

ALCOHOL CONTROL COMMISSION

Monday, November 21, 2016

The Alcohol Control Commission met at 5:00 p.m. this date in the Commission Chambers of City Hall, 601 Broad Street. Chairman Slack presided with Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Stevenson, Mr. Hyde, and Mr. Doss present.

Minutes – October 17, 2016

The minutes of the October 17, 2016 meeting, as submitted in writing by the Secretary, were approved by an unanimous consent.

Moe's Original BBQ, 101 West 1st Street

The application of Jeremy Duke, owner and manager of Moe's Original BBQ, 101 West 1st Street, was presented. Mr. Duke requests that a new Beer, Wine, and Liquor Pouring License be issued to him at that location. Secretary Smith explained that the City Commissioners are familiar with 101 West 1st Street since they recently executed an agreement with Mr. Duke and his partners to lease a strip of property in the Bridge Point Plaza grass area. This strip of property is being used to construct outdoor seating for this new restaurant.

Mr. Duke is not new to the alcohol industry; he has been the manager of the Mellow Mushroom, located in the 200 Block of Broad Street, for the past six years. During that time, there have been no alcohol infractions at the Mellow Mushroom. Mr. Duke is familiar with Rome's Alcohol Rules and Regulations and stated that he plans to open this new restaurant on approximately January 17th. Mr. Duke briefly commented on his training program in place at Mellow Mushroom and commented that IDs are checked before alcohol sales take place.

Mr. Doss moved to approve the Beer, Wine, and Liquor Pouring License as requested, subject to all final inspections and approvals by the appropriate City officials. Commissioner Stevenson seconded, and the vote was unanimously in favor.

Alcohol Ordinance Amendment – Alcohol License Transfer Process

Secretary Smith reviewed a memo discussed at the October 17th Alcohol Control Commission meeting. City Staff had recommended that the City Commission consider a new fee structure for Beer Package License transfers. Mr. Smith explained that Beer Package License transfers, typically convenient stores, make up the overwhelming majority of annual alcohol license transfers. Currently, the fee for license transfers is 10%. Since the fee is so low for a Beer Package transfer, Secretary Smith had suggested that amount be raised to 50% to help compensate the City for their efforts. At the October ACC meeting, it was suggested that, since all transfers involve the same process, that the City should consider a fixed transfer fee rather than a percentage.

Secretary Smith reported that he has considered this option and suggests that a flat transfer fee be established in the amount of \$400. This amount would better compensate the City for Beer Package alcohol transfers and would actually decrease the transfer amount for the higher price licenses such as liquor stores and most pouring outlets (there are relatively few of those type transfers). After a brief discussion, Commissioner Lee made a motion to recommend that the City Commission adopt an ordinance that would establish a fee of \$400 for all alcohol license transfers. Mr. Hyde seconded, and the vote was unanimously in favor. This ordinance will be placed on First Reading before the City Commission on November 28th.

Police Report

Rome Police Major Paul Webber was present and presented the police report for the previous month. There were only two arrests that occurred that were related to alcohol establishments. Both occurred outside of the alcohol establishments and resulted in drunk and disorderly arrests. There was also a DUI arrest related to one of these arrests. The report was accepted without discussion.

Adjourned

With there being no further business, Chairman Slack adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Joseph F. Smith
City Clerk