

TOWNSHIP OF DERRY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
JULY 13, 2021 5:30PM

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Abruzzo called the July 13, 2021 Public Hearing of the Township of Derry Board of Supervisors to order at 5:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Township of Derry Municipal Complex, 600 Clearwater Road, Hershey, PA. He advised that all public meetings are recorded for providing accurate notes. After the Pledge of Allegiance, he noted all Supervisors were present for the meeting.

IN ATTENDANCE:

SUPERVISORS

E. Christopher Abruzzo, Chairman
Natalie L. Nutt, Vice Chairwoman
Carter E. Wyckoff, Secretary
Richard D. Zmuda
Susan M. Cort

ALSO PRESENT:

Christopher Christman, Township Manager
Patrick Armstrong, Township Solicitor
Chuck Emerick, Director of Community Development
David Habig, Assistant Director of Community Development
Maria O'Donnell, Stenographer
Julie Echterling, Recorder

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs. Ellen Freeman, Esq., Flaherty & O'Hara, Mrs. Megan Karns of Karns Foods

INTRODUCTION:

Solicitor Armstrong noted this was a public hearing regarding a request from Karns Prime and Fancy Food, Ltd., for the approval of an intermunicipal transfer of Liquor License No. R-35790 from Lower Paxton Township to 731 Cherry Drive, Hershey, Derry Township. He stated it has been advertised as required by Pennsylvania Law.

Mrs. Ellen Freeman, Attorney with Flaherty & O'Hara, stated she is here with Mrs. Megan Karns, from Karns, to discuss the request to transfer the liquor license to the Karns store on Cherry Drive. She stated this is the first step. They will also need the Liquor Control Board (LCB) to approve and inspect. She stated Karns started in 1959 as a family-owned business and now owns nine stores. The Hershey Karns will be the second store to offer wines and spirits. The first one is in New Bloomfield. She stated they take their role seriously and have put in safety policies for this process.

She stated that they will card 100% of those purchasing alcohol which will remove any gray areas. They will use an electronic card scanner to validate the ID provided for that purchase. Each employee working in the area, whether stocking shelves or running the register, will be trained on how to card, take ID and how to decline a sale. There would be cameras at the register. The store would be open from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. There will be a purchase limit on the purchase of alcohol. There will be seating for up to 30 people where they can enjoy prepared foods. They are taking over the Wine and Spirit Store next to the Karns and once they move out, they can start construction. Karns takes their responsibility seriously and will not do anything to jeopardize it.

Vice Chairwoman Nutt asked if the Township was at their limit for liquor licenses. Mrs. Freeman stated Derry currently has 31 licenses which does not include bars and hotels. Supervisor Cort asked about the timing of when this would happen and if the seating is required by the state. Mrs. Freeman explained that the timing is based on the moving of the current Wine & Spirit Store, construction for Karns, and the LCB's

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approval. She also noted that the state still requires seating for all retail establishments and that is why Karns is adding the required 30 seats.

Solicitor Armstrong asked Mrs. Freeman if the applicant understands that they will need to submit a land development plan for the construction of the store. Mrs. Freeman stated yes and that Karns will obtain all the required permits to open. Solicitor Armstrong stated the hearing can be closed and that this request is on the agenda for the Board's Regular meeting tonight.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment offered.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Abruzzo adjourned the Public Hearing at 5:44 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Carter E. Wyckoff
Township Secretary