

ORIGINAL

CITY OF UNION CITY
HUDSON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

:
:
:
TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED
:
PROCEEDINGS

William V. Musto
Cultural Center
420 15th Street
Union City, New Jersey

Wednesday, October 7, 2020
Commencing at 7:01 p.m.

M E M B E R S P R E S E N T:

WENDY A. GRULLON, COMMISSIONER
MARYURY A. MARTINETTI, COMMISSIONER
CELIN J. VALDIVIA, COMMISSIONER
BRIAN P. STACK, MAYOR

M E M B E R S A B S E N T:

LUCIO P. FERNANDEZ, COMMISSIONER

A L S O P R E S E N T:

ERIN M. KNOEDLER, CITY CLERK

SCARINCI HOLLENBECK
BY: ANGELO AUTERI, ESQ.
Corporation Counsel

GREGORY T. FARMER, ESQ.
Attorney for the Union City
Alcohol Beverage Control Commission

Audio-Digital
Transcription Service, L.L.C.
audiots@aol.com



Transcription Service

29 Oak Avenue
West Orange, N.J. 07052
(973) 669-1222
Fax: (973) 669-0855

I N D E X

	<u>PAGE</u>
CALL TO ORDER	3
SALUTE TO FLAG	3
ROLL CALL	3
APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES	4
ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION	5
CONSENT AGENDA	6
ORDINANCES FOR HEARING AND ADOPTION	16
OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD	19
LIQUOR LICENSE PUBLIC HEARINGS	27
Jose Miguel Sanchez t/a International Mini Market	30
La Sorpresa Corp. t/a La Sorpresa Supermarket	33
Bambinas Bar & Restaurant LLC t/a Milagro Bar	36
El Idolo, LLC t/a Coromoto (f/k/a Angelo's Café)	37
Juanita's II, LLC t/a Juanita's Restaurant II	39
ADJOURNMENT	46

1 CITY CLERK: This is a Regular Public
2 Meeting of the Union City Board of Commissioners
3 being held on Wednesday, October 7, 2020, at
4 seven p.m., at the William V. Musto Cultural
5 Center, 420 15th Street, Union City, New Jersey.

6 Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

7

8 (Whereupon the Pledge of Allegiance was
9 said by all.)

10

11 (Whereupon, there was a pause in the
12 proceedings.)

13

14 CITY CLERK: This meeting has been called
15 in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

16 Adequate notice of the meeting has been
17 provided to The Jersey Journal, The Record, The
18 Hudson Reporter, and has been posted on the
19 bulletin board at City Hall and made available to
20 the public in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

21

22 **ROLL CALL:**

23

24 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Fernandez is
25 absent.

1 Commissioner Grullon?

2 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes. Here.

3 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

4 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Here.

5 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

6 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Here.

7 CITY CLERK: And Mayor Stack?

8 MAYOR STACK: Here.

9

10 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
11 action on the following item:

12 **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES - REGULAR**
13 **MEETING - SEPTEMBER 8, 2020.)**

14

15 CITY CLERK: The first item is an Approval
16 of the Previous Meeting -- Meeting Minutes of the
17 meeting of September 8th, 2020.

18 May I have a motion to approve?

19 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Motion.

20 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
21 Martinetti.

22 Second?

23 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

24 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
25 Valdivia.

1 Commissioner Grullon?

2 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

3 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

4 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

5 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

6 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

7 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

8 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

9

10 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
11 action on the following item:

12 **ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION:**

13 1. ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE XIII SECTION
14 4-73 SETTING FORTH REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SPECIAL
15 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER POSITION.)

16

17 CITY CLERK: There is an Ordinance on for
18 Introduction this evening.

19 Adoption on first reading will authorize
20 the Municipal Clerk to advertise the Ordinance
21 and the public hearing, which will take place on
22 Tuesday, October 20th, 2020, at Saint Anthony's
23 School, 700 Central Avenue, Union City, New
24 Jersey.

25 The Ordinance is Amending Article XIII,

1 Section 4-73 Setting Forth Requirements for a
2 Special Law Enforcement Officer Position.

3 May I have a motion to introduce?

4 MAYOR STACK: Motion.

5 CITY CLERK: Motion by Mayor Stack.

6 Second?

7 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Second.

8 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

9 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
10 Martinetti.

11 Commissioner Grullon?

12 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

13 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

14 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

15 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

16 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

17 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

18 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

19 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

20

21 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
22 action on the following items in total:

23 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

24 (1) Resolution Approving the Payment of Claims

25 (2) Resolution Approving the Payment of

1 Concurring Claims

2 (3) Resolution Approving the Payment of Escrow
3 Refunds

4 (4) Resolution Approving the City Payroll
5 September 26th through October 9, 2020

6 (5) Resolution Approving the Library Payroll
7 September 26th through October 9, 2020

8 (6) Resolution Adopting the 2020 Hudson County,
9 New Jersey Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

10 (7) Resolution Appointing Heyer, Gruel and
11 Associated (sic) as the Administrative Agent for
12 the City of Union City.

