

**LACONIA CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
JANUARY 9, 2023**

**STAFF REPORT
AGENDA ITEM 22.A.
ORDINANCE 2022-161-25 (01)
AMENDING CHAPTER 161-25, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

Discussion: At their June 27, 2022 meeting the City Council approved an Ordinance adding a new section to Chapter 161 of the City’s Code. The Ordinance allowed “...the sale of alcohol until 2:00 am according to State law, on Fridays, Saturdays and during Motorcycle Week through January 1, 2023 or until such time that the licensee violates State law and/or Liquor Enforcement rules or regulations.” The timeframe of January 1, 2023 was included to allow the extension of sale of alcohol until 2:00 am to be in effect on a trial basis.

At their December 12, 2022 meeting the Council approved a first reading of a revised Ordinance, omitting the language that would limit extended sales until January 1, 2023. At that meeting a Public Hearing was scheduled for this evening.

Information obtained from Laconia Police Department shows that there had not been any issues related to the extension of time for the sale of alcohol since the original Ordinance was approved back in June. Recent information received from the Police Department for the period of December 19, 2022 through New Year’s Day indicates that there were no calls for service at any of Anthony Santagate’s various properties on Lakeside Avenue, or any calls tied directly to any of the bars in the Weirs.

The revised Ordinance, omitting the language that would limit extended sales until January 1, 2023, is attached for the Council’s consideration.

Under State law, RSA 179:17, the Liquor Commission sets hours for alcohol sales as between 6:00 am and 1:00 am, 7 days a week. A licensee may sell alcohol until 2:00 am if the local legislative body (the City Council) adopts an Ordinance authorizing such sales.

Recommendation:

Report submitted by: Kirk Beattie, City Manager

Proposed motions:

“I move to waive a reading of this Ordinance in its entirety and to read by title only.”

“I move a second reading of Ordinance 2022–161-25 (01).”

“I move to approve Ordinance 2022-161-25 (01) as presented.”