



This meeting was held in City Council Chambers, second floor, City Hall, 375 Merrimack St. on Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 6:00 PM, and by Zoom invitation.

Video of this meeting is available: <https://www.youtube.com/live/QB3ZP6jYYcQ?si=skESmpOelPaiGUml>

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:

- 1 Acceptance of the meeting minutes for June 11, 2026.

Move approval by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Mercier. 4 yeas, 1 abstain (C. Underwood), APPROVED.

- 2 Ratification of an application by Suzanne Hodge, for a "Special One Day License to sell/dispense Wines only," for a "Networking Event with Revolutionary Valley" on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, from 5 to 8 PM at the Loading Dock Gallery, 122 Western Avenue.

Ms. Hodge did not appear before the Commission.

- 3 Applications by Lee Vilieis, Lowell Festival Foundation, for five "Special Events Permits for Amplified Outdoor Public Entertainment." First is for the June 27 Western Ave Studios Block Party from Noon to 6 PM at 160 Western Ave. The others are for the 2026 Lowell Folk Festival, to be held on July 23 for soundcheck, and 24, 25, 26, 2026, at four locations: Boarding House Park, St. Anne's churchyard, JFK Plaza & Arcand Drive, & Market Street.

Ms. Vilieis appeared before the Commission in Council Chambers. The Commission acknowledged her years of leadership in the Lowell Festival Foundation and the Folk Festival.

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

- 4 Applications by Bianca Mauro & Lily Leonard for 3 "Amplified Outdoor Public Entertainment" permits, for the 2026 Lowell Kinetic Sculpture Race on Saturday September 19, 2026, at Sampas Pavilion, Lot A off Hall Street, and Market Street at Palmer Street.

Bianca Mauro attended and spoke to the Commission. She confirmed the plans are the same for this (11th) annual LKSR. Captain Peaslee confirmed for the Commission that the LPD has not had any issues at the event.

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

- 5 Application by Eric Sack, for a "Special Events Permit for Amplified Outdoor Public Entertainment," for Live and Recorded Entertainment for the 29th Annual Southeast Asian Water Festival, to be held Saturday, August 15, 2026, from 10 AM to 7 PM at Sampas Pavilion, 160 Pawtucket Boulevard.

Mr. Sack appeared before the Commission, who recognized his years of service organizing the annual Southeast Asian Water Festival. He confirmed for the Commission that there would be boat racing and explained that they would have safety personnel on site.

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

- 6 Applications by Catherine Apollo for "Amplified Outdoor Public Entertainment" permits for two series of religious worship events:

- Kerouac Park, 93 Bridge St., Saturdays: 6/27, 7/18, 7/25, 10/24, 10/31 from Noon to 2 PM;
- Shedd Park, 453 Rogers St., Saturdays: 7/11, 8/1, 8/8, 8/29, 9/5, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3, 10/17, 11/7 from Noon to 4 PM.

Ms. Apollo reviewed her events for the Commission, and confirmed that she had obtained the proper permits from the Parks Department (on file).

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

- 7 Applications by Vinny Bounnasy for three "Special One Day Licenses to sell/dispense All Alcoholic Beverages" and for three "Amplified Outdoor Public Entertainment" permits for the Wat Lao Mixayaram Boun Pravet Celebration on Temple Grounds, 45 Bernier Street

- Friday, July 3, 2026, from 5 to 10 PM,
- Saturday, July 4, 2026, from Noon to 9 PM, and
- Sunday, July 5, 2026, from Noon to 8 PM.

Mr. Bounnasy spoke about his Temple's annual event to the Commissioners and confirmed that alcohol was only permitted in closed off areas and that the bartenders are TIPS Certified. (Certificates on file).

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

- 8 Application by Gloria Pichardo for a "Special One Day License to sell/dispense Malt Beverages and Wines Only" for the first Dominican Festival of Lowell, to be held Saturday, June 27, 2025, from Noon to 9PM on JFK Plaza, 50 Arcand Drive.