13 (8) Resolution Authorizing the City of Union
14 City to Pursue Property Located at 4100 Palisade
15 Avenue, Also Known As, Block 242, Lot 1 in
16 Accordance with Eminent Domain Laws and
17 Procedures

18 (9) Resolution Authorizing the Refund of
19 Premium Monies Collected at the Tax Sale

20 (10) Resolution Authorizing the Adjustment of a
21 Tax Bill Due to a Change in Assessment

22 (11) Resolution Cancelling Overbills on the 4th
23 Quarter

24 (12) Resolution Authorizing Refund of Redemption
25 Monies to Outside Lienholders

- 1 (13) Resolution Cancelling Taxes on a Property
2 Deemed Exempt
- 3 (14) Resolution Removing a Lien Placed on 1009-
4 1015 Central Avenue Pursuant to a Settlement
5 Agreement
- 6 (15) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
7 of the Downtown Liquor Store, Inc. (T/A Downtown
8 Liquor Store) Located at 401-5th Street, Liquor
9 License No. 0910-44-124-006
- 10 (16) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
11 of the Ortea Jose & Aida (T/A Crowne Liquor)
12 Located at 428-32nd Street, Liquor License No.
13 0910-44-037-006
- 14 (17) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
15 of the Dos Hijas, LLC (T/A Las Estrellas de
16 Mexico) Liquor License No. 0910-33-176-008
17 (pocket license)
- 18 (18) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
19 of Posadas Ramon (T/A Las Rosas Restaurant &
20 Café) Liquor License No. 0910-33-128-004 (pocket
21 license)
- 22 (19) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
23 of the Sol Chicken (T/A Sol Chicken, Inc.)
24 Located at 2903 Bergenline Avenue, Liquor License
25 No. 0910-33-126-007

- 1 (20) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
2 of Hamlet Ent 2, LLC (T/A Mamasushi), Located at
3 3417 Park Avenue, Liquor Licnese (sic) No.
4 0910-33-119-006
- 5 (21) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
6 of Israel Rodriquez (T/A Salinas Bar), Located at
7 619 New York Avenue, Liquor License No.
8 0910-33-050-005
- 9 (22) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
10 of Mi Otra Casita Bar & Liquor Inc. (T/A Mi Otra
11 Casita Bar & Restaurant), Liquor License No.
12 0910-33-080-009 (pocket license)
- 13 (23) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
14 of Caguas Bar Café (T/A Eduardo Cruz), Liquor
15 License No. 0910-33-106-005 (pocket license)
- 16 (24) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
17 of Jimenez de Hey Berta, LLC (T/A Valparaiso
18 Restaurant), Liquor License No. 0910-33-034-004
19 (pocket license)
- 20 (25) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
21 of Keido, Inc. (T/A Latin American Restaurant),
22 Located at 4317 Bergenline Avenue, Liquor License
23 No. 0910-33-052-006
- 24 (26) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
25 of St. Rose of Lima Columbian Club, Inc. (T/A St.

1 Rose of Lima Columbian Club), Located at
2 2310-2314 Summit Avenue, Liquor License No.
3 0910-33-198-003
4 (27) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
5 of A&C 2004 Corp (T/A Union City Social Eatery
6 and Lounge), Located at 414-38th Street, Liquor
7 License No. 0910-33-149-006 (with special
8 conditions)
9 (28) Resolution Approving the 2020-2021 Renewal
10 of RG Enterprise Entertainment Inc (T/A Therapy
11 Lounge), Located at 2803 Bergenline Avenue,
12 Liquor License No. 0910-33-134-006 (with special
13 conditions)
14 (29) Resolution Renaming 13th Street and
15 Bergenline Avenue as "Mr. Armando N. Casillas
16 Way".)

17
18 CITY CLERK: There are 30 items on the
19 Consent Agenda.

20 The first is a Resolution Approving the
21 Payment of Claims.

22 The second is a Resolution Approving the
23 Payment of Concurring Claims.

24 Third is a Resolution Approving Payroll of
25 -- Payment of Escrow Refunds.

1 Fourth is a Resolution Approving the City
2 Payroll for the period of September 26th through
3 October 9th, 2020.

4 Fifth is a Resolution Approving the Library
5 Payroll for the period of September 26th through
6 October 9th, 2020.

7 Sixth is a Resolution Adopting the 2020
8 Hudson County, New Jersey Hazard Mitigation Plan
9 Update.

10 The seventh is a Resolution Appointing
11 Heyer, Gruel and Associates as the Administrative
12 Agent for City of Union City.

