



**City of Somerville
Licensing Commission**

Regular Meeting Agenda

**Tuesday
August 18, 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 6:50 p.m.

Attendance:

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

Others present:

Courtney Henderson- City Clerk; Lieutenant Francis Otting – Fire Department

Communications

1. Minutes of the Licensing Commission Regular Meeting of 7/21/26.

The Licensing Commission accepted the minutes on a voice vote.

2. Licensing Commission requesting a status report from Core Empowerment LLC d/b/a Seed, 500 Medford Street, ME22-000007, regarding the use of their Marijuana License.

Rebecca Adams, a consultant for Core Empowerment LLC, gave a status report on the use of the marijuana license. It was reported that the business received their building permit in October of 2024 and certificate of occupancy in May of 2026. There were some unexpected construction projects that delayed business from operating. It was further reported that they passed their provisional inspection from the Cannabis Control Commission and that their final expectation will take place in the first week of September. It is expected that they can commence operations in



September as well. It was clarified by Chairman Lynch that they are currently operating under a provisional license and that they will still need to be issued a final license.

Existing Common Victualer License
Change of Corporation Name

3. 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)

Continued from July 21, 2026, Licensing Commission meeting.

T.J. Allen, the Team Leader, spoke on behalf of the application. T.J. confirmed that the application is to change the corporation name to be consistent with the chain wide changes to the business structure.

The Licensing Commission approved on a voice vote.

New
Common Victualer License

4. 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)

Continued from July 21, 2026, Licensing Commission meeting.

Mitchell Blinn, management team member, spoke on behalf of the application.

Mitchell confirmed that there are four seats for customer waiting and one counter.

Applicant shared that the set up is similar to their other locations.

The Licensing Commission approved on a voice vote.

5. Joelitos LLC d/b/a Gaya Pizzeria, 8 Highland Avenue, requesting approval of a common victualer license.

Hours of Operation:



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

Indoor Seats: 8

(AL26-000026)

Applicant, Joel Vivas, was present to speak on behalf of the application and clarified food hours and clarified indoor seating arrangements.

The Licensing Commission approved on a voice vote.

Special Alcohol Licenses

6. TBD Brewing LLC d/b/a Aeronaut Brewing Co., 14 Tyler Street, requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License (Wine & Beer/Malt Only) for pre-HONK and Oktoberfest events to be held outside near the Somernova common space on 9/19/26 from 12:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. and 10/9/26 from 3:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.
(SAL26-000029)

Ron Freedlander, owner, spoke on behalf of the application. Ron shared that they have planned the two events in previous years and that they are looking to expand the area to allow for a larger crowd. Other than expanding the area, the set up remains the same as their previous events. Ron confirmed that there will be live music outside and speakers and that they plan to reach out to their neighbors regarding the potential loud noise. Chairman Lynch requested applicant to reach out to the Police Department to inquire about a police detail due to the estimated number of attendees.

The Licensing Commission approved this on a voice vote.

7. The Somerville Foundation, Inc. requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License for the 3rd Annual Food Nation Celebration to be held in Davis Square Plaza on 10/04/26 from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
(SAL26-000032)

Sal Islam, the applicant, spoke on behalf of the event. The applicant shared that they are moving their event to Davis Square in a private location that they are renting out. The event will take place on 10/3 and 10/4.

Chairman Lynch requested applicant to reach out to the Police Department to inquire about a police detail due to the estimated number of attendees.

The Licensing Commission approved on a voice vote.



8. *Junkyard LLC requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License (Beer/Malt Only) for the *Junkyard Concert to be held in Davis Square Plaza on 9/19/26 from 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
(SAL26-000031)

Jeremy Serbee, the applicant, shared that they are expecting roughly 200 attendees and that the purpose of this event is to revitalize the community and drive up business in the Davis Square area. Jeremy confirmed that servers will be TIPS certified and that alcohol will be purchased by an approved seller.

The Licensing Commission approved a voice vote.

9. St. Anthony Parish requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License for the Brazilian Community Anniversary on 9/26/26 from 8:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.
(SAL26-000030)

Paiz dos Santos, the applicant, shared that the event will be held at their church and will be open to church members only. Applicant confirmed that alcohol will be purchased by an approved vendor and servers will be TIPS certified.

The Licensing Commission approved on a voice vote.

10. Indignant Brewing Co. LLC d/b/a Winter Hill Brewing requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License (Wine/Beer only) for the annual Gilman Square neighborhood block party on 9/12/26 from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
(SAL26-000028)

Hannah Fein, manager, spoke on behalf of the application. Chairman Lynch asked that the applicant follow up with Lieutenant Otting to follow up with applicant to confirm that heating device for food being served does not pose as fire hazard.

The Licensing Commission approved on a voice note.



Existing All Forms Restaurant License
Change of Hours

11. American Multi Cinema, Inc., 395 Artisan Way, requesting approval of a change of hours.
Current hours: Sunday: 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 a.m., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 a.m., Saturday: 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 a.m.

Proposed Hours: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8:00 a.m. -2:00 a.m., Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 a.m.
(ALM26-000027, amending AL17-000096)

Elizabeth Pisano, representing American Multi Cinema, reported that the extended food hours are to allow the concession stand to be open for the earlier and later show times. There will be no changes to their alcohol services. The second part of the application is to further extend hours on three specific dates for the upcoming Avengers movie. It was advised by Chairman Lynch to reach out to the Clerk's Office to complete a separate application.

The Licensing Commission approved on a voice vote.

Late Items
Special Alcohol License

12. Warehouse XI requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License (Wine & Beer/Malt Only) for the Get2TheGig music events on 9/19/26, 9/25/26 and 9/26/26 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
(SAL26-000035)

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

13. Pallet Café, Inc. d/b/a Bloc 11 Café, requesting approval of a Special Alcohol License for a private wedding on 9/19/26 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
(SAL26-000033)

Applicant shared that the event is private wedding with no underage attendees and that the area is secured with no access to the public.

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