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November 12, 2008

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE**  
**ON LICENSES AND PERMITS**

The Committee on Licenses and Permits convened on November 12, 2008, with Chairman Bruce Desmond presiding and Committee Member Alderman Robert Trane also present and voting. Also present were Aldermen John Connolly, William Roche, Thomas Taylor and Rebekah Gewirtz, George Landers from ISD and interested members of the public.

**Golden Light Restaurant:**

Ald. Gewirtz introduced Mr. Bruce Lam, owner of the Golden Light Restaurant, and stated that she believes that Mr. Lam has been harmed by the rolling back of his business hours. Alderman Gewirtz introduced a petition signed by 22 residents of Ciampa Manor support the extension of business hours from midnight to 1:30 AM – Sundays through Thursdays and from 1:00 AM to 2:00 AM on Fridays and Saturdays. Alderman Gewirtz stated that Mr. Lam has offered to provide a police detail for the Friday and Saturday extended hours. Alderman Gewirtz informed the members that she, as the Ward Six Alderman, was strongly in support of extending the hours of operation.

Mr. Lam addressed the members and said that he has been at the present location for 28 years and that he is taking steps to keep customers from hanging around outside the restaurant while waiting for their orders to be prepared.

The following individuals informed the members that they have never witnessed any problems at the restaurant: Dick McDevitt, George Landers, Joe Bellini, Evelyn Moretto and Jeanette Wiltshire. A letter from Michael Biassi, a trustee at Ciampa Manor, was also read into the record.

Alderman Gewirtz told the committee that Mr. Tam had a document stating that the restaurant could stay open until 1:30 AM on Fridays and Saturdays. Upon inspection of the document, it was found to be a Common Victualler's License issued by the Licensing Commission stating that the business could be open from 4:00 PM to 1:30 AM, seven days a week. Chairman Desmond stated that the Licensing Commission has no authority to extend business hours beyond midnight.

Alderman Connolly stated that there is no question about Mr. Lam's character but noted that he has had numerous complaints from residents regarding the actions of some of the restaurant's customers.

Additionally, the police had to respond to the location to make sure that the business was closed, as directed, at the proper time. Alderman Connolly asked that the minutes from previous meetings, (when this matter was discussed), be reviewed by the committee and that action on the matter be held until then.

Alderman Gewirtz stated that Sgt McCain told her that he was in support of extending the restaurant's hours, although she had nothing from him in writing. Alderman Gewirtz said that the police detail would be a service to the city and she asked that the committee act on the matter tonight.

Alderman Trane stated that this is not the first time that this business has been before the committee and he noted that the restaurant has been open beyond the allowed hours for years. Alderman Trane wants to look at the Police Department's records and the past history of this business before taking any action.

Chairman Desmond stated that he has been getting conflicting reports and he informed those present that this business has, at times, been open until 3:00 AM, in violation of the license. Chairman Desmond said that he would ask the Police Chief to appear before the committee to discuss the matter and to develop a standard policy to be used for all business seeking extended operating hours. Chairman Desmond directed Mr. Lam to adhere to the approved hours as set by the Licensing and Permits Committee

### **73 Summer Street:**

Alderman Taylor informed the members that the owner of the business at 73 Summer Street continues to have more than the allowed number of vehicles on the property and he asked that the committee take appropriate action.

Alderman Trane's motion *that the Inspectional Services Department inspect the property for violations, especially regarding the number of vehicles on the premises, and enforce all applicable regulations,* was approved.

### **Telephone Poles:**

Mr. Landers informed the members that NSTAR owns 53% and Verizon 47% of the telephone poles in the city. He also stated that the Public Works Department would scrutinize future permit requests from NSTAR and Verizon, in an effort to get the double pole problems rectified.

The committee discussed matters before it and took action on the following 12 items:

**185878:** New Outdoor Parking License - Hui-Li Wang, 11-13 Washington St., 12

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

**186255:** Used Car Dealers License Class II - Amendment, William Doucette Auto

Sales

Inc., 325 Alewife Brook Pkwy, 2 cars inside, 30 outside.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

**186433:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class I - Dom's Motor Service Inc. dba Riverside Kawasaki-Yamaha, 2 Union Sq., 85 Motorcycles.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

**186434:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Dom's Motor Service Inc. dba Riverside Motorsports, 2 Union Sq., 2 autos & 15 motorcycles.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

**186435:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - John's Auto Sales Inc., 181 Somerville Ave., 38 autos.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

**186436:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Union Gulf Service, 231 Washington St., 6 autos.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

**186437:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Ump. Corp/United Motors, 188 Broadway, 4 autos.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

**186438:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Mystic Auto Sales & Service, 712 Mystic Ave., 10 autos.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

**186439:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Broadway Brake Corp., 45 Broadway, 3 autos.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

**186440:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License, Class III - Nissenbaum's Auto Parts Inc., 0 Windsor Rd.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

**186441:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License, Class III - Nissenbaum's Auto Parts Inc., 480 Columbia St.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

**186442:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License, Class III - Union Automotive, 37 Mystic Ave.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

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Alderman Bruce M. Desmond, Chairman  
Committee on Licenses and Permits

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits,  
November 12, 2008

In Board of Aldermen

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Clerk