13 Eighth is a Resolution Authorizing the City
14 to Pursue Property Located at 4100 Palisade
15 Avenue, Also Known As, Block 242, Lot 1 in
16 Accordance with Eminent Domain Laws and
17 Procedures.

18 The ninth is a Resolution Authorizing the
19 Refund of Premium Monies Collected at the Tax
20 Sale.

21 Tenth is a Resolution Authoriz--
22 Authorizing the Adjustment of the Tax Bill Due to
23 a Change in Assessment.

24 Eleventh is a Resolution Cancelling
25 Overbills for the Fourth Quarter.

1 The twelfth is a Resolution Authorizing
2 Refund of Redemption Monies to Outside
3 Lienholders.

4 Thirteenth is a Resolution Cancelling Taxes
5 to a Property Deemed Exempt.

6 The fourteenth is a Resolution Removing a
7 Lien Placed on 1009-1015 Central Avenue, Pursuant
8 to a Settlement Agreement.

9 Fifteenth is a Resolution Approving the
10 2020-2021 Renewal of Downtown Liquor Store,
11 Incorporated, trading as Downtown Liquor Store,
12 Located at 401 5th Street, Liquor License Number
13 0910-44-124-006.

14 Sixteenth is a Resolution Approving a --
15 the Renewal of Ortea, Jose and Aida, trading as
16 Crowne Liquor, Located at 428 32nd Street, Liquor
17 License Number 0910-44-037-006.

18 Seventeenth is a Resolution Approving the
19 License Renewal for Dos Hijas, LLC, trading as
20 Las Estrellas de Mexico, Liquor License Number
21 0910-33-176-008. It's a pocket license.

22 The eighteenth is a Resolution Approving
23 the Renewal for Posadas Ramon, trading as Las
24 Rosas Restaurant and Café, Liquor License Number
25 0910-33-128-004. It's also a pocket license.

1 Nineteen is a Resolution Approving the
2 Renewal of the Sol Chicken, trading as Sol
3 Chicken, Incorporated, Located at 2903 Bergenline
4 Avenue, Liquor License Number 0910-33-126-007.

5 Twentieth is a Resolution Approving the
6 Renewal of Hamlet Ent 2, LLC, trading as
7 Mamasushi, Located at 3417 Park Ave, Liquor
8 License Number 0910-33-119-006.

9 The twenty-first is a Resolution for the
10 Renewal of Israel Rodriquez, trading as Salinas
11 Bar, Located at 619 New York Avenue, Liquor
12 License Number 0910-33-050-005.

13 Twenty-second is a Resolution for Renewal
14 for Mi Otra Casita Bar and Liquor Incorporated,
15 trading as Mi Otra Casita Bar and Restaurant,
16 loc-- it's a pocket license, Liquor License
17 Number 0910-33-080-009.

18 Twenty-third is a Renewal for Caguas Bar
19 Café, trading as Eduardo Cruz, Liquor License
20 Number 0910-33-106-005. It's a pocket license.

21 Twenty-fourth is a Resolution Approving the
22 Renewal of Jimenez de Hey Berta, LLC, trading as
23 Valparaiso Restaurant, Liquor License Number
24 0910-33-034-004. It's a pocket license.

1 Twenty-fifth is a Resolution Approving the
2 Renewal of Keido, Incorporated, trading as Latin
3 American Restaurant, Located at 4317 Bergenline
4 Avenue, Liquor License Number 0910-33-052-006.

5 Twenty-six is a Resolution Approving a
6 Renewal of Saint Rose of Lima Columbian Club,
7 Incorporated, trading as Saint Rose of Lima
8 Columbian Club, Located at 2310-2314 Summit
9 Avenue, Liquor License Number 0910-33-198-003.

10 Twenty-seventh is a Renewal of A and C 2004
11 Corp, trading as Union City Social Eatery and
12 Lounge, Located at 414 38th Street, Liquor License
13 0910-33-149-006, with special conditions.

14 The next is a Resolution of the Renewal of
15 RG Enterprises Entertainment Incorporated,
16 trading as Therapy Lounge, Located at 2803
17 Bergenline Avenue, 0910-33-134-006, with special
18 conditions.

19 Twenty-ninth is a Resolution Renaming 13th
20 Street and Bergenline Avenue as "Mr. Armando N.
21 Casillas Way".

22 And the thirtieth is a Resolution to Cancel
23 Outstanding Checks.

24 Mayor, at this time would you like to take
25 public comment on the Consent Agenda?

1 MAYOR STACK: Sure.

2 Anyone wishing to comment on the Consent

3 Agenda --

4 The items that were just read into the

5 record by the Clerk is what we're taking comment

6 from on at this time.

7 Anyone wishing to comment at this time?

8 Seeing none.

9 CITY CLERK: May I have a motion to close

10 public comment?

11 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Motion.

