

City of Somerville Licensing Commission

SPECIAL MEETING by Remote Participation

Thursday, October 29, 2020, 4:30 PM

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the Licensing Commission's minutes. While reasonable efforts have been made to assure the accuracy of the data provided, do not rely on this information without first checking with the City Clerk.

The meeting was conducted remotely on the GoToWebinar platform and was called to order at 4:30 PM. Present were Chairman Joseph Lynch and Commissioners Christopher Allen and Christine Lindgren. Also attending were City Clerk John Long, Economic Development Director Tom Galligani, Economic Development Planner Sunayana Thomas, and members of the public.

Chairman Lynch stated that the purpose of this special meeting was to consider one item, a request of the Mayor to waive certain fees of the Licensing Commission.

COMMUNICATION

1. Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone requests that the Licensing Commission waive the annual license fees for the following licenses until the end of the fiscal year on June 30, 2021:

- All Forms Club Licenses
- All Forms Alcohol Restaurant Licenses
- All Forms Alcohol Restaurant - Weekends 2AM Licenses
- All Forms Alcohol Restaurant - Sunday 10AM Licenses
- All Forms Alcohol Restaurant - Private Patio Licenses
- All Forms Alcohol Restaurant - Public Patio Licenses
- Wine and Malt Restaurant Licenses
- Wine and Malt Restaurant - Cordials Licenses
- Farmer Brewery/Winery/Distillery Pourer Licenses
- Common Victualer Licenses
- Innholder Licenses
- Special Farmer Winery Licenses
- And all fees to amend Licenses.

This waiver is part of the Mayor's Small Business Relief Package and will provide over \$500,000 in relief to the city's hospitality industry. The Mayor thanks the Licensing Commission for their consideration of this request.

Chairman Lynch described the Mayor's request. Commissioner Allen clarified that the request to waive fees did not include package stores or special alcohol licenses, and did not include late fees. He asked whether the loss of revenue would impact the city's constituent services or its

ability to monitor the safe operation of the city's licensed establishments. Economic Development Director Galligani assured the Commission that the Mayor and Budget Director have identified funds that enable the city to forgo these fees this year and still get the city's work done, including required inspections. He said it's part of a comprehensive package of relief that touches on other fees and includes another round of small business relief, all totaling approximately \$750,000. City Clerk Long pointed out that the waiver didn't include the renewal fees for All Forms Package Stores, Wine and Malt Package Stores, and All Forms Educational Institutions, but that it did include an ongoing waiver of amendment fees, all through June 30, 2021. On a motion for approval, all three Commissioners voted to approve the Mayor's request.

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:45 PM.