

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

REGULAR MEETING

TRANSCRIPT OF
PROCEEDINGS

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
3400 Palisade Avenue
Union City, New Jersey

Tuesday, July 14, 2026
Commencing at 5:00 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 :

SCARINCI HOLLENBECK
BY: SAMANTHA BLAKE, ESQ.
Corporation Counsel

RAMON GONZALEZ, ESQ.
Attorney for the Union City
Alcohol Beverage Control Commission

HILDA ROSARIO, City Clerk

SUSAN BISCHOFF CCR CO.
201-390-0583 SBischoffccr@yahoo.com

A P P E A R A N C E S:

JULIO PICCIRILLO, ESQ.
Attorney for Los Delfines, LLC

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1 MS. ROSARIO: Please stand for the
2 pledge.

3
4 (Whereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance was
5 recited.)
6

7 MS. ROSARIO: This is a regular public
8 meeting of the Union City Board of Commissioners
9 being held on Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.
10 at the Jefferson Elementary School, 3400 Palisade
11 Avenue in Union City. This meeting has been
12 called in accordance with the Open Public Meetings
13 Act. Adequate notice of this meeting was
14 forwarded to The Bergen Record, The Star Ledger,
15 has been posted on the bulletin board in City Hall
16 and has been made available to the public in the
17 office of the municipal clerk.
18

19 **ROLL CALL:**
20

21 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Grullon.

22 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Here.

23 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.

24 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Here.

25 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.

1 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Here.

2 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.

3 MAYOR STACK: Here.

4 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Fernandez
5 will not be attending our Board of Commissioners
6 meeting.

7 MAYOR STACK: He won't be here this
8 evening.

9 MS. ROSARIO: Thank you.

10

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

13 **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:** June 16,
14 2026.)

15

16 MS. ROSARIO: The first item on the
17 agenda is approval of the previous meeting
18 minutes. May I have a motion to approve the
19 June 16th --

20 MAYOR STACK: Motion.

21 MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by Mayor
22 Stack.

23 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

24 MS. ROSARIO: Second, Commissioner
25 Valdivia.

1 Commissioner Grullon.

2 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Abstain.

3 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.

4 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

5 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.

6 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

7 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.

8 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

9

10 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
11 action on the following items in total:

12 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

13 (1) Resolution Approving the Payment of Claims

14 (2) Resolution Approving the Payment of
15 Concurring Claims

16 (3) Resolution Approving the Escrow Refunds

17 (4) Resolution Approving the City Payroll
18 06/20/2026-07/03/2026

19 (5) Resolution Approving the Library Payroll
20 06/20/2026-07/03/2026

21 (6) Resolution Authorizing the Refund of Premium
22 Monies Collected At the Tax Sale

23 (7) Resolution Authorizing the Shared Services
24 Agreement Between the City of Union City and the
25 Union City Board of Education For School Resource

1 Officer Services (Including Special Law
2 Enforcement, Class III Officers) (Term: September
3 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027)

4 (8) Resolution Authorizing a Shared Services
5 Agreement Between the City of Union City and the
6 Union City Board of Education For Off-Duty Police
7 Officer Services (Term: September 1, 2026 - June
8 30, 2029)

9 (9) Resolution Authorizing Contract With Cardella
10 Trucking Co., Inc. For Transfer Station Disposal
11 Services For Type 13 Solid Waste For 2026

12 (10) Resolution Authorizing Contract For IT
13 Webmaster/Website Maintenance Services For the
14 City of Union City For 2026-2027

15 (11) Resolution Rejecting the Bids For Plumbing
16 Repairs Received on July 8, 2026 to Substantially
17 Revise Bid Specifications and Authorizing the City
18 Clerk to Re-Advertise For Bids (2nd Occasion)

19 (12) Resolution Rescinding Resolution
20 #6/1-10(2026) Authorizing Lien At 407 37th Street,
21 Block 214, Lot 19, Union City, NJ 07087

22 (13) Resolution to Authorize Bidding For HVAC
23 Repair Services For the City of Union City For
24 2026-2027