12 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner

13 Grullon.

14 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

15 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner

16 Valdivia.

17 Commissioner Grullon?

18 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

19 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

20 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

21 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

22 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

23 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

24 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

25 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

1 May I have a motion to approve all items on
2 Consent?

3 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Motion.

4 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
5 Valdivia.

6 Second?

7 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.

8 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
9 Grullon.

10 Commissioner Grullon?

11 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

12 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

13 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

14 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

15 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

16 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?

17 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

18

19 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
20 action on the following item:

21 **ORDINANCE(S) FOR HEARING AND ADOPTION**

22 **CONSIDERATION:**

23 1. ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1 ARTICLE III
24 SETTING FORTH PROCEDURES FOR OFF-DUTY POLICE
25 DETAILS IN CASES OF EMERGENCY.)

1
2 CITY CLERK: There is one Ordinance on for
3 Public Hearing and Adoption this evening.

4 It's an Ordinance Amending Chapter 1,
5 Article III, Setting Forth Procedures for Off-
6 Duty Police Details in Cases of Emergency.

7 Mayor, at this time would you like to take
8 public comment on this Ordinance?

9 MAYOR STACK: Sure.

10 Just before we do, maybe Angelo could
11 explain it real quick to the public --

12 MR. AUTERI: Yeah. Sure, Mayor.

13 MAYOR STACK: -- before we vote on it.

14 MR. AUTERI: So this Ordinance, as Erin
15 pointed out, is Setting Forth Procedures for
16 Off-Duty Police Details.

17 This is not a -- a street opening off-duty
18 detail type of situation.

19 This Code provision deals specifically with
20 emergency hazardous conditions where the chief of
21 police, in conjunction with the construction code
22 official, will determine that it's necessary.
23 Hazardous conditions regarding a premises; things
24 like that nature.

25 The City already has a lot of these

1 | procedures set forth in the Code, however, this
2 | will be more specifically tailored for those
3 | types of situations and allow for a hearing
4 | opportunity before the Board of Commissioners in
5 | the event that a lien is to be placed for failure
6 | to comply with the City's request to abate the
7 | hazardous condition.

8 | MAYOR STACK: I'll make a motion.

9 | Anyone wishing to comment --

10 | I'm sorry.

11 | Anyone wishing to comment on this Ordinance
12 | on Off-Duty Police Details, please state your
13 | name and address for the record; step forward.

14 | Seeing none.

15 | CITY CLERK: May I have a motion to close
16 | public comment?

17 | COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Motion.

18 | CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
19 | Valdivia.

20 | Second?

21 | COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.

22 | CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
23 | Grullon.

24 | Commissioner Grullon?

25 | COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

1 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?
2 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.
3 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?
4 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.
5 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?
6 MAYOR STACK: Yes.
7 CITY CLERK: Thank you.
8 May I have a motion to adopt?
9 MAYOR STACK: Motion.
10 CITY CLERK: Motion by Mayor Stack.
11 Second?
12 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.
13 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
14 Grullon.
15 Commissioner Grullon?
16 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.
17 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?
18 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.
19 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?
20 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.
21 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?
22 MAYOR STACK: Yes.
23 CITY CLERK: Thank you.
24
25 OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

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CITY CLERK: Mayor, at this time would you like to take public comment on any item concerning government in the City of Union City?

MAYOR STACK: Sure.

Just before we do, I would just like to thank the members of the public that are here this evening.

The Commissioners and myself move a hundred percent of our meetings around the City in the evening hours.

Besides doing the Mobile Mayor's Day and the other meetings that we do throughout the City, we move a hundred percent of the meetings throughout the community.

The meeting that we have tonight was not only published in the paper and published in various publications but also all the residents between 13th Street and 21st Street received a -- a notice about this meeting.

So I'd like to thank those that came out tonight.

I know we do hold a lot of meetings in the community and a lot of public events and many of the residents participate. We appreciate those

1 residents that are not here tonight, in addition
2 to the residents that are here and coming out to
3 so many events and meetings that we've had.

4 Obviously, due to COVID-19, we curtailed a
5 lot of the events and a lot of the public events
6 but we still do our Police Community Meetings,
7 the Mobile Mayor's Day, and obviously the
8 Commission meetings required by law.

9 So having said that, I'd just like to thank
10 the Commissioners also for sharing in that vision
11 and moving our meetings throughout the community
12 on a constant basis.

13 We're never really in City Hall; we're in a
14 different neighborhood on a constant basis.

15 The reason Commissioner Fernandez is not
16 here this evening, he's covering an event for us
17 that we couldn't be at. He's covering that and
18 he was excused for this meeting.

19 Having said that, anyone wishing to comment
20 at this time, please step forward, state your
21 name and address for the record.

