



**City of Somerville
Licensing Commission**

Regular Meeting Agenda

**Tuesday
July 21, 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 6:00 p.m. and adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Attendance:

Chair Joseph Lynch – Present

Commissioner Christopher Allen – Present

Commissioner Jacques Thomas Jr. – Present

Others present:

Madalyn Letellier – Assistant City Clerk; Lieutenant Francis Otting – Fire Department; Aurora – ADA Field Associate.

Communications

1. Minutes of the Licensing Commission Regular Meeting of 6/16/26.
The Licensing Commission accepted the minutes on a voice vote.
2. 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.
Continued from June 16, 2026, Licensing Commission meeting.

Babu Koganti was present on zoom and spoke on behalf of the closing of the building sharing maintenance inside the restaurant was needed. Mr. Koganti is also in the middle of purchase negotiations with the landlord. Commissioner Allen asked if Mr. Koganti is unable to purchase the building what the plan is. In response Mr.



Koganit explained if the current landlord can find a new tenant they will vacate but if not, Rosebud would like to purchase the building and continue operating. A decision should be made in 2-3 weeks.

The Licensing Commissioner voted to maintain the existing license and roll back the hours to zero, Monday-Sunday, until they come back in front of the Licensing Commission stating what date they plan to return to business, this was approved on a voice vote.

Special Alcohol Licenses

3. Marzae LLC, 8 Gould Road, Bedford, requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License (Wine Only) for Somerville Fermentation Festival to be held indoors at 191 Highland Avenue, on 8/16/2026 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Alcohol Service)
(SAL26-000024)

Applicant, Eliot Martin, shared the application is to host a series of tasting at the festival with a selection of 4 wines and part of the education component of the speaker series. In response to Commissioner Thomas, there will be no active fermentation on site, and the tasting will be capped at 30.

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

4. Yardwork Productions , 101 Centre Street, Boston, requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License (Malt Only) for Ratchella to be held outdoors at 321 Washington Street, on 8/22/2026 and 8/23/2026 from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Alcohol Service)
(SAL26-000026)

Applicant, Emma Caviness, spoke to the event detailing the location is in the same location as last year with bands, artists, and community partnerships. The event has grown from what originated in the applications backyard. In response to Commissioner Allen Ms. Caviness confirmed alcohol will be purchased from a licensed distributor, all volunteers are TIPS-certified, and they are working with Wizard Security on improving operations during the event. The event is projected to see between 500-700 attendees over the course of two days.

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



5. Warehouse XI, 255 Washington Street, requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License (Wine and Malt) for Music at Warehouse XI to be held indoors at 255 Washington Street, on 8/2/2026, 8/7/2026, 8/8/2026, 8/10/2026, 8/15/2026, 8/24/2026, and 8/25/2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. (Alcohol Service)
(SAL26-000027)

Applicant, Margaret Morrissey, was present to share the application is consistent with what was submitted last month.

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

6. Dormition of the Virgin Mary, 29 Central Street, requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License (All Forms) for GreekFest to be held indoors and outdoors at 29 Central Street, on 9/11/2026 from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., 9/12/2026 from 12:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., and 9/13/2026 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Alcohol Service)
(SAL26-000025)

Applicant, Joe Kourafalos, was present to share outside with grilled foods and inside will be prepared foods. In response to Commissioner Allen Mr. Kourafalos confirmed he has been in touch with both Fire and Police for detailing and all alcohol will be purchased from a licensed distributor.

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

Special Farmer Winery License

7. Independent Fermentations Brewing, LLC, 54 Pawtuxet Road, Plymouth, requesting approval of a Special Farmer Winery License for Somerville Fermentation Festival to be held outdoors at 191 Highland Avenue, on Sunday, 8/16/2026 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Alcohol Service)
(SFW26-000007)

Applicant, Rose Forbes, clarified the event will be held indoors. This is the second year they will be attending the event and will be bringing alcoholic beverages for the first time for sampling and selling.

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



Existing Common Victualer License
Change of Corporation Name

8. Whole Foods Market Inc, 45 Beacon Street, requesting approval of a change of corporation name.
Current Corporation Name: Whole Foods Market Inc,
Proposed Corporation Name: Whole Foods Market Group LLC
(ALM26-000020, amending AL17-000240)

The applicant for this item did not appear during this meeting, this item will be continued until the August meeting.

