



**City of Somerville
Licensing Commission**

Regular Meeting Agenda

**Tuesday
June 16, 2026
6:00 p.m.**

City Council Chamber and Remote Participation

DRAFT MINUTES

NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the Licensing Commission's Minutes. While reasonable efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of the date provided, do not rely on this information without first checking with the Secretary of the Licensing Commission.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Joseph Lynch at 6:01 p.m. and adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Attendance:

Chair Joseph Lynch – Present Commissioner
Christopher Allen – Present Commissioner
Jacques Thomas Jr. – Present Commissioner

Others present: Andrea R. Torres – Administrative Assistant; Lieutenant Francis Otting – Fire Department; Captain Diogo DeOliveira – Police Department; Niki Aurora – ADA Field Associate.

Communications

1. Minutes of the Licensing Commission Regular Meeting of 5/19/26.

The Licensing Commission accepted the minutes on a voice vote.

2. Communication from the ABCC (“Alcoholic Beverage and Control Commission”) regarding the local licensing authority’s (“LLA”) option to temporarily allow its on premises licensees to sell alcoholic beverages for one additional hour not to exceed 3:00 a.m. as well as the ability for on-premises licensees located within the public alcoholic beverage consumption areas determined by the LLA to sell alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption.

The Licensing Commission placed this item on file.



3. Commissioner Lynch, in his capacity as Chair, requests to temporarily extend the regular hours of operation for all alcoholic beverage and common victualer license holders to 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m., Monday - Saturday, and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. from their current hours of operation, pending application, and approval from the City Clerk's office. This temporary extension of hours ends on July 31, 2026.

The Licensing Commission approved this motion on a voice vote.

4. Commissioner Lynch, in his capacity as Chair, requests that duly licensed establishments may apply for a permit to operate until 3:00 a.m. during the period of June 16, 2026 through July 31, 2026.

Alcoholic beverage license holders are allowed to serve alcohol until 3:00AM with a closing time of 3:30AM.

Common victualer license holders are allowed to serve food until 3:00AM with a closing time of 3:30AM.

All terms and conditions of any special permit approved by the City Clerk's office shall apply and all rules and regulations of the Somerville Licensing Commission and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts remain in full force and effect.

Captain Diogo DeOliveira has concerns regarding the extension of hours through 3:00 a.m. The concerns stem from public safety issues. Captain Diogo stated that the disturbance of binge drinking, fights, and OUIs may cause public safety issues and will come at a cost. Chair Lynch stated that any disturbance may cause for the extended hours to be revoked. Lieutenant Francis recommended that written communication be sent through the City Clerk's office to restaurants to call public safety officials to render aid. Chair Lynch stated that most cities and towns in the Greater Boston area will participate in the extended operating hours. However, Chair Lynch clarified that the City of Revere will not allow extended hours or public consumption areas. Chair Lynch stated that there are to be no audiovisual on outdoor patios located in the public way. The extended hours now run until July 31, 2026. Licensees must apply for the extended hours permit. Chair Lynch also stated that any disturbance will cause the permit to be revoked by Inspectional Services, Police, and/or Fire Department. The extended hours permit does not apply to package stores. Chair Lynch stated that establishments that do not have entertainment license should not install a television. The MBTA will extend their service on Saturday until 4:00 a.m.

The Licensing Commission approved this motion on a voice vote.



5. Commissioner Lynch, in his capacity as Chair, requests to opt-out of designated public consumption areas as approved by the House Bill H5482: “Act Authorizing Municipalities to Opt-In to a Temporary Pilot to Extend the Hours of Liquor Licenses and to Allow for Public Consumption in Designated Districts in Summer 2026.”

Chair Lynch stated that after speaking with Fire Prevention and Police that the City should opt-out of the designated public consumption areas. Chair Lynch stated that if someone wants to apply for a block party and serve alcohol, they can apply for a one-day special alcohol license. Commissioner Allen stated that due to the last-minute nature of the House Bill H5482, there is not enough time to make the necessary arrangements for the designated public consumption areas.

The Licensing Commission approved this motion on a voice vote.

6. Commissioner Lynch, in his capacity as Chair, requests that the license holder Bindaas Concepts Inc d/b/a Rosebud, 381 Summer Street, AL22-000034 appear at the July meeting for a license update. The establishment has been closed for more than 30 days with no notification to the Somerville Licensing Commission as required.

The Licensing Commission placed this item on file.

Special Alcohol Licenses

7. Dormition of the Virgin Mary, 29 Central Street, requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License (All Forms) for Wedding Reception to be held indoors at 29 Central Street, on 7/18/2026 from 3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Alcohol Service) (SAL26-000019)

The applicant, John Kourafalos, appeared on behalf of the application. Commissioner Allen asked how many will be attending the event. The applicant stated that roughly 225-250 people will be attending. The applicant will also be contacting the Police for a police detail and purchasing the alcohol from a license distributor.