25 (14) Resolution Authorizing a Contract With Adamo

- 1 Brothers Construction For the Ellsworth Park
- 2 Improvements Project
- 3 (15) Resolution Cancelling Refunding Bond
- 4 Ordinance 2026-13 to Pay an Emergency
- 5 Appropriation to Finance the Costs of Emergency
- 6 Snow Removal Services of Up to \$6,000,000
- 7 (16) Resolution Authorizing Contract With the Law
- 8 Office of Wilfredo J. Ortiz & Associates For
- 9 Special Counsel - Legal Aid Services For 2026
- 10 (17) Resolution Authorizing Contract With the Law
- 11 Office of Wilfredo J. Ortiz & Associates For
- 12 Public Defender Services 2026
- 13 (18) Resolution Amending Resolution
- 14 #6/16-31(2026) Authorizing Contracts With the Law
- 15 Office of Wilfredo J. Ortiz & Associates For
- 16 Tenant Advocacy Attorney Services For 2026
- 17 (19) Resolution Re-Appointing Lauren Sosa-Herrera
- 18 to the Union City Public Library Board of Trustees
- 19 2026-2027
- 20 (20) Resolution to Authorize Bidding For the City
- 21 of Union City's 2026 Tree Trimming Program (Phase
- 22 2)
- 23 (21) Resolution Authorizing the Placement of a
- 24 Lien on the Property Known As 419 24th Street
- 25 a/k/a 2314 Bergenline Avenue, Union City, New

1 Jersey 07087, Block 127, Lot 8 in the City of
2 Union City For Emergency Repair Costs

3 (22) Resolution Awarding Contract to Lino's
4 Construction For EMS & Health Resource Center
5 Building Repairs

6 (23) Resolution to Authorize Bidding For
7 Exterminating Services For the City of Union City
8 For 2026-2027

9 (24) Resolution to Authorize Bidding For Printing
10 Services For the City of Union City For 2026-2027

11 (25) Resolution Designating 42nd Street From
12 Bergenline Avenue to Kennedy Boulevard As "Bradhy
13 Guerrero Way"

14 (26) Resolution of the Board of Commissioner of
15 the City of Union City Approving the 2026-2027
16 Renewal of Liquor License No. 0910-33-114-006
17 Issued to Don Luis Restaurant Corp. (T/a La
18 Churreria)

19 (27) Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of
20 the City of Union City Approving the Renewal of
21 Liquor License No. 0910-33-040-009 Issued to
22 Bambinas Bar & Restaurant LLC (T/a Bambinas Bar &
23 Restaurant)

24 (28) Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of
25 the City of Union City Approving the Renewal of

1 Liquor License No. 0910-33-050-006 Issued to
2 Israel Rodriguez

3 (29) Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of
4 the City of Union City Approving Renewal of Liquor
5 License No. 0910-33-174-008 Issued to Pupusa No. 2
6 Inc. (T/a La Pupusa Loca 2 Restaurant).)

7
8 MS. ROSARIO: There are 29 items on the
9 consent agenda, please review them. If there is
10 no objections, please let know. Seeing none,
11 Mayor, at this time would you like to take public
12 comment.

13 MAYOR STACK: Yes, just on the agenda,
14 items that are another consent agenda. Anyone
15 wishing to comment on the consent agenda, please
16 step forward and state your name for the record.
17 That's the items that are on the consent agenda.
18 Seeing none, make a motion to close.

19 MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by Mayor
20 Stack. Second?

21 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

22 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.
23 Commissioner Gullon.

24 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

25 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.

1 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

2 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.

3 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

4 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.

5 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

6 MS. ROSARIO: May I have a motion to
7 approve all items on the consent agenda?

8 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Motion.

9 MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by
10 Commissioner Valdivia.

11 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.

12 MS. ROSARIO: Second, Commissioner
13 Grullon.

14 Commissioner Grullon.

15 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

16 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.

17 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

18 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.

19 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

20 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.

21 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

22

23 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
24 action on the following item:

25 **REGULAR AGENDA:**

1 1. Resolution approving the payment of
2 claims to the Union City Board of Education.)