Existing Common Victualer and Entertainment by Devices License
Adding Wine and Malt 7- day Restaurant License and Sunday Hours

9. La Cosecha Corp d/b/a La Cosecha, 85 Broadway, requesting approval of wine and malt alcohol license and Sunday hours.
Hours of Operation (Alcohol Service)
Monday-Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Thursday-Saturday: 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Hours of Operation (Food Service)
Sunday-Wednesday: 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Thursday-Saturday: 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Indoor Seats: 7
(AL26-000018, amending AL25-000013)

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

Applicant, Diana Hincapie, was present to speak on behalf of the application and clarified food hours are not changing they are looking to add alcohol hours only. Discussion between Commissioners and Ms. Hincapie will work to make servers TIPS-certified.

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



The Licensing Commission approved this Existing Common Victualer and Entertainment by Devices License Adding Wine and Malt 7- day Restaurant License and Sunday Hours on a voice vote.

Existing All Forms Restaurant License
Change of Officers

10. Outback Steakhouse of Florida LLC d/b/a Outback Steakhouse, 120 Assembly Row, requesting change of officers.
Current Officers:
Eric Christel - Real Property Signatory,
Kelley Lefferts - Real Property Signatory, OSI Restaurant Partners, I - LLC Manager and Sole Member
Proposed Officers: Christopher Meyer - LLC Manager, Kelly Lefferts - LLC Manager, OSI Restaurant Partners, LLC
(ALM26-000023, amending AL17-000102)

Attorney Tyler Henseler was present to say there are no operational changes but a matter of record keeping.

The Licensing Commission approved this Existing All Forms Restaurant License Change of Officers on a voice vote.

Existing All Forms Restaurant License
Change of Outdoor Dining

11. Thai J&J LLC d/b/a Siam Ginger Thai Cuisine, 22 Bow Street, requesting change of outdoor dining.
Current Seats: 16
Proposed Seats: 18
(ALM26-000024, amending AL22-000012)

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

Applicant, Jintana Chanthon, spoke on behalf of the business requesting to add two seats to their outdoor dining. Commissioner Thomas confirmed the addition of seats will not block the sidewalk, Niki Auror from Engineering confirmed the floor plan meets all accessibility requirements.

Chair Lynch opened the public hearing. Andre Ilse Jim McGinnis spoke in support of the application. There being no further speakers Chair Lynch closed the public hearing.



The Licensing Commission approved the Change of Outdoor Dining on a voice vote.

Existing All Forms Restaurant License
Change of Manager

12. CRG Redbones Somerville LLC d/b/a Redbones, 55-57 Chester Street, requesting change of manager.
Current manager: Sasha Nisenbaum
Proposed manager: Terry Scott Ward
(ALM26-000025, amending AL25-000003)

Attorney Nany O'Neil was present, along with the new proposed manager Mr. Ward, to speak on behalf of the application. Ms. O'Neil shared a brief background of industry experience of Mr. Ward, which spans over 20 years.

The Licensing Commission approved the Change of Manager application by a voice vote.

Existing Wine and Malt Package Store License
Change of Manager

13. LLH LLC d/b/a Trader Joe's, 145 Middlesex Avenue, requesting change of manager.
Current manager: Justine Rogers
Proposed manager: Brian Foote
(ALM26-000026, amending AL17-000298)

Applicant, Brian Foote, was present on behalf of the change and shared he previously held the manager role in the Allston location for Trader Joe's.

The Licensing Commissioner approved this Existing Wine and Malt Package Store License Change of Manager on a voice vote.

New
Common Victualer License

14. Wings Over Somerville LLC d/b/a Wings Over Somerville, 519 Somerville Avenue, requesting approval of a common victualer license.
Hours of Operation:
Monday-Sunday: 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.
Indoor Seats: 4
(AL26-000023)



The applicant for this item did not appear during this meeting, this item will be continued until the August meeting.

New
Common Victualer and Entertainment by Devices License

15. Rey Nutrition LLC d/b/a Rey Nutrition, 271 Broadway, requesting approval of a common victualer and entertainment by devices license.
Hours of Operation:
Monday-Saturday: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Indoor Seats: 19
(AL26-000025)

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

Applicant, Elva Escalante, with translation assistance from her daughter was present to share the business will be offering nutritional meal replacement shakes. Entertainment will include TVs for menus and background music.

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

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