



Haverhill

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

LICENSE COMMISSION MINUTES **Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 6 PM-Room 202** **Virtual and In-Person Meeting**

Attending: Chairperson Laura Angus, Commissioner Linda Koutoulas, Commissioner Patrick Driscoll, Lt. Kevin Lynch – Haverhill Police Department (remotely), Capt. Jamie Landry – Haverhill Police Department, and License Commission Clerk Nicholas K. Flynn

- 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

2.1 Approval of the minutes of the October 2, 2025 meeting

Due to his absence from this meeting, Commissioner Driscoll abstained.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the minutes from the October 2, 2025 meeting.

Second: Chairperson Angus seconded.

Vote: 2 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstention, motion passed.

2.2 Approval of the minutes of the October 17, 2025 meeting

Due to her absence from this meeting, Chairperson Angus abstained.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the minutes from the October 17, 2025 meeting.

Second: Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

Vote: 2 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstention, motion passed.

- 3. CONTINUED BUSINESS**
- 4. MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATIONS/REQUESTS**
- 5. ONE DAY APPLICATIONS**

5.1 Allison Gagne, Applicant

Northern Essex Community College
100 Elliott St

**-Application for One Day Liquor License – Beer & Wine only – Private Awards
Dinner for Waystone Health and Human Services on November 20, 2025, for the
hours of 5PM to 7:30PM**

-Has Police and Health Departments' approval

Allison Gagne, applicant, was present for this application. Chairperson Angus asked if



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this event was similar to ones hosted in the past and the applicant confirmed so. The Chairperson commented that the application appeared to be in order. No further questions or comments.

Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the license for November 20, 2025, for the hours of 5PM to 7:30PM.

Second: Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

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

6. ENTERTAINMENT APPLICATIONS

6.1 Kawus Safie, Manager

PPT Hospitality LLC

d/b/a Haverhill House of Pizza and Subs

249 Lincoln Ave

-Application for new Entertainment license for Sunday – Thursday for the hours of 10AM-9PM and Friday – Saturday for the hours of 10AM-10PM for Movies, Radio, and Television

-Has Police Department and Entertainment Zoning approval

Kawus Safie, manager, was remotely present for this application. Chairperson Angus remarked that this application was “neglected for a little while.” Mr. Safie apologized. No further questions or comments.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the new Entertainment license for Sunday – Thursday for the hours of 10AM-9PM and Friday – Saturday for the hours of 10AM-10PM for Movies, Radio, and Television.

Second: Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

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



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6.2 Matthew Lonardo, Manager
The Solid Slice Pizzeria, LLC
d/b/a The Solid Slice Pizzeria
653 Broadway

-Application for Amendment of Entertainment license:

- **To add Monday & Tuesday for the hours of 11AM-11PM**
- **To add Amplifiers, D.J., Karaoke, Movies, Music – Amplified, Performance (includes live bands) – 3 Instruments, 1 Vocalist**

-Has Police Department and Entertainment Zoning approval

Items 6.2 & 9.2 were heard together. Motions were made separately.

Matthew Lonardo, manager, and Susan Garland, LLC manager, were present for these applications. Chairperson Angus verified if Entertainment would be kept indoors – Mr. Lonardo confirmed so and added they would not be using D.J. or Live Bands. Ms. Garland interjected to clarify they wished to have the option for private events. The Chairperson mentioned it would not hurt the application to keep them.

Chairperson Angus remarked that the business' social media was already advertising being open the following Monday, and advised the pair that no alcohol could be served unless the ABCC already gave approval before then. Ms. Garland asked if she would be notified by email and the Chairperson replied she would need a new license with the new hours. Clerk Flynn said he would send the application over the following morning and would notify Ms. Garland if the ABCC approves within the day. Chairperson Angus explained that they would need the new license should an ABCC investigator ever come in and read they are supposed to be closed Monday & Tuesday.

Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the Entertainment license amendment to add Monday & Tuesday for the hours of 11AM-11PM, and to add Amplifiers, D.J., Karaoke, Movies, Music – Amplified, Performance (includes live bands) – 3 Instruments, 1 Vocalist.

Second: Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

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

[Remaining Items were heard in the following order: 9.3, 6.3 & 7.2, 7.1 & 9.1, 12.4, 13.4, 13.5, 12.1-12.3 & 13.1-13.3, 15.1]



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6.3 Scott Brandolini, Applicant

Brandos Cutlets Corp
d/b/a Brandos Cutlets
612 Broadway

**-Application for new Entertainment license for Monday – Saturday 11AM-8PM
and Sunday 11AM-6PM for Radio & Television**

-Has Police Department and Entertainment Zoning approval

Items 6.3 & 7.2 were heard together.

Scott Brandolini, applicant and corporation President, and William Griffin, corporation Vice President, were present for these applications. Chairperson Angus inquired what the changes from the previous business would be. Mr. Brandolini explained he was reopening his grandfather's restaurant, Brandos, and are serving various foods for dine-in, takeout, and delivery. Mr. Griffin added that he used to be business partners with the very same grandfather. Commissioner Driscoll remarked that the business had been popular on social media.

Chairperson Angus commented that the Commission had received a copy of a letter from the landlord indicating consent for the change in business from Hard Body Meals. She stated that the new business would be given 30 days to provide a copy of the new lease. Commissioner Koutoulas verified if the current Business Occupancy was valid. Clerk Flynn said they needed to update the name from Hard Body Meals LLC with Inspectional Services. Chairperson Angus asked Mr. Brandolini if he was working on this – Mr. Brandolini said he was and that the Health Department had already come by to sign off on required permits.

Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the new Entertainment license for Monday – Saturday 11AM-8PM and Sunday 11AM-6PM for Radio & Television, as well as the new Common Victualler's license – with the stipulation that the updated Certificate of Business Occupancy and new lease agreement be provided within 30 days.

Second: Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

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



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7. COMMON VICTUALLER APPLICATIONS

7.1 Maria Carrasquillo, Proposed Manager

110 Grill 1165 Haverhill LLC

d/b/a 110 Grill

1175 Main St

**-Application for Amendment of Common Victualler license – Change of Manager
from Michael Pifko to Maria Carrasquillo**

Items 7.1 & 9.1 were heard together. Motions were made separately.

Maria Carrasquillo, proposed manager, was present for these applications. She explained she took over as general manager 2-3 months ago and needed to update the licenses. She added that Mr. Pifko was still with the company but at a different location. Chairperson Angus asked if she had experience in the business. Ms. Carrasquillo explained she did in the restaurant business but was new to being a manager. The Chairperson asked if she was well-versed in the service of alcohol rules and the new manager stated she was. Commissioner Driscoll reminded her to ensure all servers knew best practices. Ms. Carrasquillo replied she had already talked to a few servers whose TIPS certifications would be expiring next year.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the Change of Manager amendment to Maria Carrasquillo.

Second: Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

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

7.2 Scott Brandolini, Applicant

Brandos Cutlets Corp

d/b/a Brandos Cutlets

612 Broadway

-Application for new Common Victualler license

**-Pending updated copies of Lease Agreement and Certificate of Business
Occupancy**

Items 6.3 & 7.2 were heard together. See Item 6.3.

8. OUTDOOR DINING APPLICATIONS



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9. ALCOHOL/ABCC APPLICATIONS

9.1 Maria Carrasquillo, Proposed Manager

110 Grill 1165 Haverhill LLC

d/b/a 110 Grill

1175 Main St

-Application for Change of Manager from Michael Pifko to Maria Carrasquillo

-Pending ABCC approval

Items 7.1 & 9.1 were heard together. See Item 7.1.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the Change of Manager amendment to Maria Carrasquillo, pending ABCC approval.

