



This meeting was held in City Council Chambers, second floor, City Hall, 375 Merrimack St. on Thursday, February 5, 2026, at 6:00 PM, and by Zoom invitation.

Video of this meeting is available: <https://www.youtube.com/live/We9uA--GIKA?si=c35RCpuRB4D1kU5I>

ROLL CALL:

On a roll call at 18:00, members present were, namely: **Commission Chair Donahue, Commissioner Krieger, Commissioner Mercier, Commissioner Taing, and Commissioner Underwood.**

MINUTES:

- 0 Acceptance of the meeting minutes for January 22, 2026.

Move approval by Commissioner Mercier; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 years, 2 abstain (C. Krieger, C. Taing), APPROVED.

- 1 Application by Stanley Tabi, for a "Special One Day License to sell/dispense Malt Beverages & Wines" for a Celebration of Life on Saturday, February 28, 2026, from 7 PM to Midnight at the Hellenic Center, 41 Broadway Street.

Mr. Tabi joined the meeting via Zoom. His event planner, Amanda Étinge also joined the meeting via Zoom. He noted for Commission Chair Donahue that he would have between 250 and 300 attendees, and that he's held this license several times in the last few years. Upon the Chair's query, Secretary Pyers confirmed that the event planner for Mr. Tabi's event had just emailed a copy of TIPS Certification for the bartenders.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Mercier. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 2 Application by PJ Mercier, for a "Special One Day License to sell/dispense Wines and Malt Beverages only," for the 2026 'Lowell WinterFest,' to be held on Saturday, February 28, Noon-10PM in City of Lowell Derby Park, 70 Middle Street.

Mr. PJ Mercier appeared before the Commission in Council Chambers. He reviewed the plan for the event and noted that he's operated at WinterFest for the last couple of years and that he's operated this license at many other City events over the last several years. He provided TIPS Certification for the Commissioners.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Taing; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 4 years, (C. Mercier recused due to relation to applicant), APPROVED.

- 3 Applications by Steve Syverson, for four "Special One Day Licenses to sell/dispense Wines only," for the following events at Arts League of Lowell, 307 Market Street:
 - Saturday, March 14, 2026, 3-5 PM: "Close to Home" Reception.
 - Saturday, March 21, 2026, 3-5 PM: "Bound" Reception.
 - Saturday, April 18, 2026, 3-5 PM: "Chronic" Reception.
 - Saturday, May 9, 2026, 3-5 PM: "On the Merrimack" Reception.

Mr. Syverson reviewed his upcoming receptions for the Commission and provided TIPS Certification for his bartenders at the Commission's request.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Mercier. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 4 Application by Alaina Brackett, owner of Purple Carrot Bread Co., for a "Special One Day License to sell/dispense Malt Beverages & Wines" for a Valentine's Day Dinner on Saturday, February 14, 2026, from 5 to 9PM at Purple Carrot, 107 Merrimack Street.

Alaina Brackett spoke about her event and presented her TIPS Certification. She noted that she has held this event annually for the last few years.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Mercier; seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 5 Public hearing regarding an application by 30 Lowell Hospitality LLC [d/b/a] Sonesta Select Boston Lowell, Akshay Patel proposed license manager, for transfer of an "All Alcoholic Beverages" Hotel License at 30 Industrial Avenue East.

Proposed license manager, Akshay Patel, and his administrative assistant, Michael Rowan, appeared before the Commission. Mr. Patel explained that they are purchasing the hotel, that they have a small restaurant and room service. They explained that they're not serving alcohol at the moment, but that the proposed license manager and the chef they've hired to manage the restaurant are TIPS Certified (provided to LC). They noted for the commission that although the proposed license manager does not have a lot of experience, the restaurant manager does have a lot of alcohol experience.

At the hearing, no one spoke in favor or in opposition of the application.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Mercier; seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 6 Public hearing regarding an application by Populus Lowell LLC [d/b/a] Populus, Antonio Lama proposed license manager, for a new "All Alcoholic Beverages" Restaurant License at 15, 19-25 Merrimack Street.

Attorney Michael Zaim appeared before the Commission with the applicants, Antonio Lama and his partner, Erika Herrera. Mr. Zaim reviewed the application and the applicants reviewed their experience in the industry and with alcohol, also providing their TIPS Certification.

At the hearing, no one spoke in favor or in opposition of the application.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Mercier; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 5 years, APPROVED.

- 7 Public hearing regarding an application by On the Bun LLC [d/b/a] On the Bun, Hector Rodriguez proposed license manager, for a new "Wines and Malt Beverages" Restaurant License at 120-122 Merrimack Street.

Attorney Michael Zaim appeared before the Commission with the applicants, Hector Rodriguez and Milacros Hernandez. Mr. Zaim reviewed the application. The applicants discussed their concept and acknowledged that they did not have previous experience with this type of establishment or with alcohol, but noted that they were TIPS Certified. The Commission noted that they did have a lot of business management experience. The owners confirmed that they would also be hiring experienced and certified persons for the restaurant.

At the hearing, no one spoke in favor or in opposition of the application.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Taing; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 5 yeas, APPROVED.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Mercier made a motion to adjourn at 18:29, seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 5 yeas, APPROVED.

Submitted by: John Pyers

Executive Secretary

Minutes are prepared mainly per RONR(12th ed.) 48:2.