3
4 MS. ROSARIO: The next item is one item
5 on the regular agenda, resolution approving the
6 payment of claims to the Union City Board of
7 Education.

8 May I have a motion to approve?

9 MAYOR STACK: Motion.

10 MS. BLAKE: Under the doctrine of
11 necessity.

12 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Second.

13 MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by Mayor
14 Stack. Second, Commissioner Martinetti.

15 Commissioner Grullon.

16 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

17 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.

18 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

19 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.

20 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

21 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.

22 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

23
24 (Whereupon, the Board discussed and took
25 action on the following item:

ORDINANCE FOR HEARING AND ADOPTION CONSIDERATION:

1. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 16 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF UNION CITY TO REVISE PARKING PERMIT FEES AND RESTRICTIONS.)

MS. ROSARIO: The next item is ordinance for hearing and adoption consideration. An ordinance amending Chapter 16 of the code of the City of Union City to reviews parking permit fees and restrictions.

Mayor, at this time, would you like to take public comment on this ordinance?

MAYOR STACK: Anyone wishing to comment on this ordinance at this time on the parking permit fees, please step forward. Seeing none I make a motion to close.

MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by Mayor Stack. Second?

COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Second.

MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Grullon.
Commissioner Grullon.

COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.

COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.

1 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

2 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.

3 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

4 MS. ROSARIO: May I have a motion to
5 adopt?

6 MAYOR STACK: Motion.

7 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

8 MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by Mayor
9 Stack. Second, Commissioner Valdivia.

10 Commissioner Gullon.

11 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

12 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.

13 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

14 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.

15 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

16 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.

17 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

18

19 **OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

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21 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor, at this time, would
22 you like to take public comment?

23 MAYOR STACK: Yes. Anyone wishing to
24 comment on any matter concerning municipal
25 government in the City of Union City, please step

1 forward, state your name and address for the
2 record? Anyone wishing to comment at this time,
3 please step forward, state your name and address
4 for the record? Seeing no one wishing to comment
5 at this time, I'll make a motion to close and then
6 we could start the liquor hearings.

7 MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by Mayor
8 Stack. Second?

9 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

10 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.
11 Commissioner Gullon.

12 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

13 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.

14 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

15 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.

16 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

17 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.

18 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

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LIQUOR LICENSE HEARINGS:

1. Luna Inc.
T/a Las Estrellas de Mexico
2421 West Street
0910-33-164-005
2. Dirve Corporation
T/a The Hub Again
807 7th Street
0910-33-049-002
3. Los Delfines, LLC
T/a EL Sombrero
2506 Bergenline Avenue
0910-33-136-020
(Julio Piccirillo, Esq.)
4. Jay Mataji, Inc.
T/a Power Liquors
1001 Bergenline Avenue
0910-44-070-005
5. Jose Miguel Sanchez
T/a International Mini Market
425 8th Street
0910-43-023-013
6. Hearing for removal of special condition on license
Hamilton Fork & Knife, LLC
T/a Arre Sinaloa
4605 Park Avenue
0910-33-176-022

1 1. Luna Inc.
2 T/a Las Estrellas de Mexico
3 2421 West Street
4 0910-33-164-005

5 MS. ROSARIO: Mr. Gonzalez.

6 MR. GONZALEZ: Thank you. Good
7 afternoon, Mayor, Commissioners. For the record,
8 Ramon Gonzalez, G-O-N-Z-A-L-E-Z, ABC prosecutor
9 for the City of Union City. We have six matters.
10 First matter is Luna Inc., trading as Las
11 Estrellas de Mexico. They're here present, Mr.
12 Pedro Luna is here.

13 Mr. Luna and I had earlier discussions.
14 There are two violations, one is not wearing a bar
15 card and the video was not recording complete
16 footage. Today, he's had an opportunity to show
17 us the remediation that he has. He's now
18 recording 70 days and the one employee that was
19 behind the bar has obtained the bar card. Based
20 on that, it's my recommendation that it be a
21 five-day closing. He's a restaurant, he already
22 closes at midnight. I told him if it was
23 acceptable, it would just mean that he would not
24 be able to serve alcohol, he can continue his
25 business.

