JUDICIARY, LICENSE AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2008

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Wagner at 5:03 p.m., in the Common Council Chambers, City Hall Plaza.

PRESENT: Alderpersons Ed Wagner and Alanna Feddick

ABSENT: Alderperson Donald Krueger

ALSO PRESENT: Alderpersons Hansen, Hendler and Buttke, Mayor Meyer, Police Chief

Stroik, City Clerk Hall, William Penker and Gary Gray.

<u>JLC08-064</u> Motion by Feddick, second by Wagner to grant fourteen (14) Beverage Operator Licenses for the 2007-2009 License Year to: Lisa Body, LouAnn Ewer-Coulthurst, Kimberli Dammann, Casey Dassow, Thomas Delorme, Chiann Hebert, Melissa Mueller, Michael Phelps, LaVon Rasmussen, Kevin Sickler, Katrina Smith, Melissa Wehrman, Jackie Willfahrt and Kandie Willfahrt. All Ayes

Motion carried

<u>JLC08-065</u> Motion by Feddick, second by Wagner to grant a Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage license to World Buffet WI, Inc., 503 E. Ives Street, Suite 302. All Ayes **Motion carried**

<u>JLC08-066</u> Motion by Feddick, second by Wagner to grant a Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage license to Jason Weinfurtner, Wildside Billiards, 113 E. 4th Street. All Ayes **Motion carried**

Discussion was held on developing a process to be used to fill vacancies for elected officials.

Mr. Penker said that the identity of the candidates was not widely known and the process from the close of accepting letters of intent by possible successors to the vacancy was extremely rapid. The residents of the 4th District, by the time frame that was used, was limited in their ability to discuss things with the Common Council. The selection process as played out on June 10th was nothing more than an up or down vote. There may have been discussions with candidates privately with Aldermen but there really wasn't a whole lot of that made evident. There were no questions posed, no inquiry, no visible concern for the residents of the district and the abject silence of the council there was no indication of the rationale for any selection. The process to fill an aldermanic vacancy needs to be revised. He suggested the following:

- 1. A letter of intent, a resume or vita from the candidates.
- 2. Announcement of who the candidates are at least 5 business days before the vote by the Council.
- 3. A question period with no more than 3 questions per alderman.
- 4. A defined presentation by each candidate to include their name, address, background, explanation of interest and a point-of-view on the city budget and taxation plus at least one item of the candidate's choice.

Mayor Meyer said that a presentation is a good idea. When there is a vacancy, maybe what they do is look for a minimum window of two weeks to get applicants in. Then at the next Council meeting after applications close they could announce who those people are and ask them to be at the meeting to give their presentations and then hold over the vote until the next Council meeting. This would allow the residents to watch the Council meeting and see the presentations and then they can call the candidates and alderpersons to give their input.

Alderperson Wagner stated that City Code and State Statute are both silent on how they get to that process of the nomination. This is where the problem lies. We need a formalized/codified process for getting up to that point of the nomination. He asked for this item to be placed on the next JLC agenda and perhaps at that time they can come up with some findings and make some recommendations to the City Attorney to draft something for the City Code that will formalize this process.

Alderperson Buttke asked the City Clerk to check with other cities to see what they do in this process.

Motion by Feddick, second by Wagner to adjourn at 5:27 p.m. **Motion carried**

Deb M. Hall City Clerk