Ms. Pichardo appeared before the Commission with her cohort, Wanda Melendez, and Jhonny Palacios. She noted that this is the second year for this event. Commission Chair Donahue asked Captain Peaslee to speak on the prior year's event, and Lowell Police Captain Peaslee recounted

that he had worked the event, in his capacity with the Police Department, last year – and that the event went smoothly and had no alcohol-related issues.

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

- 9 Application by Ken Michienzi, The Merrimack Textile Company, for a "Sidewalk Stand Permit" for their business at 53 Market Street, for the 2026 Folk Festival.

Mr. Michienzi did not appear before the Commission.

- 10 Public hearing for an application by The Lass Stop LLC [d/b/a] The Lass Stop, to alter the licensed premises of the "All Alcoholic Beverages" restaurant license for 241 Central Street. Request public hearing be held at the June 25, 2026, License Commission meeting.

Kai Zheng, License Manager of The Lass Stop LLC, appeared before the Commission and reviewed his application. He confirmed he is also the chef and that he has a full menu and TIPS Certified bartenders.

At the hearing, no one spoke in favor or in opposition of the application, however, a neighbor did speak – asking questions pertaining to the noise that might be generated and how late patrons might be dining outside. Mr. Zheng confirmed that there would not be music outside. Commissioner Mercier confirmed with Mr. Zheng that he would disperse patrons (inside & outside) at closing time so that no one hung out after hours.

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

- 11 Public hearing for an application by Triple Vision Corp [d/b/a] Galaxy Lounge, to transfer of the "All Alcoholic Beverages" restaurant license for 160 Merrimack Street.

Attorney Michael Zaim spoke for the owners, who were also present: Luis Santos, Elliott Cruz, and Jason Ruiz. Mr. Zaim reviewed the application and experience of the owners. He reviewed a little history of the premises and noted that all three owners are TIPS Certified.

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.

- 12 Public hearing regarding revising City of Lowell alcoholic beverages regulations to accept the temporary provisions in the Massachusetts House Bill to extend On-Premises alcohol service hours one hour and/or designate public consumption districts.

At the hearing, five people spoke in favor of the 3 AM closing, including Ernesto Lugo of Tesco bar; and Peter Tamajong, Julius Akai, & Emile Kamadeu of Sahel Lounge. No one spoke in favor of designated public consumption areas. No one from the public spoke in opposition of the proposals.

The Commission asked some clarifying questions of City Solicitor Wood. Lowell Police Captain Peaslee stated that Lowell Police Superintendent Hudon had made no recommendation for or against the proposals, and that LPD would put its manpower wherever it needed to be whenever it is needed.

Motion to approve an “extension of on-premises alcohol service by one hour only” by Commissioner Taing; seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 2 yeas (C. Taing, C. Krieger), 3 nays (C. Donahue, C. Underwood, C. Mercier) on a roll-call vote, MOTION LOST.

- 13 Request for a Public hearing for an application by The Mill Sports Lounge LLC, Bernice Martinez, proposed license manager, for a new "All Alcoholic Beverages" Restaurant license for 110 Gorham Street. Request public hearing be held at the July 9, 2026, License Commission meeting.

Commission Chair Donahue requested that Captain Peaslee investigate a compliance incident listed on the application.

Motion to hold a hearing at the July 9, 2026, License Commission meeting by Commissioner Mercier; seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 5 yeas, APPROVED.

- 14 Incident Reports

Motion to place the matters on file by Commissioner Mercier, seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 5 yeas, APPROVED.

Commissioner Krieger made a motion and the Commission unanimously approved recognition and appreciation of Commissioner Taing’s contributions during his tenure with License Commission.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Krieger made a motion to adjourn at 18:39, seconded by Commissioner Taing. 5 yeas, APPROVED.

Submitted by: John Pyers

Executive Secretary

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