Second: Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

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

9.2 Matthew Lonardo, Manager

The Solid Slice Pizzeria, LLC

d/b/a The Solid Slice Pizzeria

653 Broadway

-Application for Change of Hours to add Monday & Tuesday for the hours of 11AM-11PM

-Pending ABCC approval

Items 6.2 & 9.2 were heard together. See Item 6.2.

Chairperson Angus indicated the Change of Hours amendment would apply to the Common Victualler license, as well.

Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to approve the amendments to the Liquor License & Common Victualler's license to add Monday & Tuesday for the hours of 11AM-11PM – pending ABCC approval.

Second: Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

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

9.3 Kevin Murphy, Manager

Murphy Golf Management Inc.

d/b/a Bradford Country Club

201 Chadwick Road

-Application for Change of Hours on Sunday from 12PM-1AM to 10AM-1AM

-Pending ABCC approval



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Kristin Murphy, corporation Secretary, was remotely present for this application. Chairperson Angus reminded Ms. Murphy that the club could not open at 10AM on Sundays until the ABCC granted approval. Ms. Murphy replied that she had already discussed with Clerk Flynn that this change was “really for next season”.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to approve the Change of Hours application for Sunday 10AM-1AM, pending ABCC approval.

Second: Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

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

10. MOTOR VEHICLE APPLICATIONS

11. CARRY IN LICENSE APPLICATIONS

12. ITEM FOR DISCUSSION

12.1 Jonus Rustani, Manager

The New Lantern Café, Inc.

d/b/a New Lantern Café

240 Essex Street

-Item for Discussion: Alleged disturbance on or about June 6, 2025, at 10:18PM

Items 12.1-12.3 & 13.1-13.3 were all heard together. A single motion was made encompassing all items following discussion of all six. Jonus Rustani, manager and owner, was present for this meeting.

Lt. Kevin Lynch presented the facts. On June 6, 2025, officers were dispatched regarding an alleged assault near 240 Essex St. The victim stated he had been assaulted inside New Lantern Cafe before being transported to the hospital for treatment. No one in the bar acknowledged witnessing the assault. Mr. Rustani said he was unsure which incident in particular this referred to and said he only recalled an incident where a patron was hit in front of a billiards table, which supposedly came without warning. Commissioner Koutoulas asked if the bar or a patron had contacted the police – Lt. Lynch said it was the victim that came to the police station to report it. Commissioner Koutoulas noted that the manager hadn’t contacted the police for the incident he recalled. The manager stated it was because the fight “spilled outside” before the Chairperson remarked this was not the incident in question. She continued to mention the report detailed this incident occurred in the back of the building where there are no cameras. Mr. Rustani stated he did have cameras there but the Chairperson said the police report stated otherwise. The manager stated he had two cameras in the rear of



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the building – Chairperson Angus said she hoped so as this was mandated of the business in December 2018. Lt. Lynch spoke to confirm the business did have rear cameras but that an attempt to download footage revealed the camera times were off by 12 hours, rendering it useless. Chairperson Angus asked the manager if he was aware, and he replied he was not until HPD notified him and he did not know how to fix them. Commissioner Koutoulas said he would need to get someone to do so and asked if the times were still incorrect – the manager said he did not know. Chairperson Angus asked who would know – Mr. Rustani said perhaps he could figure it out or an IT person from the City could. The Commission stated City personnel would not assist him with this matter and that it was his responsibility.