 Now, Mr. Luna, do you want to get a

1 lawyer or do you want to resolve this today?

2 MR. LUNA: Today.

3 MR. GONZALEZ: Okay. You've heard what
4 I said to the Board, you understand that?

5 MR. LUNA: Yes.

6 MR. GONZALEZ: And you agree to that?

7 MR. LUNA: Yes.

8 MR. GONZALEZ: Mayor, I would recommend
9 the five-day suspension, based on remedial action
10 that he has taken.

11 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: He has to
12 enter his appearance, please?

13 MR. LUNA: Pedro Luna.

14 MAYOR STACK: Thank you very much. Any
15 Commissioners have anything on this matter?
16 Seeing none, I'll make a motion to accept.

17 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

18 MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by Mayor
19 Stack. Second, Commissioner Valdivia.

20 Commissioner Grullon.

21 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

22 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.

23 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

24 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.

25 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

1 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.

2 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

3 MR. GONZALEZ: Okay, thank you.

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1 2. Dirve Corporation
2 T/a The Hub Again
3 807 7th Street
4 0910-33-049-002

5 MR. GONZALEZ: The next matter we have a
6 The Hub, they're present right here. Please state
7 your name for the record.

8 MR. KENNEDY: John Kennedy.

9 MR. GONZALEZ: Mr. Kennedy, what's your
10 position at The Hub?

11 MR. KENNEDY: I'm the manager.

12 MR. GONZALEZ: Okay. We're HERE today
13 because there was issues with maintaining the
14 books, he's presented that he's corrected the
15 situation. It would be a first offense. Under
16 the circumstances, I would recommend what is the
17 minimum, which is a one-day suspension. And I
18 believe Mr. Kennedy has agreed to that. That's in
19 consideration with him taking care of the problem
20 and that's actually the minimum that the state
21 requires also. So that's in line with everything
22 that we usually do.

23 MAYOR STACK: Okay. Sir, did you have
24 anything you wanted to add?

25 MR. KENNEDY: No, no, I'm good.

 MAYOR STACK: Your role with the

1 establishment, you're the owner?

2 MR. KENNEDY: The manager, yes.

3 MAYOR STACK: I got it. Commissioners
4 have anything? I'll make a motion to approve.

5 MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by Mayor
6 Stack.

7 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

8 MS. ROSARIO: Second, Commissioner
9 Valdivia.

10 Commissioner Grullon.

11 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

12 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.

13 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

14 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.

15 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

16 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.

17 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

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1 3. Los Delfines, LLC
2 T/a EL Sombrero
3 2506 Bergenline Avenue
4 0910-33-136-020
5 (Julio Piccirillo, Esq.)

6 MR. GONZALEZ: Next matter we have is
7 Los Delfines at 2506 Bergenline Avenue. They are
8 actually represented by counsel. Please state
9 your name.

10 MR. PICCIRILLO: Good afternoon, Board
11 Members, Julio Piccirillo, P-I-C-C-I-R-I-L-L-O, on
12 behalf of Los Delfines doing business as El
13 Sombrero.

14 MR. GONZALEZ: And the gentleman that's
15 here?

16 MR. PICCIRILLO: His name is Pedro
17 Costa.

18 MR. GONZALEZ: We're here on a 60-day
19 camera violation, which in fact was incorrect. It
20 was recording the appropriate amount of time.
21 There is a reinspection that corrected that. But
22 there was still a deficiency on the paper
23 violation. So pursuant to the state, the minimum
24 penalty for that would be a one-day suspension,
25 that would be my recommendation and I believe that
 they've agreed to that.

1 MR. PICCIRILLO: We have.

2 MAYOR STACK: How many days is that?

3 MR. GONZALEZ: One day. It's a paper
4 violation because when we did a reinspection to
5 check the camera, they were in fact working.

6 MAYOR STACK: I'll make a motion to
7 approve.

8 MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by Mayor
9 Stack. Second?

10 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Second.

11 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.
12 Commissioner Grullon.

13 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

14 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.

15 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

16 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.

17 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

18 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.

