



Office of the City Clerk

To: Mayor Welch, City of Milton Common Council
From: Leanne Schroeder, City Clerk
Date: May 5, 2020
Subject: Discussion and Possible Action to Reduce “Class B”, Class “B”, and “Class C” Alcohol License Fees for Licensing Year 2020-2021

Summary

All City of Milton alcohol license renewal applications were due on April 30th, 2020. By ordinance, the city requires all license fees to be paid in full by June 16th, prior to Common Council review at the last June Common Council meeting. License fees are also set by ordinance and are currently \$500 for “Class B” Intoxicating Liquor and Winery and \$100 for Class “B” Fermented Malt Beverage and “Class C” Wine licenses. These licenses are held by bars, restaurants, wineries, and banquet facilities.

On March 25th, three weeks before alcohol license renewal applications were mailed, the Department of Health Services issued Emergency Order #12 which required all bars and restaurants to close, aside from take-out and delivery service. City staff recognized the negative impact Order #12 would have on those businesses and discussed reducing alcohol license renewal fees for the 2020-2021 license year. During that discussion, Order #12 was extended by Emergency Order #28 to May 26, 2020.

City Staff is proposing Resolution #2020-10, to reduce alcohol license fees for bars, restaurants, wineries, and banquet facilities (The Gathering Place) for the 2020-2021 license year. The resolution proposes reducing the fees by 25% to reflect the approximate three months of hardship these businesses will endure.

Resolution #2020-10 does not reduce alcohol license fees for “Class A” and Class “A” establishments (liquor stores, grocery stores, and convenience stores that sell fermented malt beverages) because they have not suffered similar negative economic consequences.

Recommendation

Staff offers Resolution #2020-10 to the Common Council for consideration as a gesture of support for our business community.