22 MR. SIMONCINI: Good evening, Mayor and
23 Commissioners.

24 My name is Ron Simoncini from the Union
25 City Housing Initiative.

1 I'd like to talk --

2 MR. DILLON: I'm sorry, what was your first
3 name?

4 MR. SIMONCINI: Ron, R-O-N, Simoncini, S-I-
5 M-O-N-C-I-N-I.

6 MR. DILLON: Gotcha.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. SIMONCINI: So I've attended the last
9 two Rent Control meetings and a very interesting
10 thing happened two meetings ago.

11 A landlord was not present and he had been
12 served by regular mail. His attorney was present
13 and said that he was not there for the case
14 because he hadn't been served by -- never got the
15 mail.

16 She was actually there to hear another
17 case, that also was served by regular mail, that
18 they were prepared for. And the counsel refused
19 to hear the case for which they had not received
20 the mail.

21 It's possible that they received the mail.
22 It's possible that it got lost. There's all
23 sorts of reasons why, especially now with what
24 the monkeying they're doing with the post office.

25 So in the next meeting it came to me that

1 perhaps, you know, our organization would like to
2 recommend that this mail not be served by regular
3 mail. And the attorney that night said that the
4 regulation provides that anything that the City
5 stamps and sends out is presumed to be delivered
6 and read in three days.

7 There's all sorts of possibilities for
8 mischief, mistakes, craziness that doesn't
9 necessarily mean -- and we all know that we've
10 had mail that was supposed to come to us, forget
11 in three days, it never got there at all or
12 whatever.

13 We offered at the last Rent Control meeting
14 to pay for the mail to be registered or certified
15 and the -- the Rent Control Committee took up a
16 Resolution that they would come and suggest to
17 you that we had done that.

18 I later learned that it might not be
19 appropriate for us to be paying that bill. But
20 if you would adopt a certified or registered
21 mail, we would like to make a donation in an
22 equal amount to an affordable housing or other
23 housing related initiative in the City in order
24 that there's an equivalent investment in making
25 sure that these cases are heard appropriately.

1 And that if something happens where somebody
2 doesn't sign for a piece of mail you know it. If
3 they did sign for it, you know it. And if they
4 never got it, you also know it.

5 And we'd like to have a collaboration that
6 assures that these folks are held to a standard
7 and that it's something that the City can predict
8 and administer.

9 Thank you.

10 MAYOR STACK: Thank you very much.

11 So -- so I -- I heard about the -- the
12 comments that you made at the meeting, Ron.

13 I already have instructed the Rent Control
14 Board -- but I'll do it here on the record -- to
15 send everything out by certified mail and regular
16 mail.

17 If we have somebody who's unscrupulous who
18 doesn't sign for it after receiving two letters,
19 then we'll just proceed like we normally do.

20 But we'll send it out certified mail and
21 regular mail. There's no contribution necessary.
22 No one has to pay for it. It's something that we
23 should be doing and it will be done.

24 Starting -- all notices that go out should
25 be sent out certified mail and regular mail. And

1 they should indicate the number at the bottom of
2 the letter and that it went out --

3 The same as you would do, Angelo, from your
4 office.

5 MR. AUTERI: Sure.

6 MAYOR STACK: Just make sure Neil Marotta
7 knows; each Rent Control Board member knows. And
8 also, obviously, Kennedy Ng as the Administrator.

9 That will be taken care of.

10 MR. SIMONCINI: Thank you, Mayor.

11 MAYOR STACK: Absolutely.

12 Anyone else wishing to comment at this
13 time, please step forward, state your name and
14 address for the record.

15 Seeing no other.

16 CITY CLERK: May I have a motion to close
17 public comment?

18 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Motion.

19 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
20 Martinetti.

21 Second?

22 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.

23 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

24 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
25 Grullon.

1 Commissioner Grullon?
2 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.
3 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?
4 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.
5 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?
6 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.
7 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?
8 MAYOR STACK: Yes.
9 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

10

11

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1 LIQUOR LICENSE PUBLIC HEARINGS

2

3 1. Jose Miguel Sanchez

4 T/A International Mini Market

5 425 8th Street

6 0910-43-023-013

7

8 2. La Sorpresa Corp.

9 T/A La Sorpresa Supermarket

10 1319 Summit Avenue

11 0910-43-042-005

12

13 3. Bambinas Bar & Restaurant LLC

14 T/A Milagro Bar

15 2906 Bergenline Avenue

16 0910-33-040-009

17

18 4. El Idolo, LLC

19 T/A Coromoto (f/k/a Angelo's Café)

20 4215 Park Avenue

21 0910-33-111-008

22

23 5. Jaunita's II, LLC

24 T/A Juanita's Restaurant II

25 2904 Bergenline Avenue

1 0910-33-144-010

2

3 CITY CLERK: At this time we have Liquor
4 License Disciplinary Hearings.

5 MAYOR STACK: This portion of the meeting
6 that we're doing right now is on Liquor License
7 Hearings -- Disciplinary Hearings.

8 Everyone is welcome to stay. That's just
9 the portion of the meeting that we're going to
10 right now, on Liquor License Hearings.

11 Mr. Farmer?

12 MR. FARMER: Okay.

13 Good evening.

14 MAYOR STACK: Mr. Farmer, maybe if it's --
15 if it's a little bit easier, maybe Dave, if you
16 wanted to turn that sideways. I -- I know
17 sometimes --

18 SERGEANT DUNLAY: Come here, Mr. Farmer.

19 MAYOR STACK: -- Mr. Farmer comes up.

20 And maybe -- maybe the others can stand by
21 the table for social distancing. Whatever --
22 whatever works better if there's multiple people.

23 SERGEANT DUNLAY: Thanks, bud.

24 Um-hum.

25 MAYOR STACK: Or Mr. Farmer could step

1 away; --

2 MR. FARMER: Okay.

3 MAYOR STACK: -- they could step to the
4 podium.

5 MR. FARMER: Let's see how we go.

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1 | Jose Miguel Sanchez
2 | T/A International Mini Market
3 | 425 8th Street
4 | 0910-43-023-013
5 |
6 | MR. FARMER: International Mini Market.
7 | MAYOR STACK: So, number 1.
8 | Jose Miguel Sanchez trading as
9 | International Mini Market, 425 8th Street, 0910-
10 | 43-023-013.
11 | (Whereupon, Sergeant Dunlay translated for
12 | Jose Miguel Sanchez.)
13 | SERGEANT DUNLAY: (Spanish was spoken.)
14 | MR. SANCHEZ: Jose Miguel Sanchez.
15 | SERGEANT DUNLAY: (Spanish was spoken) --
16 | Jose Miguel Sanchez?
17 | MR. SANCHEZ: Si.
18 | SERGEANT DUNLAY: (Spanish was spoken) --
19 | International Mini Market?
20 | MR. SANCHEZ: Si.
21 | SERGEANT DUNLAY: Okay.
22 | MR. FARMER: This is, as you can say, a
23 | mini market, a warm beer license. He's had the
24 | license for like 30 years.
25 | This is the first offense. It's a paper

1 violation. He sat down with Detective Dunlay;
2 went over the paperwork that's required for him
3 to have. He understood that. He has it.

4 So I kind of think, in light of the fact of
5 compliance -- and not only compliance but good
6 faith effort to partner with the police on what's
7 going on, I would ask that you just dismiss it.

8 MAYOR STACK: Absolutely.

9 No problem.

10 MR. FARMER: And Detective Dunlay agrees
11 because he was part and parcel of the
12 conferences.

13 MAYOR STACK: And just for the record,
14 Sergeant Dunlay, you agree with that assessment.

15 Correct?

16 SERGEANT DUNLAY: Yes, sir.

17 We had a -- I had a meeting with Mr.
18 Sanchez on October 2nd and he was on time,
19 punctual, brought all the paperwork. We reviewed
20 everything. We got -- we went over all the
21 paperwork, what he needs to have, and as of
22 October 2nd, by the time we were done with the
23 meeting, he was up-to-date with everything he
24 needs to have.

25 MAYOR STACK: Great.

1 MR. FARMER: Okay?
2 MAYOR STACK: I'll make a motion.
3 CITY CLERK: Motion by Mayor Stack to
4 dismiss.
5 Second?
6 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.
7 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
8 Grullon.
9 Commissioner Grullon?
10 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.
11 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?
12 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.
13 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?
14 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.
15 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?
16 MAYOR STACK: Yes.
17 CITY CLERK: Thank you.
18 (Whereupon, there was a pause in the
19 proceedings.)
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1 La Sorpresa Corp.
2 T/A La Sorpresa Supermarket
3 1319 Summit Avenue
4 0910-43-042-005
5

6 MR. FARMER: Okay.

7 The next one is La Sorpresa Supermarket.
8 Licensee is here; his attorney is here.

9 Again, this was a paper violation that we
10 had a conference with and spent some time
11 clearing up what should be kept, how it should be
12 kept. And after it was all over, I think
13 Detective Dunlay was comfortable with what was
14 produced.

15 And since they only had a -- a -- one
16 offense seven years ago, which I don't know had
17 five days -- couldn't have been too much, and in
18 light of their compliance, I would ask that you
19 do the same thing that you did with International
20 Mini Market and we dismiss this.

21 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

22 Sergeant, you agree with this also?

23 SERGEANT DUNLAY: Yes, sir.

24 We had a meeting with counsel and the
25 licensee on -- last Thursday. And we went over

1 all the paperwork. All the paperwork was
2 presented.