19 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

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1 4. Jay Mataji, Inc.
2 T/a Power Liquors
3 1001 Bergenline Avenue
4 0910-44-070-005

5 MR. GONZALEZ: The next matter we have
6 is Powers Liquors. Please state your name for the
7 record.

8 MR. PATEL: Ramash Patel, P-A-T-E-L.

9 MR. GONZALEZ: Mr. Patel, what is your
10 position with Powers Liquors?

11 MR. PATEL: I'm the owner.

12 MR. GONZALEZ: You're the owner. You
13 understand that if you wanted to today, we could
14 adjourn this matter and obtain an attorney.
15 You've explained to me you do not wish to do that;
16 is that correct?

17 MR. PATEL: That's correct.

18 MR. GONZALEZ: We're here because Powers
19 Liquors had two violations, one a license was not
20 conspicuously displayed, he has since fixed that.
21 And he has corrected the issues and deficiencies
22 on the I-141A form, that has been confirmed. That
23 being the case, it would be a one-day suspension
24 for each violation for a total of two days, which
25 he's explained to me that he wishes to accept, if
 the Board accepts that.

1 MAYOR STACK: Sir, just if you could say
2 your name again and your role -- you're the owner,
3 you said?

4 MR. PATEL: Ramash Patel, I'm the owner.

5 MAYOR STACK: Okay. And you agree to
6 the two-day suspension?

7 MR. PATEL: Yes, sir.

8 MAYOR STACK: You're not looking to have
9 an attorney here with you?

10 MR. PATEL: No attorney.

11 MAYOR STACK: I'll make a motion to
12 approve.

13 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Second.

14 MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by Mayor
15 Stack. Second by Commissioner Valdivia.

16 Commissioner Gullon.

17 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

18 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.

19 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

20 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.

21 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

22 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.

23 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

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1 5. Jose Miguel Sanchez
2 T/a International Mini Market
3 425 8th Street
4 0910-43-023-013

5 MR. GONZALEZ: Thank you. The next
6 matter is International Mini Market. Could you
7 please state your name for the record?

8 MR. SANCHEZ: Jose Sanchez.

9 MR. GONZALEZ: I'm going to be
10 requesting this matter be adjourned. I want to
11 have an interpreter and I also plan on sending
12 Lieutenant Dunlay to do a subsequent inspection to
13 make sure that the problems have been fixed, that
14 helps in mitigation of whatever the penalties may
15 be. But I think that's more important, I want to
16 make sure the problems don't exist. So I request
17 this matter just be adjourned.

18 MAYOR STACK: Okay, thank you. Also, on
19 the agenda, we just to be careful, the address is
20 listed as 425 with, no street. Just make sure
21 we put that.

22 MR. GONZALEZ: It's 8th Street.

23 MAYOR STACK: On our paperwork. Thank
24 you very much. Thank you, sir.

25 Motion.

 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Motion.

1 MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by Mayor
2 Stack. Second by Commissioner Martinetti.
3 Commissioner Grullon.
4 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.
5 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.
6 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.
7 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.
8 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.
9 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.
10 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

11 * * * *

1 6. Hearing for removal of special condition on
2 license

3 Hamilton Fork & Knife, LLC
4 T/a Arre Sinaloa
4605 Park Avenue
0910-33-176-022

5 MR. GONZALEZ: The last matter we have
6 is Hamilton Fork and Knife, located at 4605 Park
7 Avenue. They're represented by the owner, Ms.
8 Felix who's here. She's making an application to
9 extend the hours, one of the conditions that we
10 placed on it when she purchased was that she would
11 be closing at 12:00. As we generally do, once we
12 get an application like this, I submit it to the
13 police department and I ask Lieutenant Dunlay and
14 Sergeant Zeron to please review this. After they
15 completed their review, they have a
16 recommendation. State your name for the record.

17 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: Lieutenant David
18 Dunlay.

19 MR. GONZALEZ: Lt. Dunlay, did you have
20 a read the application or the request that Ms.
21 Felix is presenting?

22 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: I have.