The Licensing Commission approved this Special Alcohol License on a voice vote.

8. Somerville Museum, 1 Westwood Road, requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License (Wine and Malt) for Chamber After Hours, Opening Reception, and Holiday



Party to be held indoors at 1 Westwood Road, on 7/15/2026 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., 9/17/2026 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and 12/11/2026 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
(Alcohol Service)
(SAL26-000021)

The applicant, Anusha Tandon, appeared on behalf of this application. The applicant stated that the first event (Chamber After Hours) will be a collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce in which wine and beer will be served. The next event (Opening Reception) is for the fall exhibition where wine and seltzer will be served. The applicant also stated that the Holiday Party is a private event in which wine will be served.

The Licensing Commission approved this Special Alcohol License on a voice vote.

9. Warehouse XI, 255 Washington Street, requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License (Wine and Malt) for Monthly Music Series to be held indoors at 255 Washington Street, on 6/20/2026, 6/23/2026, 6/25/2026, 6/26/2026, 6/28/2026, 6/29/2026, 6/30/2026, 7/1/2026, 7/10/2026, 7/11/2026, 7/12/2026, 7/15/2026, 7/17/2026, 7/18/2026, 7/20/2026, 7/21/2026, 7/23/2026 from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. (Alcohol Service)
(SAL26-000023)

The applicant, Carrie Hirshberg, appeared on behalf of the application. The applicant stated that nothing has changed from the previous events held. The applicant also stated that there will be TIPS certified. Chair Lynch asked how many dates the applicant has requested as to not go over the allotted 30 days for special alcohol licenses. Andrea Torres, Administrative Assistant, stated that she will look into the number of dates requested.

The Licensing Commission approved this Special Alcohol License on a voice vote.

Existing All Forms Restaurant License
Change of Hours and 2AM License

10. H and P Restaurant Group LLC d/b/a Gauchao Brazilian Cuisine, 102 Broadway, requesting approval of a change of hours and a 2AM license.
Current hours: Monday-Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.
Proposed hours: Sunday-Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m., Friday-Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.
(ALM26-000013, amending AL24-000025)
Continued from April 21, 2026, Licensing Commission meeting, during which a public hearing took place.



The applicant, Rony Figueredo, appeared on behalf of this application. Chair Lynch stated that the business had their 2:00 a.m. license revoked due to noise complaints by abutters earlier this year. The applicant stated that they have taken steps such as hiring security and installing thicker glass to keep the noise in. The applicant also stated that they have called the Police for incident reports and call logs and received none. The applicant stated that they monitor the security cameras inside and outside. The applicant also stated that they will not be requesting the 3:00 a.m. extended hours license. The applicant, Michael Herrera, also spoke on behalf of the application stating that there has not been any complaints in the last 4 months. Commissioner Allen stated that continuous training especially for new staff is essential. Captain Diogo DeOliveira stated that there has been no recent calls regarding the establishment. However, Captain Diogo reiterated that what happens directly in front of the establishment is the applicant's responsibility and recommends for the 2:00 a.m. to be reinstated.

The Licensing Commission approved this Change of Hours and 2:00 a.m. license on a voice vote.

Existing Package Store License
Change of Officers/Directors and Ownership Interest

11. LLH LLC d/b/a Trader Joe's, 145 Middlesex Avenue, requesting approval of change officers/directors and change of ownership interest.
Current Ownership Interest and Officers/Directors:
Laurie Meade (33.3%) (LLC Member)
Christopher Maguire (33.3%) (LLC Member)
Matthew Sloan (33.3%) (LLC Member)
Proposed Ownership Interest and Officers/Directors:
Isaac Chitica (33.3%) (LLC Member)
Christopher Maguire (33.3%) (LLC Member)
Matthew Sloan (33.3%) (LLC Member)
(ALM26-000016, amending AL17-000298)
Continued from May 19, 2026, Licensing Commission meeting, during which a public hearing took place.

Attorney, Dawson Cooper, appeared on behalf of the application. Attorney Dawson stated that this is a simple record keeping item in which Laurie Meade sold the shares to Isaac Chitica.

The Licensing Commission approved the Change of Officers/Directors and Ownership Interest on a voice vote.



Existing All Forms Restaurant License
Adding Entertainment by Performers Outdoors (Private)

12. New England Neapolitan Assembly Row LLC d/b/a Salt and Stone, 463 Assembly Row, requesting approval of adding entertainment by performers outdoors (private).
(ALM26-000018, amending AL18-000001)

Continued from May 19, 2026, Licensing Commission meeting, during which a public hearing took place.

