

A regular called meeting of the Beer Board was held Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at 4:45 p.m. in the James H. Lewellen Board Chambers at Town Hall, 500 Poplar View Parkway.

Chairman C.M. Sturgis was present and presiding.

The following members were present: Craig Fraser, Scott Tucker, Ed King, Susan Graham, and Tammy Townsend.

The following member was absent: Thomas Lannan.

Also present were Town Administrator Molly Mehner, Assistant Town Administrator Adam Hamric, and Senior Administrative Assistant Kristie Diamond.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman C.M. Sturgis called the meeting to order.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Sturgis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Mr. Hamric stated the first item on the agenda was the election of officers for the 2023 Beer Board meetings. A Chairman and Vice-Chairman are elected to serve a one-year term, and anyone on the Board can make nominations. The majority vote of the Board elects the officers.

Mr. Sturgis asked for nominations for the position of Chairman.

Mr. Tucker nominated Mr. Fraser. Motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. Sturgis, to approve Mr. Fraser as Chairman of the Beer Board.

ROLL CALL: Tucker – yes, Townsend - yes, Graham – yes, King – yes, Sturgis – yes,  
Motion approved.

Mr. Sturgis asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Tucker nominated Mr. King. Motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Ms. Townsend, to approve Mr. King as Vice-Chairman of the Beer Board.

ROLL CALL: Tucker – yes, Townsend – yes, Graham – yes, Fraser – yes, Sturgis - yes.  
Motion approved.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

There were no corrections or additions to the minutes.

Motion by Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. Sturgis, to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2022, regular meeting as presented.

ROLL CALL: Tucker – yes, Townsend – yes, Graham – yes, King – yes, Sturgis – yes, Fraser - yes. Motion approved.

## **CLASS II – OFF-PREMISES PERMIT**

### **Collierville Food Mart Inc. located at 398 New Byhalia Rd.**

Mr. Hamric presented item 6-A on the agenda. Mr. Hamric stated this application was for a Class II – “Off-Premises” beer permit that only allows the sale of beer for “off-premises” consumption. This purchase prompted a new permit application due to new management and ownership. The applicant Collierville Food Mart Inc., located at 398 New Byhalia Rd., was provided with a copy of the Town’s Beer Ordinances. The owner is Mr. Noorali Dharani. The Collierville Police Department (CPD) conducted a background check and found nothing in the history to disqualify Mr. Dharani from holding a beer permit. The building had also received approved inspections from the Collierville Fire Department (CFD) and the Code Enforcement Division.

Mr. Hamric asked the applicant to come forward and stated there was a proposed motion on the board report.

Mr. Fraser asked Mr. Dharani to introduce himself to the Board. Mr. Fraser asked Mr. Dharani about his position with Collierville Food Mart Inc, and he explained he was the owner.

Mr. Tucker asked Mr. Dharani if he owned or operated any other business outside Collierville. Mr. Dharani responded, no and explained he did have experience with other companies.

Mr. King asked if Mr. Dharani had ever experienced any problems with those companies and the sale of beer to minors. Mr. Dharani explained that he had never received a violation after twenty-two years of working and managing his current location or previous place of employment.

Mr. Sturgis stated that ten years ago, there was a violation against the business for serving a juvenile. Mr. Dharani explained the employee who made this mistake had a lapse in judgment, which was a one-time offense, and since then, the system has been improved to prevent it from happening again.

Mr. Sturgis asked if there was any outside surveillance of the parking lot to ensure there was no drinking taking place or giving beer to a minor. Mr. Dharani stated that there is twenty-four-hour surveillance with security inside and outside.

Mr. Sturgis explained that the CPD would conduct undercover investigations twice a year to ensure that beer permit holders are not selling or serving beer to minors.

Mr. Tucker asked, with the change in ownership, if there would be any changes in how the business verifies if a customer is underage. Mr. Dharani explained that the upgraded system the business uses would not allow the clerk to go any further without a three-step process verifying the customer's age.

Mr. Tucker asked if the same employees would stay under the new ownership. Mr. Dharani responded yes and explained the training details provided to all employees and their priorities with understanding the laws of selling beer.

Motion by Mr. King, seconded by Mr. Tucker, to approve a Class II "Off-Premises" beer permit for Collierville Food Mart Inc, located at 398 New Byhalia Rd.

ROLL CALL: Tucker – yes, Townsend – yes, Graham – yes, Sturgis – yes, King – yes, Fraser - yes. Motion approved.

### OTHER BUSINESS

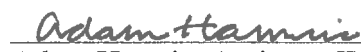
Mr. Hamric formally introduced Molly Mehner to the Beer Board as the Town Administrator.

Mr. Fraser asked Mr. Hamric if there were any updates on upcoming violation hearings due to one not being performed in 2022. Mr. Hamric stated that the CPD had reached out to Administration to request a current Beer Board master list, so he felt a violation hearing would take place within the next couple of months.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

  
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Craig Fraser, Chairman

  
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Adam Hamric, Assistant Town Administrator