

## **SPECIAL SAFETY SERVICES & LICENSES COMMITTEE**

Special meeting of the Safety Services and Licenses Committee was held on Monday, December 14, 2009 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

### **I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 P.M. by the Chair.

Present: Councilman Richard D. Santamaria, Jr., Chair  
Councilman Paul H. Archetto  
Councilman Emilio L. Navarro  
Councilman Robert J. Pelletier  
Councilwoman Michelle Bergin-Andrews  
Council President John E. Lanni, Jr.

Absent: Council Vice-President Terence Livingston, Vice-Chair

Also Present: Gerald Cordy, Deputy Director of Administration  
Major John Schaffran, Police Department  
Chief James Gumbley, Fire Department  
Evan Kirshenbaum, Assistant City Solicitor  
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committee  
Heather Finger, Stenographer

### **II. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

### **III. NEW LICENSE APPLICATIONS:**

#### **PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT CLASS I – NEW**

***The Grind Inc d/b/a Touch***

Domenic Lubrano

961 Dyer Avenue

**Timothy Dodd, Esq.**, appeared to represent the applicant.

On motion by Councilman Pelletier, seconded by Councilwoman Bergin-Andrews, it was voted to allow applicant to have Entertainment between now and the January meeting, subject to all inspections approvals and any other approvals necessary and actual Entertainment License be approved at the January meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

**IV. SHOW CAUSE HEARING:**

*El Tipico Restaurant & Lounge*  
Jose Ruiz

16 Gansett Avenue

**Mark Gershkoff, Esq.**, appeared to represent El Tipico Restaurant & Lounge.

**Jose Ruiz**, applicant, appeared to speak.

**Solicitor Kirshenbaum** stated that prior to this meeting, he and Attorney Gerhkoff discussed the incident that took place on November 28<sup>th</sup> and since Attorney Gerhkoff had not had time to review the Police report, the licensee has agreed to the following:

- Licensee will have Police detail on Fridays and Saturdays
- Licensee will provide a list of all events at this location to the Committee and this list will be e-mailed by tomorrow afternoon
- Licensee will make sure he has sufficient Police detail
- Licensee has agreed to pay a fine of \$1,500 within thirty days of this meeting

**Solicitor Kirshenbaum** stated that applicant agrees that this is not a good location for his business and he will be referred to the Economic Development Director to see if a new site can be found for him.

**Council President Lanni** asked what type of Entertainment was being held on November 28<sup>th</sup>. Attorney Gershkoff stated that Mr. Ruiz was not present at the establishment on that night, his Manager was.

**Lora Jorzan**, Manager, appeared to speak and stated that on November 28<sup>th</sup>, there was just music with a DJ.

**Mr. Ruiz** stated that he does not have an Entertainment License at this time.

**Councilman Pelletier** stated that he would like to hear from the Officer who took the report of this incident.

**Officer James McQuinn** appeared to speak and gave details of when he responded to this area on November 28<sup>th</sup>. He stated that there were between 350-400 people in the area with large disturbances. One person was severely beaten and two people were charged with aggravated assault. This was eight minutes past midnight. He cannot say if there was music playing inside the establishment. There were cars everywhere and it was pretty chaotic outside.

**Chair** asked Attorney Gerhkoff to relay to his client that if this happens again, the applicant is to call the Police Department. On the November 28<sup>th</sup> incident, calls to the Police Department came from other people.

**Councilwoman Bergin-Andrews** stated to Mr. Ruiz that he does not have an Entertainment License, DJ or any other type of Entertainment is not allowed.

**Chair** stated that Police Detail will be kept indefinitely and this issue will be reviewed by this Committee in the future.

On motion by Council President Lanni, seconded by Councilman Archetto, it was voted to continue this item to the January meeting with Police Detail on Fridays and Saturdays and on any other days when there are events of over 75 people at this location. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalba Zanni  
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees