

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

January 15, 2015

MEMBERS

Chairman Jones
Alderman Vota
Alderman Budd
Alderman Burtle
Mayor Brotherton

ALSO PRESENT

George Calvert
Alderman Walters
Alderman Koonce
Alderman Heberling
Alderman Dorchinecz

Liquor License Holders
Rocky Moore
Cindy Dey

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Review Liquor License Classifications

Chairman Jones welcomed the audience members who were attending the meeting to observe and participate in the discussion regarding the licensed video gaming locations throughout the City. They were advised that no motion regarding the video gaming would be made tonight but that the Committee wanted their input prior to making any decisions. Mayor Brotherton briefly explained the history and events that led up to the State of Illinois establishing the current video gaming legislation. He also explained what the City's original intent was in attempting to utilize the liquor license classifications as a way to limit the number of video gaming locations within the City. He mentioned that several of the current video gaming locations had obtained the required liquor licenses by claiming to be a restaurant when in reality little or no food is being prepared or sold at those locations. Several members in the audience voiced their concerns that they had already invested considerable amounts of money at their locations and they did not feel the City should force them to close. Chairman Jones read the definition of a restaurant as it is stated in Title 3 Chapter 3 Section 3-3-1B. Mayor Brotherton pointed out he and the other City Council Members believed that the restaurants being licensed would fit this definition when they approved the changes in the liquor license classifications.

The number of locations within the City licensed to allow video gaming was also discussed. The majority of Aldermen stated that they feel no additional video gaming locations should be allowed. Alderman Dorchinecz stated that he feels it is unfair to limit the number of locations and that anyone meeting the qualifications should have the same opportunity to open and operate the same type of video gaming sites within the City.

Several Aldermen stated that because the locations had been allowed to open and operate in violation of the ordinance they felt that it would be wrong to force any of the existing locations to close now. The Mayor stated until there was some clarification on this issue he would not be approving any additional liquor licenses under the classifications that would allow any additional video gaming locations within the City.

HBO Updates

HBO Officer George Calvert updated the Committee of property violations and cleanups.

Motion by Alderman Burtle and seconded by Alderman Vota to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

Bruce Jones, Chairman
Ordinance Committee