Chairperson Angus noted the manager was informed his camera times were incorrect back in June and still hadn't fixed them – Mr. Rustani replied "not yet". The Chairperson said she did not understand why nothing had been fixed in five months. The manager said he would "do the best [he] can" but that he had to take care of his ill wife every day. Commissioner Koutoulas replied he would then need to hire someone to take care of this for him. Chairperson Angus expressed sympathy for Mr. Rustani's wife but stated it was his responsibility as manager to ensure everything worked correctly. The manager stated he needed to be concerned with individuals walking off the street and threatening his safety. Commissioner Koutoulas asked why he doesn't call the police – the manager said he called them three times and that the third time he got a No Trespass Order on a certain individual, but this was unrelated to the incidents being discussed. The Commissioner remarked the business seemed to have many incidents – Mr. Rustani asked what he was supposed to do if incidents occurred outside after he locked up for the night and everyone had left. Commissioner Koutoulas asked what time he closed, and the manager said normally 1AM on weekdays and 2AM on Fridays but gave a last call 30 minutes prior in an attempt to curtail incidents. Chairperson Angus noted most incidents occurred after midnight and asked if he had considered closing at 11PM – the manager said he "can do that". Commissioner Koutoulas told the manager he needed to call the police every time there was an incident inside or outside the bar. The manager replied he has multiple times but Commissioner Koutoulas pointed out that he had not for this incident in question. Chairperson Angus asked if Mr. Rustani had been working that night and Lt. Lynch confirmed he had.

Discussion continued to Item 12.2



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12.2 Jonus Rustani, Manager

**The New Lantern Café, Inc.
d/b/a New Lantern Café
240 Essex Street**

-Item for Discussion: Alleged disturbance on or about June 11, 2025, at 1:17AM

Lt. Kevin Lynch presented the facts. An employee had called HPD to inform them that two females were arguing outside New Lantern Cafe shortly after they had closed. One of the females in question had been threatened. The incident was reviewed using footage from City cameras. Chairperson Angus asked if there had been any indications that either party was intoxicated. The lieutenant replied that this was not mentioned in the report. Commissioner Driscoll remarked this was yet another incident that occurred after midnight.

Discussion continued to Item 12.3

12.3 Jonus Rustani, Manager

**The New Lantern Café, Inc.
d/b/a New Lantern Café
240 Essex Street**

-Item for Discussion: Alleged disturbance on or about August 2, 2025, at 1:22AM

Lt. Kevin Lynch presented the facts. Officers were dispatched to 240 Essex St for a reported street brawl. Upon arrival there was no active disturbance – review of City cameras indicated two male parties were involved in a physical altercation. The following day, one of the victims came to HPD to speak about the incident and advised the male that had assaulted him was intoxicated and had been drinking at New Lantern Cafe. An arrest warrant was issued as a result. Mr. Rustani declared that everyone had left that night at closing time without a problem. Chairperson Angus noted that the altercation had been preceded by a fight inside the bar and asked if this was the previously mentioned billiards table incident. The manager said he was not sure but that he believed this incident was an evening where there were no problems until after closing time. He added that the following evening, there were two women allegedly having an argument outdoors but went home when the manager requested they do so. The Commission said they believed this was the incident discussed in 12.2. Chairperson Angus remarked that it appeared one of the offending parties had had too much to drink. Commissioner Koutoulas inquired how the manager handled



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such altercations. Mr. Rustani stated he gets between parties and tries to stop them, adding this usually worked but he sometimes got assistance from patrons to remove a problematic individual. Commissioner Koutoulas asked if these individuals get banned from the business and the manager replied “Yes, absolutely.” The Commissioner remarked that there must be many and the manager replied “maybe at least 10”. He then stated that as soon as he hears arguments between patrons, he warns them immediately to cease or he would have them leave.

Discussion continued to Item 13.1

12.4 Carol Ann Duggan, Manager

Haverhill Lodge #165, B.P.O.E. of Haverhill, Massachusetts, Inc.

