



This meeting was held in City Council Chambers, second floor, City Hall, 375 Merrimack St. on Thursday, July 9, 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, and Commissioner Underwood. Commissioner Mercier was absent.

MINUTES:

- 1 Acceptance of the meeting minutes for June 25, 2026.

Move approval by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 2 Application by Linda Chan Flynn, Lowell Community Health Center, for a "Special Events Permit for Amplified Outdoor Public Entertainment," for live and recorded music for their annual employee BBQ to be held Wednesday, August 5, 2026, from 11 AM to 9 PM at 161 Jackson Street.

Ms. Chan Flynn appeared before the Commission and reviewed her application.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Underwood; seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 3 Application by Rothanak Sarath for a "Special Events Permit for Amplified Outdoor Public Entertainment," for announcements for a Cornhole Tournament on Sunday, July 19, 2026 from 11 AM to 5 PM at Clemente Park, 803 Middlesex Street.

Mr. Sarath joined the meeting via Zoom. He explained that the event is an annual fundraiser to raise money for school supplies.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Underwood; seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 4 Application by Laura Lamarre Anderson, Lala Books, for a seasonal "Sidewalk Stand Permit" during store hours, through October 2026, for their business at 189 Market Street.

Ms. Anderson spoke to the Commission about her participation in Folk Fest.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 5 Application by Rachel Chandler, Hive Public Market, 101 Paige Street, for a "Sidewalk Stand Permit" at 101 Paige Street and 45 Merrimack Street entrances, for the 2026 Folk Festival and seasonal through October.

Ms. Chandler explained that her stands would be just like selling the stuff inside – only it would be outside.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Underwood; seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 6 Application by Mark Coddair, Marx Running & Fitness Center, 118 Merrimack Street, for a "Sidewalk Stand Permit" at that address, for the 2026 Folk Festival and seasonal through October.

Mr. Coddair reviewed his plans and noted that this would be his 20th year.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 7 Application by Vidong Pich, Fork!n Mill City, 108 Merrimack Street, for a "Sidewalk Stand Permit" at that address, for the 2026 Folk Festival and seasonal through October.

Mr. Pich explained that he wanted to make drinks and appetizers available to passerby.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 8 Application by Laura Fox Franke, One Urban Tribe, 167 Market Street, for a "Sidewalk Stand Permit" at that address, for the 2026 Folk Festival and seasonal through October.

Ms. Franke noted that she would have various retail items and bottled beverages.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 9 Application by Claire Folsom, Mill Girls LLC [d/b/a] Café Eclipse, for Common Victualler license for 12 Cardinal O'Connell Parkway.

Agenda Items 9, 10, & 11 were taken together. Commission noted that Ms. Folsom owns two businesses in Lowell and is seeking to have a sidewalk stand for one of them during Folk Fest. She reviewed her wares at each business.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 10 Application by Claire Folsom, Café Eclipse, 12 Cardinal O'Connell Parkway, for a "Sidewalk Stand Permit" at that address, for the 2026 Folk Festival and seasonal through October.

Agenda Items 9, 10, & 11 were taken together.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 11 Application by Mill Girls LLC [d/b/a] Over the Spoon, Claire Folsom, LLC Manager, for Secondhand Goods license for premises at 101 Paige Street Unit 3, in Hive Public Market.

Agenda Items 9, 10, & 11 were taken together.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 12 Application by Barbara Rodriguez, Barbara Rodriguez Company, 219 Jackson Street, for a "Sidewalk Stand Permit" at 262 Merrimack Street, for the 2026 Folk Festival.

Ms. Rodriguez spoke to the Commission and explained that she hoped to showcase her studio & shop items at Folk Fest.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Underwood; seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 13 Application by Ken Michienzi, The Merrimack Textile Company, 219 Central Street, for a "Sidewalk Stand Permit" at 53 Market Street, for the 2026 Folk Festival.

Mr. Michienzi noted that this would be his third Folk Fest, and that his business focuses on selling environmentally responsible apparel and small wares.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 14 Application by Nicole Comtois & Anthony Contarino for 3 "Special One Day Licenses to sell/dispense Malt Beverages & Wines" for expanded sidewalk seating during the Lowell Folk Festival on July 24, 25, and 26, 2026, at TreMonte Pizzeria, 44 Palmer Street.

Ms. Comtois spoke to the Commission and explained that they would only be adding 5 tables outside this year.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Underwood; seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 15 Application by Amanda Etinge, for six "Special One-Day Licenses to sell/dispense Wines and Malt Beverages only" at the Hellenic Center, 41 Broadway Street:

- "Christian Men Fellowship" on Sunday, July 12, 2026, from 4 PM to Midnight.
- "Bakossi Cultural Development Association" on July 16-19, 2026, from 7 PM to 1:30 AM.
- "Celebration of Life" on Friday, August 14, 2026, from 7 PM to 1:30 AM.

Ms. Étinge reviewed her events for the Commissioners, noting that each event would have about 150 attendees and 2 to 3 TIPS Certified bartenders.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 yeas, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 16 Application by Robin Dupell, Cobblestones, for 3 "Special Events Permits for Amplified Outdoor Public Entertainment," for Live Music during the 2026 Lowell Folk Festival, to be held after 6:15 PM on July 24, 25, 26 at the dead end outside Cobblestones, 91 Dutton Street.

Ms. Dupell went before the Commission and noted that this year's event would be organized the same as the last several years.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Underwood; seconded by Commissioner Krieger. 3 years, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 17 Application by Penny Hamourgaz for 2 "Special One Day Licenses to sell/dispense Malt Beverages & Wines" and for 3 "Amplified Outdoor Public Entertainment" permits during the Lowell Folk Festival. Service and entertainment to be held July 24, 25, 26, 2026, at Worthen House, 141 and 152 Worthen Street, including the parking lot, approved outdoor seating, and attached alley.

Ms. Hamourgaz reviewed her plans and confirmed that no one would be crossing the street with alcohol.

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 years, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 18 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.

Attorney Hensler spoke to the Commission, and proposed License Manager, Bernice "Sindy" Martinez was also present with her husband Eddy Martinez. Mr. Hensler reviewed the applicant's experience and business plan. Secretary Pyers reviewed a memo from Lowell Police Captain Peaslee that detailed the applicant's previous business in Lynn, MA. Ms. Martinez confirmed she is TIPS Certified and spoke about the entertainment that will be provided at the restaurant.

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

Motion to approve by Commissioner Krieger; seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 years, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

- 19 Communications to Commission regarding incidents and events.

Motion to place the matters on file by Commissioner Donahue, seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 years, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Krieger made a motion to adjourn at 18:23, seconded by Commissioner Underwood. 3 years, 1 absent (C. Mercier), APPROVED.

Submitted by: John Pyers

Executive Secretary

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