The applicant, Sean Olson, appeared on behalf of this application. The applicant stated that the business will mostly reopen the Friday after July 4th. The applicant is looking to have bands play in the pavilion. Commission Allen stated to be aware of the noise in the surrounding area.

Commissioner Allen opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, Commission Allen closed the public hearing.

The Licensing Commission approved this Adding Entertainment by Performers on Private Outdoor Property on a voice vote.

Existing All Forms Restaurant License
Change of Officers/Directors

13. AMF Bowling Centers Inc d/b/a Lucky Strike, 325 Revolution Drive, requesting approval of change of officers/directors.

Current Officers/Directors:

Thomas F. Shannon (CEO, President, Director)

Brett L. Parker (Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President)

Proposed Officers/Directors:

Thomas F. Shannon (CEO, Director)

Robert M. Lavan (CFO, Secretary, Director)

(ALM26-000021, amending AL23-000026)

Attorney Dawson Cooper appeared on behalf of this application. Attorney Dawson stated that this is a simple record keeping change. There is no operational changes.

The Licensing Commission approved this Change of Officers/Directors on a voice vote.



Existing All Forms Restaurant License
Alteration of Premises

14. MCKD LLC d/b/a Liars, 1153 Broadway, requesting approval of alteration of premises.
Current number of seats: 46
Proposed number of seats: 60
(ALM26-000022, amending AL24-000014)

This is a Notice of Public Hearing for this item. The Public is welcome to attend and be heard.

The applicant, Mary Kurth, appeared on behalf of the application. The applicant stated that the alcohol license was granted to by in May 2024. There was demolition of a bathroom that changed the floor plan.

Chair Lynch opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, Chair Lynch closed the public hearing.

The Licensing Commission approved this Alteration of Premises on a voice vote.

Existing Common Victualer License
Adding New All Forms Restaurant License

15. Los Tacos Hermanos LLC d/b/a Los Tacos Hermanos, 253 Washington Street, requesting approval of adding all forms alcohol license.
Hours of Operation (Alcohol and Food Service):
Monday-Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Indoor Seats: 30
(AL25-000037, replacing AL24-000060)

This is a Notice of Public Hearing for this item. The Public is welcome to attend and be heard.

Attorney Dawson Cooper appeared on behalf of this application. Attorney Dawson stated that there are different cuisines in and around Union Square. Adding the alcohol service would help to enhance the customer's experience. The business has been open for a year and half. The applicant also has another restaurant in Lawrence with an alcohol license. The applicant is also TIPS certified. Commission Thomas confirmed that the indoor seats are handicap accessible. Attorney Dawson confirmed that the seating is handicap accessible. Commission Allen asked if the



establishment will be open on Sunday. The applicant stated that they will be closed on Sunday.

Chair Lynch opened the public hearing. Andrea Ilse, from Union Square Main Streets, spoke in favor of the application. Andrea stated that the addition of alcohol will help to enhance customers' dining options and the local economy.

Chair Lynch closed the public hearing.

The Licensing Commission approved this addition of All Forms Restaurant License to an existing Common Victualer License by a voice vote.

Existing Common Victualer License
Adding Outdoor Dining

16. Leone's Donut Shop Inc d/b/a Dunkin Donuts, 76 Middlesex Avenue, requesting approval of outdoor dining.
Outdoor Sidewalk Seating: 16
(ALM26-000019, amending AL25-000022)

This is a Notice of Public Hearing for this item. The Public is welcome to attend and be heard.

Niki Aurora, ADA Field Associate, recommended this item for approval. Applicant, Thomas Leone, confirmed that the outdoor dining will be for 16 seats. The applicant stated that the location has adequate space to open an outdoor seating area. The establishment has been open since November 2025.

Chair Lynch opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, Chair Lynch closed the public hearing.

The Licensing Commission approved this Public Outdoor Dining License on a voice vote.

New
Common Victualer and Entertainment by Devices

17. Glasser Coffee LLC d/b/a Kima Café, 75 Bow Street, requesting approval of a common victualer and entertainment by devices license.
Hours of Operation:
Monday-Sunday: 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.



Indoor Seats: 8
(AL26-000012)

This is a Notice of Public Hearing for this item. The Public is welcome to attend and be heard.

The applicant, Alex Kim, appeared on behalf of the application. The applicant stated would like to open within the next month. The applicant stated that the entertainment by devices is for background music. The applicant stated that the family has been in the area for 25 years and is looking forward to being a part of the business community.

Commissioner Allen opened the public hearing. There being no speakers, Commission Allen closed the public hearing.

The Licensing Commission approved this Common Victualer and Entertainment by Devices on a voice vote.

New
All Forms Restaurant License
Common Victualer, Entertainment by Devices, Patrons, and Performers, and
Private Outdoor Dining

18. Parlor Bird Inc d/b/a Parlor Bird, 151 Cedar Street, requesting approval of an all forms restaurant license, common victualer, entertainment by devices, patrons, and performers, and private outdoor dining.