d/b/a Elk's Club

24 Summer Street

-Item for Discussion: Lack of proper security cameras

Carol Ann Duggan, manager, and Joseph Michaud, corporation Director and board Chairman, were present for this discussion. Lt. Kevin Lynch stated he had requested video footage from the Elk’s Club and was handed a completely blank disk. The Lieutenant said this was unacceptable and not the first time there had been video issues with this club. Mr. Michaud stated he had no idea the camera(s) was not recording. Ms. Duggan said the “recording” button was blinking so they thought it was working. Commissioner Koutoulas asked if they had since checked the cameras and Mr. Michaud stated he had installed brand new cameras that use a memory stick for footage retention. The Commissioner asked if he had verified that the retention was working. The director said he assumed so and the Commissioner said he should not assume anything and verify – the director agreed and restated that the club had brand new cameras that covered various areas. Chairperson Angus reminded the pair that the purpose of having working cameras was in the event of an incident or HPD requiring assistance. Mr. Michaud restated he believed they were recording until Lt. Lynch informed him otherwise. The Chairperson noted that the director had still not reviewed the cameras were recording properly since then. Commissioner Koutoulas asked that he periodically verify the cameras are working. Mr. Michaud agreed and said the club used them any time there is an incident.



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Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to place this matter on file, with the stipulation that Clerk Flynn be notified that the current cameras are in working order by the end of the following day.

Second: Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

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

13. SHOW CAUSE HEARING

13.1 Jonus Rustani, Manager

The New Lantern Café, Inc.

d/b/a New Lantern Café

240 Essex Street

-Show Cause Hearing: Alleged violation of 204 CMR 2.05 (2) Permitting an illegality on the licensed premises to wit

-Possible overserving

-Incident that occurred on or about June 10, 2025, at 1:12AM

Items 12.1-12.3 & 13.1-13.3 were all heard together. See Item 12.1.

Jonus Rustani was sworn in. Lt. Kevin Lynch presented the facts. On June 10, 2025, officers were dispatched for an alleged disturbance. Upon arrival, there was no active fighting, but three highly intoxicated males were found wandering the parking lot across the street. The three males advised that they had come from New Lantern Cafe but were otherwise uncooperative with providing details. An employee advised they overheard a commotion while using the restroom. The lieutenant remarked there was only one employee on duty and referenced the Commission's prior mandate to have two bartenders on to avoid such incidents. Mr. Rustani stated this incident occurred after he was closed and that the bar was empty. Chairperson Angus commented that the two bartenders requirement was for Thursday-Sunday and this incident was on a Monday late night. She then inquired if the manager knew any of the three males in question. Mr. Rustani said he was not sure but described three potential individuals that are supposedly not allowed inside the establishment. Commissioner Koutoulas remarked that overserving was involved in this incident as well. Mr. Rustani asked if it could be from using recreational drugs but the Commissioner cited the report which quoted the males advising they had been drinking at New Lantern Cafe. Chairperson Angus stated that a rollback of hours was necessary as part of a remedy. Commissioner Koutoulas inquired if the bartender had been the one to contact the police but the report did not clarify. Mr. Rustani restated he had been closed –



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Chairperson Angus asked if the manager ignored any incidents happening right outside his bar. The manager said the three males in question had been walking away towards the parking lot – Commissioner Koutoulas noted they had been drinking inside his bar and Chairperson Angus noted they had started a physical altercation right outside his bar. Mr. Rustani said they had decided to “pick a fight” with the regulars but reemphasized that this fight happened outside. Commissioner Koutoulas told the manager he had been advised several times in the past that he was responsible for anyone that had just been a patron, even if it was outside and after-hours. Mr. Rustani stated he only saw the males walking away towards the parking lot but the Commissioner cited the police report which stated that the manager had witnessed a “large group of people fighting”. Mr. Rustani said he did not remember a fight happening on a Monday night and that a Friday night was “more than likely”. Commissioner Koutoulas commented that it did not seem to matter what day of the week the incidents occurred; Chairperson Angus remarked most of them happened after 11PM.

