

Good Neighbors Report

To: Public Safety and Licensing Committee

From: Attorney Ian R. Pomplin

RE: Vero Tea Room., Howard Brown, Jr., Agent
209 6th Street

Meeting date: Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Departments: Clerk, Police, City Development, Building and Attorney in person,
Health submitted a written report due to scheduling conflicts

License(s) requested: "Class C" (wine) license

Business plan and premises description. Mr. Brown intends to operate a tea room that sells tea, salads, sandwiches, and wine by the glass. He intends to operate as a café that specializes in high tea. The establishment is able to begin operation imminently.

Owner/agent experience. Mr. Brown is the executive chef at Vero International, and has experience working within a licensed establishment.

Health department. The establishment has been fully approved approval by the health department.

City Development and Building. The establishment has been approved by City Development and Building. An occupancy permit is set to be issued. Mr. Brown was informed to contact City Development if he intended to change any outside signage or perform other external changes to the property.

Police Department issues. Mr. Brown discussed the common issues that arise for businesses that hold liquor licenses with Sgt. Cruz. Mr. Brown was reminded that he needed to have staff with operator's licenses to serve alcohol. It was discussed with the applicant that, under this license, Vero Tea Room is a separate entity than Vero International, and that adequate staffing must be had in both locations. Information was provided on licensed premises checks. Sgt. Cruz provided information that the prior establishment in this location has had minimal contact with law enforcement. The applicant was provided with information on strategies to reduce misbehavior due to the high traffic nature of this downtown location.

Application. Deputy Clerk Williams reviewed the application with Mr. Cain and worked with the applicant to more accurately write the premises description. It was discussed with the applicant that, under this license, Vero Tea Room is a separate entity than Vero International, and the premises description must only describe the tea room.

Overall Summary

The premises at 209 Sixth Street raises no concerns for city staff, so long as the establishment is operated within the scope of the business plan.