23 MR. GONZALEZ: And what did you find and
24 what is your conclusion and recommendation?

25 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: That she be allowed

1 to operate normally. She has completed over one
2 year now operating as a restaurant business with
3 zero issues in the business. It's going to
4 operate as a restaurant, not as a bar.

5 MAYOR STACK: What time are they closing
6 now, Lieutenant?

7 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: 12:00.

8 MAYOR STACK: What time are we looking
9 to go to?

10 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: The regular time,
11 which is for everybody, 2 a.m.

12 MAYOR STACK: What kind of
13 establishment?

14 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: It's a restaurant.

15 MAYOR STACK: Why so late serving liquor
16 in an establishment until 2:00 in the morning, why
17 is that?

18 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: What Ms. Felix
19 explained to me is that they're not planning on
20 staying open past midnight, but they want to have
21 the opportunity if guests stay a little longer or
22 something to that effect that was the conversation
23 I had. But ultimately her goal is to close at 12,
24 but just to have that option and that availability
25 to stay open a little later in case there's some

1 guests that stay a little extra.

2 MR. GONZALEZ: I think if the Board is
3 to consider this, I think it should be maybe a
4 yearly recommendation to ensure that there's no
5 further problems, that we can continue it. It's
6 not a lot for somebody to come, if the Mayor and
7 Commissioners decide to grant her until 2:00, on
8 this new yearly basis. If there are problems,
9 obviously, she's going to come back. But I would
10 request that maybe it be something that we
11 contemplate on all new establishments, that maybe
12 they come back on a yearly basis. And if they've
13 proven themselves, then we could extend it. I
14 think it sets a bar that they could follow.

15 MAYOR STACK: What time is food served
16 until, ma'am?

17 MS. FELIX: We close Fridays and
18 Saturdays at 11. But somebody people still there
19 at 11:30, they want to stay for one more drink,
20 but I have to take them from the restaurant.
21 Also, I have in the past an opportunity with a
22 customer, they wanted to record like a movie or
23 something like that and they wanted to do it after
24 my closing time. And I had to say no, because I
25 cannot have the restaurant open.

1 MAYOR STACK: I just get concerned when
2 we go from a restaurant and then serving liquor.
3 What happens is -- and I've noticed this over and
4 over again in my years as the Mayor of Union
5 City -- the emphasis is no longer about the food,
6 it becomes about serving liquor, because liquor is
7 where the profit margin is. And that's a concern
8 to me at that location, you have an apartment
9 building above. We have problems with a liquor
10 store that's not far from there right now.
11 There's other liquor establishments in the area,
12 even on the Weehawken side. It just concerns me
13 that the emphasis is going from a restaurant -- I
14 mean the fact that you're stopping now, you're
15 staying open now and serving food until 11, that's
16 three extra hours of somebody sitting there and
17 just drinking.

18 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: If I may? When I
19 had the conversation with Ms. Felix, it was it's
20 not that they're planning on staying open until
21 2:00 every day, it's just that they want to be
22 able to.

23 MAYOR STACK: I would like to hear from
24 her first.

25 MS. FELIX: I'm sorry, yeah, we had that

1 conversation. Also we are not the type of bar, I
2 don't want to do like the type of bar to be
3 dancing and that type of stuff. It's just, okay,
4 the customer got there late and they want to have
5 like a couple drinks, that's it. Also here like
6 kind of -- I don't know, with respect to the other
7 restaurant, it's like not that type of restaurant
8 to be like the party, like drinking until -- being
9 like so drunk. I don't know if it makes sense
10 what I'm saying. My English is not great.

11 MAYOR STACK: You speak fine.

12 MS. FELIX: Thank you.

13 MAYOR STACK: How long have you been
14 open?

15 MS. FELIX: We have been open for
16 four years, two without the liquor and two with
17 the liquor.

18 MAYOR STACK: And there hasn't been any
19 violations, Lieutenant?

20 LIEUTENANT DUNLAY: There was a paper
21 violation in beginning, but that's as soon as they
22 got the license. They've been very good to
23 correct it and they do it expeditiously.

24 MAYOR STACK: What about music or
25 anything in your establishment, do you have music

1 or anything?

