

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF PEORIA
LIQUOR COMMISSION
May 4, 2026

A meeting of the City of Peoria Liquor Commission was held in Room 404, City Hall, 419 Fulton Street, Peoria, Illinois, on May 4, 2026, Chairman Winkler presiding, with proper notice having been posted.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chairman: Paul Winkler; Commissioners: Camille Coates, Chanel Hargrave-Murry
Timothy Spears - 4;

Absent: Arius Hounwanou - 1.

Others present: Liquor Investigator Rick Linthicum, Economic Development Manager Debbie Van Sickle, Chief Deputy City Clerk Trina Bonds; media and concerned citizens.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Winkler called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Coates moved to approve the Minutes of the March 9, 2026 Rescheduled Liquor Commission Meeting, as outlined; seconded by Commissioner Spears.

Approved by roll call vote:

Yeas: Coates, Hargrave -Murry, Spears, Winkler - 4;

Nays: None;

Abstention: None.

III. LIQUOR SITE APPLICATIONS

Chairman Winkler read the amendment to Section 3-57, which will be read at the beginning of every Liquor Commission Meeting.

"The Liquor Commission is a recommending body with respect to site approval. Our function is to determine if the location of an establishment is appropriate for the class of liquor license being requested and then make a recommendation to the City Council as to whether the application should be approved or denied. The City Council makes the final decision.

Under Section 3-57 of the Code of the City of Peoria any misrepresentation or false statement made to either this Commission or the City Council relating to the proposed business to be operated on the site can result in a denial of your liquor license; suspension and/or revocation of a license if already issued, and a fine of up to \$1,000."

26-09

CHOLAS THE EMPIRE, LLC

d/b/a Cholas Indian Restaurant

1301 W. Pioneer Pkwy, Suite 137

Requesting: Class B (Restaurant, 50% Food)
Subclass 3A (Sidewalk Café)

Venkateshwara Subbareddy, Owner, Cholas Indian Restaurant, LLC, presented a Site Application for a Class B (Restaurant, 50% Food) Liquor License, with a Subclass 3A (Sidewalk Café) at 1301 W. Pioneer Pkwy, Suite 137.

In discussion with Chairman Winkler, Mr. Subbareddy reported they would be open six days per week. He said their hours of operation would be daily from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. He noted they were closed on Tuesdays.

In response to a question from Commissioner Spears, Mr. Subbareddy clarified they were requesting approval for a full bar including beer, wine and alcohol.

There being no further questions or comments, Chairman Winkler called for a motion.

Commissioner Hargrave-Murry moved to approve the Site Application for a Class B (Restaurant, 50% Food) Liquor License, with a Subclass 3A (Sidewalk Café) at 1301 W. Pioneer Pkwy, Suite 137; seconded by Commissioner Spears.

Approved by roll call vote:

Yeas: Coates, Hargrave -Murry, Spears, Winkler - 4;

Nays: None;

Abstention: None.

Chairman Winkler stated this recommendation would be heard at the City Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

26-10

VAULT PEORIA, LLC

d/b/a The Vault

240 SW Jefferson

Requesting to add: Subclass 1A (2:00 A.M. Closing Hours)

Also Requesting: 60-Day Extension of Site Approval

Existing: Class B (Restaurant, 50% Food)

Beau Landry, representing Vault Peoria, LLC, presented a request to add a Subclass 1A (2:00 A.M. Closing Hours) and a 60-day Extension of the Site Approval for an existing Class B (Restaurant, 50% Food) Liquor License, at 240 SW Jefferson.

In discussion with Chairman Winkler, Mr. Landry reported they wanted to add 2:00 a.m. closing hours on the weekends for their new establishment. He also noted that they decided to change the extension request to a 90-day extension rather than 60-days. He commented they wanted to be open by the end of August, but he requested additional time just in case it was needed.

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For clarification, Ms. Bonds explained the 90-day extension would extend the site approval out until October 27, 2026.

There being no further questions or comments, Chairman Winkler called for a motion.

After brief comments, Commissioner Spears moved to approve the request to add a Subclass 1A (2:00 A.M. Closing Hours) and the request for a 90-day Extension of the Site Approval for an existing Class B (Restaurant, 50% Food) Liquor License, at 240 SW Jefferson; seconded by Commissioner Coates.

Approved by roll call vote:

Yeas: Coates, Hargrave -Murry, Spears, Winkler - 4;

Nays: None;

Abstention: None.

Chairman Winkler stated this recommendation would be heard at the City Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

26-11 **UPSTAGE THEATRE COMPANY, LLC**
d/b/a Upstage Theatre Company
416 Hamilton Blvd. (GAR Hall)
Requesting: Class K (Rental Hall)
Subclass 2 (Live Entertainment)

Jolene Howard, Owner, Upstage Theatre Company, LLC, presented a Site Application for a Class K (Rental Hall) Liquor License, with a Subclass 2 (Live Entertainment).

In discussion with Chairman Winkler, Ms. Howard gave a brief description of her business operations. She reported the establishment held family friendly types of productions including drama and musical shows. She said currently, they cater food for their events and would like to add a liquor license. She confirmed they wanted to offer cocktails, beer and wine during their functions.

In response to a question regarding how often they host events, Ms. Howard remarked currently, they hold events every other month, but she said they would like to do more. She further stated they were open to renting the venue for live music events, wedding parties, etc.

During further discussion, Commissioner Coates pointed out comments related to the fire alarm system that were submitted by the Fire Department. Ms. Howard confirmed she was aware and that she had informed the owner of the building about those comments.

There being no further questions or comments, Chairman Winkler called for a motion.

Commissioner Coates moved to approve the Site Application for a Class K (Rental Hall) Liquor License, with a Subclass 2 (Live Entertainment) at 416 Hamilton Blvd; seconded by Commissioner Spears.

Approved by roll call vote:

Yeas: Coates, Hargrave -Murry, Spears, Winkler - 4;

Nays: None;

Abstention: None.

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Chairman Winkler stated this recommendation would be heard at the City Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Bonds informed the Liquor Commission of a request for an extension for the Site Approvals for 500-516 Main St., LLC that would be on the upcoming June 1st, 2026 Liquor Commission Agenda.

V. CITIZEN'S OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE LIQUOR COMMISSION

There were no citizens who wished to address the Liquor Commission.

VI. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

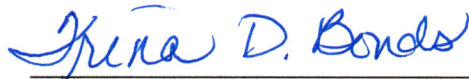
The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Liquor Commission is Monday, June 1, 2026.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Spears moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Commissioner Coates.

Approved by viva voce vote.

The Liquor Commission Meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.



Chief Deputy City Clerk/Deputy Town Clerk
Commission Secretary

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