

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING OF THE  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS  
July 1, 2024**

President Hayes called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Hayes; Trustees Bertucci, Grasse, LaBedz, Schwingbeck, and Tinaglia

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Baldino, Dunnington and Shirley

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Village Manager Randy Recklaus; Assistant Village Manager Diana Mikula

OTHERS PRESENT: Matthew Feldman and Kristina Dickens

**A. Consideration of recommending to the Liquor Commissioner the issuance of a Class B and Class T liquor license to Amazon Retail LLC dba Amazon Fresh located at 325 East Palatine Road.**

The Mayor asked the two members of the petitioner to introduce themselves. Matthew Feldman stated he is the onsite store manager and Kristina Dickens stated she is with the law firm Christopoulos Dickens, representing Amazon in Illinois.

The Mayor swore in Matthew Feldman.

Ms. Mikula gave the staff report. Amazon Fresh is seeking a Class B and Class T liquor license. The liquor hours will be 8:00 am to 10:00 pm. In February, Police completed a background check on representatives of Amazon, including Matthew Feldman. No issues were noted and there were no liquor violations. There was a violation at the address in 2011 with the former owners.

A walk through was conducted and the submitted floor plan did match what was observed onsite.

Mayor Hayes inquired with Ms. Mikula about a meeting that the Village had with representatives from Amazon when the concept was originally proposed. Ms. Mikula indicated Amazon Fresh has made some changes to their operations. Since there was no public hearing for this new concept, Mayor Hayes asked Matthew Feldman to explain changes involving the sale of alcohol.

Matthew Feldman stated that there are several ways to shop and purchase alcohol at the Amazon Fresh location. The one main change is this location went from the "Just Walk Out" technology to the "Dash Cart" technology. With the Just Walk Out technology, one main location was needed for the alcohol and someone needed to always be at that entrance/exit.

The Dash Cart allow customers to use a smart cart that tracks and totals purchases. Dash carts will identify the requirement for an age verification by enabling the blue associate lights and emitting an audible beep from the cart at the exit lanes. After completing ID checks, associates will scan the ID of any customer who is purchasing alcohol at the exits.

If the Dash Cart is not properly functioning or ID does not scan, purchases of any kind cannot be completed.

Other methods of checkout include the traditional cashier check out aisles with associates or self-checkout lanes that are monitored by associates. When a customer rings up an alcohol purchase, associates are prompted to check the IDs.

There will be over 100 employees and all employees must be Basset trained. Mayor Hayes recommended the in-person training, especially with the large number of employees to be hired.

Mr. Feldman indicated there are no immediate plans for alcohol tastings.

Trustees thanked Amazon for choosing Arlington Heights to open this store, and indicated it has been a long time coming. Discussion ensued on where the location of the alcohol will be in the store and in relation to the doors and check out areas. The employee age to allow for alcohol sales was confirmed at 19 years of age for Arlington Heights.

Mayor Hayes wished much success to the new store and stressed that Arlington Heights is very strict with liquor codes and Mr. Feldman stated Amazon will comply.

**Trustee Grasse moved, seconded by Trustee Schwingbeck to recommend that the Village Board of Trustees recommend to the Liquor Commissioner the issuance of a Class B and Class T liquor license to Amazon Retail LLC dba Amazon Fresh located at 325 E. Palatine Road.**

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**6 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**The motion passed.**

**B. Other Business** - none

**C. Public Comments** - none

**D. ADJOURNMENT** – Trustee LaBedz moved, seconded by Trustee Bertucci to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.