

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE OF THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2024, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS/COURTROOM OF THE ROBERT E. NOVITKE MUNICIPAL CENTER, 20025 MACK PLAZA DRIVE, GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MICHIGAN.

Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Bryant
Council Members: Brown, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Motschall
ABSENT: None

Also Present: City Administrator Schulte
Assistant City Administrator Como
City Attorney Walling
City Clerk Antolin
City Treasurer/Comptroller Schmidt
City Planner Wolf

Motion by McConaghy, seconded by Granger, that all items on tonight's agenda be received, placed on file, and taken in order of appearance.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Brown, Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Motschall
No: None
Absent: None

The first item discussed was the consideration of the Special Land Use requests for a Class C Licensed Restaurant at 20710 Mack Avenue for Daily Jam GP, LLC and 20195 Mack Avenue for BCM Restaurants, LLC (Lola's Taco Bar).

City Planner Wolf provided an overview stating that since both properties are in a C – Commercial district, the ordinance requires Special Land Use approval. The Planning Commission approved both Special Land Use requests from both requestors at their special meeting on October 29, 2024.

Ms. Wolf answered questions from the Committee and stated that it has been discussed with the Planning Commission about removing the requirement of a Special Land Use approval with the additional request to include a Class C liquor license. Councilmember Granger addressed outdoor seating in regards to pedestrian and traffic safety, especially at the corner of 20195 Mack Avenue (Lola's Taco Bar location). Administration will also be considering the safety factors at the other corners off Mack Avenue.

There was a consensus of the Committee-of-the-Whole to approve the Special Land Use requests for a Class C Licensed Restaurant at both 20710 Mack Avenue for Daily Jam GP, LLC and 20195 Mack Avenue for BCM Restaurants, LLC (Lola's Taco Bar).

The next item discussed was regarding the issuance recommendation of the city's remaining Class C liquor license. City Administrator Schulte provided an overview of his memo dated November 11, 2024.

He stated that Daily Jam GP, LLC and BCM Restaurants, LLC (Lola's Taco Bar) are new restaurants seeking the city's last available Class C liquor license in Grosse Pointe Woods.

Instead of allowing only one restaurant to secure the remaining city license, administration reached out to both owners to discuss the possibility of negotiating and sharing the cost of securing a second license. This way, neither would be left without a license nor have to pay full price for one. After several discussions, they came to a mutual understanding.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was drafted between Daily Jam GP, LLC and BCM Restaurants, LLC stating that they will share the expense of obtaining a Class C Liquor License, on the premise, that city council agrees to grant its last quota license to Daily Jam GP, LLC. In addition, the MOU states that BCM Restaurants, LLC "shall withdraw its application for the city license."

The city's recommendation to the MLCC is conditioned upon Daily Jam GP, LLC signing an agreement which states that if or when Daily Jam GP, LLC no longer needs the city's quota license, it will be returned to the city.

City Council asked if the parties were agreeable to the stipulations of the MOU and both parties agreed. Timeline of completed projects for both parties were also discussed.

Motion by Motschall, seconded by McConaghy, that the Committee-of-the-Whole recommend to City Council to submit the Local Government Approval Resolution to the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Liquor Control Commission for consideration of issuance of the city's last Class C liquor license be given to the Daily Jam GP, LCC (20710 Mack Avenue), conditioned upon BCM Restaurants, LLC withdrawing its Liquor License application and Daily Jam GP, LLC signing an Agreement Restricting Transfer of the Class C Liquor License.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Brown, Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Motschall

No: None

Absent: None

Motion by Motschall, seconded by McConaghy, to immediately certify the minutes of tonight's meeting.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Brown, Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Motschall
No: None
Absent: None

Under **New Business**, no one wished to be heard.

Under **Public Comment**, the following individual was heard:

- Tom Curcuri, 1627 Sunningdale Dr. – Addressed the Sunningdale Park redevelopment project and submitted additional opposing petitions and a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Koester, that the meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole be adjourned at 7:15 p.m. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul P. Antolin
City Clerk

Arthur W. Bryant
Mayor