3 We sat for, I would say, pretty much more
4 than an hour going over all the paperwork, how is
5 the proper way to keep everything. And very
6 willing, very open, and no complaints -- no -- no
7 friction whatsoever.

8 MAYOR STACK: I've -- I've also always
9 personally known that the business is a good
10 business in the City. I know that the owner is
11 very hands-on.

12 A VOICE: Thank you.

13 MAYOR STACK: He's at the property on a
14 constant basis.

15 I wish there were more like him in the
16 City.

17 SERGEANT DUNLAY: I agree, sir.

18 MAYOR STACK: I'll make a motion.

19 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

20 Motion to dismiss by Mayor Stack.

21 Second?

22 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Second.

23 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
24 Martinetti.

25 Commissioner Grullon?

1 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.
2 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?
3 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.
4 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?
5 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.
6 CITY CLERK: Mayor Stack?
7 MAYOR STACK: Yes.
8 CITY CLERK: Thank you.
9 MAYOR STACK: Thank you very much.
10 A VOICE: Thank you.
11 MAYOR STACK: Thank you.
12 Thank you very much.
13 Thank you.
14 MR. FARMER: Take care.
15 MAYOR STACK: Thank you.
16 MR. MULKAY: Stay safe, everybody.
17 MAYOR STACK: Have a good night.

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1 Bambinas Bar & Restaurant
2 T/A Milagro Bar
3 2906 Bergenline Avenue
4 0910-33-040-009
5

6 MR. FARMER: The next one on your calendar
7 is Bambinas Bar and Restaurant.

8 This is the first listing. I got a call
9 this afternoon from Nino Falcone, an attorney in
10 North Bergen, indicating that they were just
11 retained. And I would ask that it be carried.

12 I -- I already sent him everything and set
13 up a conference that we'll have with him the
14 Thursday before the next meeting. So let's see
15 what that happens.

16 So I'd ask that be adjourned until --

17 MAYOR STACK: Absolutely.
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1 El Idolo, LLC
2 T/A Coromoto (f/k/a Angelo's Café)
3 4215 Park Avenue
4 0910-33-111-008
5

6 SERGEANT DUNLAY: The next one is --

7 MR. FARMER: Oh, yeah.

8 What is it?

9 SERGEANT DUNLAY: El Idolo, LLC.

10 MR. FARMER: Angelo's Café is another one
11 just like Bambin-- Bambinas.

12 Ciro Mederos contacted me. He's
13 representing them.

14 So, again, this is a first listing. I'm
15 sure we'll be able to resolve it between now and
16 when we return.

17 MAYOR STACK: Just -- just if we can make
18 sure that they are on.

19 There are some issues with noise that
20 residents in that area have called us again about
21 noise.

22 I know that they open up the doors and I
23 know it's a challenge because of the outside
24 dining.

25 But if we could just make sure that they're

1 at the next meeting, just so we can clear up any
2 noise.

3 MR. FARMER: Oh, they'll be at the next
4 meeting. They'll be --

5 MAYOR STACK: Good.

6 MR. FARMER: -- at the next meeting.

7 MAYOR STACK: Good.

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1 **Juanita's II, LLC**
2 **T/A Juanita's Restaurant II**
3 **2904 Bergenline Avenue**
4 **0910-33-144-010**
5
6 MR. FARMER: Okay and the last one is
7 Juanita's. And the licensee is here.
8 And --
9 SERGEANT DUNLAY: I think they state their
10 name for the record.
11 MR. FARMER: Yeah.
12 Put your name on --
13 (Whereupon, Sergeant Dunlay translated.)
14 SERGEANT DUNLAY: (Spanish was spoken.)
15 MS. ROMERO: Juana Romero.
16 SERGEANT DUNLAY: (Spanish was spoken.)
17 MS. ROMERO: Juana Romero.
18 SERGEANT DUNLAY: Juana Romero.
19 MR. DILLON: I can't -- I can't hear her.
20 MAYOR STACK: How are you?
21 CITY CLERK: Juana Romero.
22 MR. DILLON: Juana?
23 CITY CLERK: Juana.
24 MR. DILLON: Okay.
25 CITY CLERK: Romero.

1 MR. DILLON: Romero?

2 Okay. Got it.

3 SERGEANT DUNLAY: And then just your name,
4 too.

5 MR. CLAROS: Oh. Juan Claros.

6 MR. FARMER: What's your relationship?

7 MR. DILLON: Juan Claros?

8 MR. CLAROS: My mother.

9 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Claros.

10 MAYOR STACK: Claros.

11 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: C-A -- oh, C-L-A-
12 R-O-S.

13 MR. DILLON: R-O-S?

14 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

15 MR. FARMER: You're mother and son?

16 MR. CLAROS: Yes.

17 MS. ROMERO: Yes.

18 MR. FARMER: Okay.

19 Now we've had a conference a couple of
20 times about this case.

21 And there's still with the situation where
22 you were open when you should have been closed.

23 Now we've entered into an agreement because
24 the Board is very sensitive of how much business
25 was lost over this pandemic.

