



CITY OF LITHONIA
MINUTES–SPECIAL CALLED VIRTUAL MEETING
Situations Restaurant & Lounge, Premiere Restaurant & Lounge
Tuesday, July 6, 2021 @ 4:30 PM

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Special Called Virtual Meeting for Situations Restaurant & Lounge, and Premiere Restaurant & Lounge was called to order at 4:36 pm by Mayor Shameka S. Reynolds. A roll call was taken, and the following City Council Members were present: Darold Honore, Amelia Inman, Vanneriah Wynn, and Ric Dodd. Diane Howard was absent.

II. Discussion

Mayor Reynolds stated to Jeffrey Powell, owner of Situations that the city is receiving complaints from residents that live on Main Street and nearby regarding noise, to be mindful of ordinances, and asked Jeff to be open on how to better the situation to know where you are. Mr. Powell expressed an apology and stated when he initially opened, the first 6-8 months was rough, and he had to close the doors. Last week there were a few events, seeking any advice, loss of staff during the pandemic, cost money just to open the doors. The few events that he had really helped the business. Reiterating the hours. Mayor Reynolds acknowledged to council the need for a proper discussion in public. Councilman Honore stated the application was signed, not holding to what was signed or approved. Asked if there were after hour parties. Mr. Powell stated that his restaurant closes at 2 am. Asked about the hours proposed for the restaurant. Mr. Powell asked that Councilman Honore be specific. Councilman Honore requested that Mr. Powell adhere to the hours assigned and asked that Mr. Powell return to the original hours of operation. Mr. Powell indicated Tuesday, possibly Thursday, and Saturday and asked if he should resubmit his application with hours of operation. Councilman Honore stated that regulating the hours that are not on the application is a problem with the community. Councilman Honore stated that it's fine to have events. Concluding ... Councilwoman Inman stated her concerns were with the operating hours, looking for a solution, what are you looking to do going forward, how will that look for the city, we cannot handle the foot traffic after hours. Mr. Powell stated that after speaking with his lawyer this is the last month for unemployment and people will be forced to return to work. Councilwoman Wynn was having technical difficulty on the call and subsequently asked for consideration for residents in the community, and those on Rock Chapel Road. Councilman Dodd stated whatever you need to do, every business is operating differently, and the city is here to support. Mayor Reynolds stated in summary it needs to be understood regarding the hours and noise, patrons were loud, there needs to be assurance for the city that the business is a restaurant/lounge, and to be mindful of the hours that were approved on the application, will revisit personally to get the hours under control.

Clinton Garibaldi, owner of Premiere stated that he was not yet open, however is open on Friday's, soundproofed his walls and installed double doors at the entry way to eliminate noise on the outside. He has stepped across the street and cannot hear the music and verified with Dawn Massey that she could not hear the music from her home. Sometimes open until 3 am but that has been rare. Legally open to hours until 2am and during the week until 11 pm/12 midnight. Trying to work with the city and council. Councilman Honore, reiterating the hours of operation, no after hour parties, no naked women, no rental of the building, the business needs to close at 2 am. Asked about the events. Councilwoman Inman looking for a solution and asking for alignment of hours as stated on the application, events that don't comply with what was approved. Councilman Dodd reiterating the business should close at 2 am, a restaurant lounge was approved, not an event center, part of the issue can be the noise in the parking lot. Mayor Reynolds stated she will be in touch reiterating what both businesses applied for and what should be adhered to.

III. Adjournment

Councilman Dodd motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:27 pm, however council exited the meeting without adjourning.