

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS  
33 S. ARLINGTON HEIGHTS ROAD - COMMUNITY ROOM  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2017 – 7:45 PM**

President Hayes called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Hayes; Trustees Baldino, Blackwood, Glasgow, LaBedz, Rosenberg, Scaletta, Sidor, Tinaglia

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Village Manager Randy Recklaus; Assistant Village Manager, Diana Mikula; Village Attorney Mark Burkland

OTHERS PRESENT: Hetul Thakkar of Arlington Food & Liquor

**A. CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDING TO THE LIQUOR COMMISSIONER THE ISSUANCE OF A CLASS "B" AND CLASS "T" LIQUOR LICENSE TO BAAPJI, INC., DBA ARLINGTON FOOD & LIQUOR LOCATED AT 401 S. ARLINGTON HEIGHTS ROAD**

Mayor Hayes swore in Mr. Hetul Thakkar.

Diana Mikula presented the staff report on Mr. Thakkar. There is an ownership change for the liquor store located at 401 S. Arlington Heights Road that currently has a Class B & Class T liquor license which allows for retail sale of packaged liquor as well as some tastings. Mr. Thakkar has 100% ownership interest in the liquor store. No convictions were disclosed and no criminal derogatory information was found. Mr. Thakkar was also granted a liquor license by the Village of North Aurora on August 21, 2017. Ms. Mikula conducted a walk-through of the establishment on October 5 and modified the floor plan just slightly to reflect the current layout. Upon a satisfactory liquor interview it would be appropriate to approve the issuance of a Class B and Class T liquor license. They would need to surrender the current liquor license in place as well as provide a copy of an executed lease for this location.

Mayor Hayes asked Mr. Thakkar asked about his plan to have tastings. Mr. Thakkar said he intends to sell packaged liquor now and have tastings in the future. As he builds up the reputation of the store with the neighborhood, the Village and his customer base, he will have tastings.

Mayor Hayes asked Mr. Thakkar if his liquor license in North Aurora was also for a similar business of packaged liquor and tastings. Mr. Thakkar replied yes. Mayor Hayes asked Mr. Thakkar if he had been involved in the liquor business other than in Arlington Heights and North Aurora. Mr. Thakkar said it is a new interest and prior to this he has always been in operations management.

Mayor Hayes asked Mr. Thakkar about his plan to have four employees at his business and what his involvement would be. Mr. Thakkar said he would be overseeing the whole operation and said his uncle would be helping him operate it but Mr. Thakkar said he would also hire some part-time employees. He said he would oversee everything including all

purchasing, accounting, and legal documentation. Mayor Hayes asked if Mr. Thakkar would be involved in actual sales and Mr. Thakkar said he would be but not full time. Mayor Hayes asked if Mr. Thakkar had Bassett certification. Mr. Thakkar said that both he and his uncle were Bassett trained. Mayor Hayes asked about Bassett training the other employees. Mr. Thakkar said all of his employees would have Bassett training before they start working.

Mayor Hayes asked if Mr. Thakkar's uncle would be spending time at the North Aurora business. Mr. Thakkar replied no. The Mayor also asked if there would be sharing of employees with the two businesses and Mr. Thakkar replied no. Mr. Thakkar said he will spend half his time between both businesses.

Mayor Hayes asked about the hours of operation. Mr. Thakkar said Mon-Thurs., 8:00 am-12:00 am.; Fri-Sat., 8:00-1:00 am; Sun., 11:00 am-12:00 am. Mayor Hayes asked Mr. Thakkar if he ever had a liquor license prior to the one he received from North Aurora. Mr. Thakkar replied no. Mayor Hayes asked if the layout was the same that has always operated. Diana Mikula said upon approval the owner is intending to make some cosmetic improvements. Mayor Hayes asked about the distance from the sales counter to the front entrance. Ms. Mikula said closest to the door they have non-alcoholic items and there are several security cameras in place in addition to the mirrors.

Trustee Rosenberg asked Mr. Thakkar about his automobile convenience items. Mr. Thakkar said there is windshield washer fluid, gloves and other similar things.

Trustee Blackwood asked Mr. Thakkar what his line of business was prior to owning the stores. Mr. Thakkar said he was in international supply chain management.

Trustee Tinaglia asked Mr. Thakkar if he was aware of some of the difficulties of having a liquor store or restaurant that sells alcohol in Arlington Heights when it comes to underage drinking and how aggressive Arlington Heights is to deter people selling to underage and checking IDs. Mr. Thakkar said he is very strict about it as well as his employees.

**TRUSTEE TINAGLIA MOVED, SECONDED BY TRUSTEE LABEDZ 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 BAAPJI, INC., DBA ARLINGTON FOOD & LIQUOR LOCATED AT 401 S. ARLINGTON HEIGHTS ROAD, UPON SURRENDER OF THE CURRENT LICENSE ISSUED TO THIS ADDRESS. PRIOR TO RECEIVING THE LICENSE, THE APPLICANT MUST PROVIDE A COPY OF AN EXECUTED LEASE FOR THE LOCATION.**

**THE FOLLOWING VOICE VOTE WAS RECORDED:**

**9 AYES**

**0 NAYS**

The motion passed.

## **B. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee LaBedz moved, and Trustee Rosenberg seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.