1 Not to excuse your behavior, but just maybe
2 perhaps rationalize it.

3 Nevertheless, subject to the Board's
4 approval, it's my understanding that you'll be
5 pleading guilty and you will get a 15 day
6 suspension; ten of which will be served and five
7 of which will be held as a probationary, sort of
8 Damocles hanging over your head. Because if you
9 get another incident, you'll get the five days
10 back.

11 And this I think is a recognition by the
12 Board of the hardship many business owners had
13 over the pandemic that you can serve that
14 suspension after January 1st, 2021.

15 Is that your understanding?

16 MR. CLAROS: Yes.

17 MR. FARMER: Okay.

18 Couple of things.

19 If you want, you can get a lawyer you know.

20 MR. CLAROS: No, it's fine.

21 MR. FARMER: Have you had -- you had talked
22 with Detective Dunlay.

23 Right?

24 MR. CLAROS: Yes.

25 MR. FARMER: Had enough time to think about

1 | what he said?

2 | MR. CLAROS: Exactly. Yeah.

3 | MR. FARMER: Was the proposal placed on the
4 | record or in front of you or told to you that it
5 | would be 15 days; ten served after the first of
6 | the year and the other five held in limbo hoping
7 | that you do not get another offense during the
8 | licensing period, which will probably end next
9 | June 30th?

10 | MR. CLAROS: Yes.

11 | MR. FARMER: Okay.

12 | Do you have any questions?

13 | MR. CLAROS: No.

14 | MR. FARMER: Okay.

15 | MAYOR STACK: Mr. Claros, have you
16 | consulted an attorney? Or would you like to
17 | consult an attorney before you make this
18 | agreement this evening and --

19 | MR. CLAROS: No. It's fine.

20 | MAYOR STACK: No?

21 | MR. CLAROS: It's okay.

22 | MAYOR STACK: You understand what Mr.
23 | Farmer has --

24 | MR. CLAROS: Yes, --

25 | MAYOR STACK: -- explained --

1 MR. CLAROS: -- I do.
2 MAYOR STACK: -- and everything?
3 MR. CLAROS: Yeah, --
4 MAYOR STACK: Okay.
5 MR. CLAROS: -- I understand.
6 MAYOR STACK: Okay.
7 I just want to make sure.
8 Okay.
9 Yeah, I'll make a motion to approve.
10 CITY CLERK: Motion by Mayor Stack.
11 Second?
12 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.
13 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
14 Grullon.
15 Commissioner Grullon?
16 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.
17 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?
18 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.
19 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?
20 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.
21 CITY CLERK: And Mayor Stack?
22 MAYOR STACK: Yes.
23 CITY CLERK: Thank you.
24 MR. FARMER: That's it.
25 MAYOR STACK: Dave, let me just see you

1 before you leave.

2 SERGEANT DUNLAY: Yes, sir.

3 MR. FARMER: That's it.

4 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

5 MR. FARMER: Okay.

6 MAYOR STACK: Thank you.

7 MR. FARMER: Take care.

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1 ADJOURNMENT:

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3 CITY CLERK: There are no other items on
4 the agenda.

5 May I have a motion to adjourn?

6 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Motion.

7 CITY CLERK: Motion by Commissioner
8 Martinetti.

9 Second?

10 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.

11 CITY CLERK: Second by Commissioner
12 Grullon.

13 Commissioner Grullon?

14 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

15 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Valdivia?

16 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

17 CITY CLERK: Commissioner Martinetti?

18 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

19 CITY CLERK: And Mayor Stack?

20 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

21 CITY CLERK: Thank you.

22 MAYOR STACK: Thank you very much.

23 Thank you, everyone.

24 Have a good evening and be safe.

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1 (Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded
2 at 7:23 p.m.)
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Brian P. Stack
Maryury A. Martinetti
Celin J. Valdivia
Wendy A. Grullon

Board of Commissioners

Attest:


Erin M. Knoedler,

City Clerk

1 STATE OF NEW JERSEY:

2 :

3 COUNTY OF ESSEX :

4

5 I, KAREN A. MARINO, assigned transcriber,
6 do hereby affirm that the foregoing is a true and
7 accurate transcript in the matter of the REGULAR
8 MEETING of the UNION CITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,
9 heard on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 and digitally
10 recorded.

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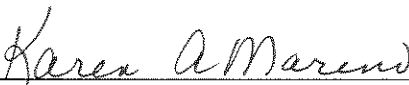
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Karen A. Marino

AOC 493

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24 Monitored by: Kevin Dillon, Jr.

25 Proofread by: Deborah Dillon