2 MS. FELIX: I do, but like barely -- I
3 don't know how to say it -- not very loud. It's
4 not that type of restaurant. Sometimes I have a
5 violin on Friday for a little while. And after
6 11, they leave. But everything is like calm, like
7 not the --

8 MAYOR STACK: Do you ever get noise
9 complaints from the people upstairs?

10 MS. FELIX: Not at all, sir, not at all,
11 sir.

12 MAYOR STACK: Okay. On the
13 recommendation of the Lieutenant and Mr. Gonzalez,
14 we'll allow it. Just don't want to have one -- I
15 don't want to go by see people sitting at tables
16 and just drinking and drinking. The emphasis on
17 this location is not as a bar, it's as a
18 restaurant. And I'm just concerned with going to
19 2:00 in the morning. I'm not going to lie, on
20 restaurants, I don't see a need until 2:00 in the
21 morning on any restaurant. I really don't see it.
22 Not when you have a city as densely populated as
23 Union City and you have people living upstairs.
24 You have buildings across the street, it's very
25 densely populated. And people tolerate a lot,

1 they have a liquor store on the corner, they have
2 restaurants on the other side of the street, they
3 got a pizzeria in the front of the property right
4 there. We have multiple issues in the area. I
5 just don't want another contributing factor to
6 diminishing the quality of life that we work hard
7 for.

8 MS. FELIX: To be honest, I just want to
9 have it, the opportunity, like in case of this
10 movie thing or again a customer came and then I
11 want just don't be rushing the customer to -- like
12 that's all.

13 MAYOR STACK: What time do you plan on
14 closing?

15 MS. FELIX: I'm going to be there, I
16 just want to have it in case. I don't know,
17 depends, 1:00. I have no idea, I'm not ready,
18 just because the movie happening and I couldn't
19 take it, make a little extra money for me and I
20 couldn't do it. And then maybe a couple times, a
21 customer has to go because -- it's not time for
22 him, but not being drunk, just he wants to have --

23 MAYOR STACK: You manage the
24 establishment?

25 MS. FELIX: I'm always there.

1 MAYOR STACK: You're going to continue
2 doing that?

3 MS. FELIX: Yes, until I can't.

4 MAYOR STACK: I'm going to take you at
5 your word that we're not going to have a problem
6 and I'm not going see you back here with
7 violations and I'm not going to get complaints.
8 We're going to allow it, if the Commissioners
9 don't have any objection, we're going to allow it.
10 I just don't want a problem. I don't want fights.
11 I don't want anyone hanging out in front of there,
12 no issues whatsoever.

13 Any Commissioners have any comments at
14 this time? I'll make a motion.

15 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Second.

16 MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by Mayor
17 Stack. Second by Commissioner Martinetti.

18 Commissioner Grullon.

19 COMMISSIONER GRULLON: Yes.

20 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Valdivia.

21 COMMISSIONER VALDIVIA: Yes.

22 MS. ROSARIO: Commissioner Martinetti.

23 COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Yes.

24 MS. ROSARIO: Mayor Stack.

25 MAYOR STACK: Yes.

1 MR. GONZALEZ: Thank you very much.

2 MS. FELIX: Thank you. Thank you.

3 MR. GONZALEZ: That concludes all ABC
4 matters.

5 MAYOR STACK: Thank you very much.

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ADJOURNMENT :

MS. ROSARIO: May I have a motion to adjourn?

MAYOR STACK: Motion.

COMMISSIONER MARTINETTI: Second.

MS. ROSARIO: Motion made by Mayor Stack. Second by Commissioner Martinetti.

All in favor?

(All Board Members indicate in the affirmative.)

(Whereupon the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.)

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Brian P. Stack
Maryury A. Martinetti
Celin J. Valdivia
Wendy A. Grullon

Board of Commissioners

Attest:
Samantha Blake, Esq.,
Corporation Counsel

C E R T I F I C A T E

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of the testimony and proceedings as taken stenographically by me at the time, place, and on the date hereinbefore set forth.

SUSAN BISCHOFF, CCR, RPR
LICENSE NO. 30XI00233700