** That the item be deferred until the January 22, 2018, Public Safety and Licensing meeting to allow for the owner, Michael J. Hammes, enough time to get the establishment in compliance.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*Michael J. Hammes appeared to speak before the committee. Mr. Michael Hammes stated that he has decided to not sell the establishment and would like to turn the bar into more of a restaurant. Mr. Michael Hammes informed the committee he will start serving Mike and Angelo's pizza prior to his opening and plans to be open and in compliance by January 22, 2018.*

*Alderman Lemke made a motion to defer the item until the January 23, 2018 meeting, seconded by Alderman Smetana.*

**Deferred**

[1200-17](#)

**Subject:** Communication from the Public Safety and Licensing Committee requesting the appearance of Maxine's, Evelyn Scheibner, Agent, located at 835 Washington Ave. to discuss recent incidents at the licensed premise.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee on 12-12-2017:** That the communication requesting the appearance of Maxine's, Evelyn Scheiber, Agent, located at 835 Washington Ave. to discuss recent incidents at the licensed premise be received and filed.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*Evelyn Scheibner appeared to speak before the committee. Alderman Coe asked Ms. Scheibner if anything has changed with the daily operations at her establishment that would cause the recent incidents to have occurred. Ms. Scheibner stated that a guy was renting the place for a birthday party and she would not have done anything differently. Regarding the temporary plate being removed from a victim's car, Ms. Scheibner stated that this was the first she had heard of the incident and that no one requested a surveillance video, although they could have.*

*Sgt. Freidel spoke before the committee in regards to the incident on 10/22/2017 involving an active fight inside of the bar that resulted in brandishing pool cues and beer bottles. Sgt. Freidel stated that when officers arrived the bartender stated that there had not been any incidents that had occurred inside of the bar and that the bartender had a very cavalier attitude and was not helpful. Ms. Scheibner told the committee that she had spoken with the bartender about his response and plans to better work with police in the future.*

*Alderman Larrin made a motion to Receive and File, seconded by Alderman Smetana.*

**Received and Filed**

[1121-17](#)

**Subject: (New)** Application for a "Class B" Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License for The Branch 1501 LLC, dba The Branch at 1501, located at 1501 Washington Avenue, Kristina Campbell, Agent. (3rd District).

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee**

**on 11-28-2017:** That the (New) Application for a "Class B" Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License for The Branch 1501 LLC, dba The Branch at 1501, located at 1501 Washington Avenue, Kristina Campbell, Agent be deferred for two weeks to allow for the appeal period for the previous license holder to end on December 7, 2017 before granting the license.

**Staff Recommendation on 12-08-17:** That the (New) application for a "Class B" fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License for The Branch 1501 LLC, dba The Branch at 1501, located 1501 Washington Avenue, Kristina Campbell, Agent be granted by action of the Common Council at Special Session on December 11, 2017 in order to allow for the Applicant to conduct pre-scheduled Holiday events requiring license prior to the next regularly-scheduled Common Council Meeting on December 20, 2017.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee**

**on 12-12-2017:** That the (New) application for a "Class B" fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License for The Branch 1501 LLC,

located at 1501 Washington Ave be Received and Filed being that the item already been taken up at the Special Common Council meeting on December 11, 2017 and did not need to appear on the 12-12-2017 Public Safety and Licensing meeting agenda.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*Alderman Coe asked the committee that a motion be made to receive and file the item for a (New) application for a "Class B" fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License for The Branch 1501 LLC, located at 1501 Washington Ave being that the item had already been taken up at the Special Common Council meeting on December 11, 2017 and did not need to appear on the 12-12-2017 Public Safety and Licensing meeting agenda.*

*Alderman Larrin made a motion to Receive and File, seconded by Alderman Smetana.*

**Received and Filed**

[1257-17](#)

**Subject:** Ordinance 0017-17 - Prohibiting Bullying and Harassment

An Ordinance to amend Chapter 66, Article II, of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine, Wisconsin.

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee on 12-12-17:** That Ordinance 0017-17 to create the Code of the City of Racine, Wisconsin be approved.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*Alderman Larrin made a motion to approve, seconded by Alderman Lemke.*

**Recommended For Approval**

[1208-17](#)

**Subject: (Direct Referral)** License Premise Report for December 12, 2017

**Recommendation of the Public Safety and Licensing Committee on 12-12-2017:** That the licensed premise report for 12-12-2017 be received and filed.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*Sgt. Freidel stated that on November 25, 2017 officers were called to the American Legion bar in reference to a noise complaint due to the bar emptying out. Upon their arrival, officers heard approximately twenty shots fired around the corner of the 1200-block of Buchanan Street. The investigation is still ongoing.*

*Sgt. Freidel also stated on 12/03/2017 officers were called to Curmudgeon's Bar and Grill in reference to crowd control. Sgt. Freidel informed the committee that officers*

*stated that the bar had been over capacity. A witness claimed that the bartender had been drinking; however the witness had been drinking and blacked out making the witness not credible. Alderman Coe asked that the owner of Curmudgeon's be called in to discuss recent incidents and explain her reasons not enforcing her 1am close time as previously discussed.*

*Alderman Coe made a motion to receive and file the licensed premise report, seconded by Alderman DeHahn.*

**Received and Filed**

### **Public Comment**

*No one appeared to speak for Public Comment.*

### **Adjournment**

*Alderman Coe asked that the next Public Safety and Licensing meeting scheduled for December 27, 2017 be deferred to January 9, 2018 due to the holidays.*

*Alderman Coe made a motion to defer the next meeting to be held on January 9, 2018, seconded by Alderman Larrin.*

*The meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.*