Hours of Operation (Indoor and Outdoor Alcohol Service):

Monday-Sunday: 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

(Indoor and Outdoor Food Service)

Monday-Sunday: 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Indoor Seats: 49

Private Outdoor Dining Seats: 20

(AL26-000017)

This is a Notice of Public Hearing for this item. The Public is welcome to attend and be heard.

The applicant, Emily Balkam, spoke on behalf of the application. Chair Lynch confirmed the location of the restaurant to be between the Community Path and Alpine Street. The concept of the restaurant is to serve as a community space with



acoustic guitar and piano. There will be no screens in the space. Commissioner Allen asked if the applicant had experience in the hospitality industry with liquor. The applicant stated that she did have prior experience and her partner is a bartender who is TIPS certified. Fabia Oliveira, the business partner, stated that she has never had any violations with the ABCC or the local boards. The applicant stated that there is 49 seats in total. There are 29 seats inside and 20 seats outdoors. Commission Thomas asked if the seating is ADA compliant. The applicant stated that the seating will be ADA compliant. The applicant stated that she will be the manager of record and will obtain the TIPS certification.

Chair Lynch opened the public hearing. Stephanie Galaitsi spoke in favor of the application. Stephanie stated that this will enhance the community. Sarah Campbell spoke in favor of the application. Sarah stated that the restaurant would be a good addition to the neighborhood. Deniz Ozel spoke in opposition of the application. Deniz stated that she would like the Commission to deny or to place restrictions on the application. Deniz also stated that the all forms alcohol license, entertainment, and outdoor seating will disturb the peaceful nature of the neighborhood. Deniz stated that food waste and dumpster should be a climate-controlled room. Deniz stated that delivery trucks will cause disturbance to the flow of traffic. Liz Connaughton spoke in opposition of the application. Liz stated that there are problems with rat infestation in the neighborhood. Liz also stated that the previous businesses were accountant and physical therapist offices. Liz is worried of the street parking. Mvrat Anamua spoke in opposition of the application. Mvrat stated that he will enforcing any noise issues with the restaurant. Scott Nowakowski spoke in favor of the application. Scott stated that he likes that the restaurant is not located in a major square. Allison Ventura spoke in favor of the application. Allison stated that this will be a delightful asset to have in the community. Kelsey Coffin spoke in favor of the application. Kelsey stated that there are no concerns for the restaurant opening. Dorothy Zarren spoke in favor of the application. Dorothy stated that although does not live in the neighborhood, she would like to bike to the restaurant. Dorothy also stated that having acoustic music will add to the community. Rex Huang spoke in favor of the application but had a few concerns. Rex stated that there could be a public safety issue with bikes and pedestrians. Elizabeth Huang stated there are concerns with noise, traffic congestion, and rodents. Chair Lynch asked Rex and Elizabeth if there are off street parking from the condominium that they live in. Rex and Elizbeth stated that there is a first-floor garage in the condominium. Christopher Spicer Hankle spoke in favor of the application. Christopher stated that this is a community oriented idea.

Chair Lynch asked the applicant if there was a community meeting with the Ward 5 Councilor. Emily, the applicant, stated that the Ward Councilor stated that it is too early. Chair Lynch stated that there are traffic, rodent, and noise concerns all over Somerville. Chair Lynch asked if special permit was acquired for this site. Emily



stated that the space is zoned for commercial use. The applicant stated Chair Lynch stated the sidewalk will be redone by the developer. Niki Aurora, ADA Field Associate, stated that Engineering does not have any concerns for the outdoor dining and recommended for approval. Commissioner Allen stated that this private outdoor dining and asked where the entertainment will occur and the volume. Emily stated that the volume will be low enough to be able to hear a conversation. Commissioner Thomas asked if the space is zoned for entertainment. Emily, the applicant, stated that it is zoned for entertainment and that the building is LEED certified. Emily also stated that there will be soundproofing tile on the ceilings to help mitigate the noise. Chair Lynch asked if there will be any windows open. Emily stated that the kitchen was designed to be towards the back and the window could be open facing the Community Path. Chair Lynch advised the applicant to meet with the neighbors. Chair Lynch also stated that the Commission cannot reverse the decision to zone the building as a commercial space. Chair Lynch stated that he highly encouraged the applicant to meet with the abutters and keep in touch with the neighbors regarding noise. Chair Lynch reiterate that if there are complaints regarding the establishment to make them to the Commission.

Chair Lynch closed the public hearing.

The Licensing Commission approved this All Forms Restaurant License, Common Victualer, Entertainment by Devices, Patrons, and Performers, and Private Outdoor Dining on a voice vote.