



# Haverhill

License Commission, Room 118  
Phone: 978-420-3630 Fax: 978-373-8490  
nflynn@haverhillma.gov

## LICENSE COMMISSION MINUTES Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 2 PM – Room 202 Virtual and In-Person Meeting

*Attending: Chairperson Elizabeth A. Laliberty, Commissioner Linda L. Koutoulas, Commissioner Patrick J. Driscoll,  
and License Commission Clerk Nicholas K. Flynn*

### 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

[ONLY ONE OTHER ITEM ON AGENDA]

### 15. OTHER BUSINESS

#### 15.1 Discussion on adoption of MA House, No. 5478, amended: “An Act Authorizing Municipalities to Opt-In to a Temporary Pilot to Extend the Hours of Liquor Licenses and to Allow for Public Consumption in Designated Districts in Summer 2026”

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to separate this discussion into two parts:

1) Regarding the public consumption areas; 2) Regarding the one-hour extension

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to *not* opt-in to having public consumption areas.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

Commissioner Driscoll inquired if the §12 on-premises licensees had been notified about this matter, and if any had shown interest in extended hours. The Clerk replied that, in response to an advisory he emailed to licensees about this meeting, only one licensee gave feedback and they said they were against it.

Commissioner Koutoulas stated she initially contemplated an application process for this extension, albeit with an earlier ending date, but was reconsidering due to lack of interest. She stated that she wanted to support businesses but did not see the point in approving something that seemed to garner no interest. She added that she did not want to put additional stress on the Police Department or cause confusion for licensees as to what the temporary law would actually allow for.



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Commissioner Driscoll mentioned that other municipalities, such as Methuen and Cambridge, were requiring their licensees to apply if interested, and that others were only extending it through July 19<sup>th</sup> despite the act allowing for July 31<sup>st</sup>. He said that he hoped there would be interest in Haverhill but perhaps the Commission should not opt-in since there wasn't.

Chairperson Laliberty reviewed that the Police Department, Mayor's Office, and only licensee that responded to the Clerk were against this, whereas no licensee seemed to be for it. She also stated she did not want to tell the Police Department that they suddenly need to expect this should the Commission approve. She further noted that no one had replied to the Clerk's email or shown up to this meeting, in-person or remotely, and as such did not feel the need to accept any provision of this temporary law.

Commissioner Koutoulas stated she was disappointed no one advocated to show interest but also noted a concern she'd heard about employees having to leave one hour later.

*Motion:* Commissioner Koutoulas motions to *not* opt-in to extending liquor license hours, thereby wholly declining to opt-in to the temporary pilot.

*Second:* Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, motion passed.

## 16. ADJOURNMENT

*Motion:* Commissioner Driscoll motions to adjourn.

*Second:* Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

*Vote:* 3-0-0 vote unanimous, meeting adjourned at 2:14 PM.

**No Public Comment.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Nicholas K. Flynn**

**Haverhill License Commission Clerk**