

Work Session Meeting of the Sandy Springs City Council was held on Tuesday, December 19, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., Mayor Rusty Paul presiding.

Council Members present: Council Member John Paulson, Council Member Ken Dishman, Council Member Chris Burnett, Council Member Gabriel Sterling, Council Member Tibby DeJulio, and Council Member Andy Bauman were present.

INVOCATION

Reverend Bob Dannals, Holy Innocents Episcopal Church, offered the invocation.

CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. 17-410 Malt Beverage Tasting Ordinance Clarification

Council Member Gabriel Sterling stated this item involves a situation of fairness for some of our small businesses in the City. This deals with mainly the liquor stores who hold a package or distilled liquor license. Currently, if you have a package license for wine and malt beverages, you can allow for malt beverage tastings. Staff thought the malt beverage ordinance related to wine as well, but you cannot allow this with a distilled spirits license. This puts some of the businesses at a competitive disadvantage. This proposed change is about fairness. City Attorney Dan Lee and staff reviewed this ordinance extensively. The corrections will make it fair for all of the City's small businesses to sell and have tastings of wine and beer at their stores. The revised ordinance will remove the portion of the sentence that states, "but in no event with a package distilled spirits license". He requested that Council approve this ordinance revision at their next Regular meeting.

Council Member Chris Burnett asked if this change relates only to distilled spirits.

Council Member Sterling responded this addresses businesses with distilled spirit licenses. This will not allow distilled spirit tastings, but will allow wine and malt beverage tastings. Currently, if a business holds a distilled spirits license, they cannot hold a malt beverage or wine tasting.

Council Member Burnett asked if this ordinance would affect Pontoon Brewing.

Council Member Sterling stated that State law controls that business and they will still be allowed to have their tastings and sales. This ordinance will apply to businesses such as Corks and Caps that have a distilled spirits license.

Council Member Tibby DeJulio asked if there is a negative to this ordinance.

Council Member Sterling stated the City currently allows such tastings for businesses that have both wine and malt beverage licenses. We are not expanding it to distilled spirits, this is essentially the same rules that govern both. He cannot imagine any negative consequences, besides what exists in the current ordinance.

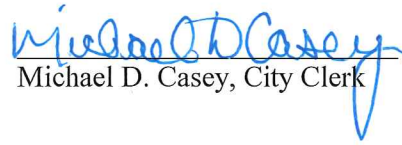
There was a consensus of Council to move forward with this item at the next Regular City Council meeting.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Date Approved: January 2, 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell K. Paul", written over a horizontal line.

Russell K. Paul, Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Casey", written over a horizontal line.

Michael D. Casey, City Clerk