Discussion continued to Item 13.2

13.2 Jonus Rustani, Manager

The New Lantern Café, Inc.

d/b/a New Lantern Café

240 Essex Street

-Show Cause Hearing: Alleged violation of 204 CMR 2.05 (2) Permitting an illegality on the licensed premises to wit

-Possible overserving

-Incident that occurred on or about August 2, 2025, at 11:53PM

Chairperson Angus reminded Mr. Rustani that he was still under oath. Lt. Kevin Lynch presented the facts. Officers were dispatched for a reported disturbance at New Lantern Cafe where they discovered the bothering party outside the establishment. He was highly intoxicated, demonstrated slurred speech, and unsteady on his feet. He advised he had been drinking inside the establishment but the employee denied any overserving. The party was driven home and “placed in the care of a responsible adult”. Review of City cameras showed that the intoxicated individual was pushed outside of the bar at approximately 11:51PM. Mr. Rustani said that if this was the incident he thought it was, the bothering party had walked inside already intoxicated and was escorted out without being served at all. Chairperson Angus asked if the



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manager had allowed the individual to walk outside of the bar knowing he was highly intoxicated and therefore a danger to himself and others. He asked if he was supposed to call the police because the individual was intoxicated – the Commission answered yes. Chairperson Angus remarked they had had this conversation before multiple times. Mr. Rustani said he only wished for the individual to leave because he was causing a disturbance. Commissioner Koutoulas asked why he couldn't notify the police at the same time and the manager said he did not have time as he was afraid the individual would harm someone. He added that the individual walked outside on their own. Chairperson Angus referred to the manager's previous claim that patrons occasionally assist him in removing unwelcome parties and asked why he didn't ask one of them to call the police in this instance. Mr. Rustani said he was concerned that the individual would strike someone if he called the police and didn't think to ask a patron. He reemphasized that if this was the individual that had walked in already intoxicated, then he had not served him at all and that the police "can check the cameras for that one." Chairperson Angus remarked they were unable to do so due to the time-display error. The manager said he could search for the footage and show them – the Commission asked how long the manager's cameras retained footage and the manager said he had no idea but he could try searching. He asked when this incident occurred and the Chairperson told him almost midnight before asking him if he had read any of the police reports sent to him. Mr. Rustani said he had too many and could not remember them all off the top of his head. Chairperson Angus asked why the manager did not review his camera footage in anticipation of this meeting since it could help his defense. The manager said he had very little time between taking care of his wife and going to work, and that his brother (corporation Secretary) did not help him. Commissioner Koutoulas said this was important.

Discussion continued to Item 13.3

13.3 Jonus Rustani, Manager

The New Lantern Café, Inc.

d/b/a New Lantern Café

240 Essex Street

-Show Cause Hearing: Alleged violation of 204 CMR 2.05 (2) Permitting an illegality on the licensed premises to wit

-Possible overserving

-Incident that occurred on or about September 18, 2025, at 12:55AM



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Chairperson Angus reminded Mr. Rustani that he was still under oath. Lt. Kevin Lynch presented the facts. On September 18, 2025, officers were dispatched for a motor vehicle crash involving a hit pedestrian. The operator advised he was driving home from New Lantern Cafe – he had slurred speech, bloodshot, glassy eyes, and an odor of alcohol emanating from his person. He was arrested after failing a field sobriety test and later tested for a 0.20% BAC. Commissioner Koutoulas asked the manager if he knew anything about this but the manager replied he only knew what was in the report. The Commissioner then asked if he had been working that evening – the manager said he believed he was. Chairperson Angus verified if the manager’s brother was never at the bar to help, as mentioned in 13.2. Mr. Rustani said he comes for a few hours during the day but is “not that much of a help.” The Chairperson asked what happened to having two bartenders on duty Thursday-Sunday nights. The manager replied “maybe someone needs to talk to him.” Chairperson Angus asked if it was his bar and who needs to talk to him. Mr. Rustani said he can “try to talk to him” but asked what he’s expected to do if his brother doesn’t show up – the Chairperson replied to hire somebody else and reemphasized the mandate to have two bartenders on duty Thursday-Sunday nights. The manager said he could not dismiss his brother as he was 50% co-owner. Commissioner Koutoulas replied that, as manager, he would need to hire someone else. Mr. Rustani said he could not afford to do so.

Commissioner Koutoulas stated the Commission had previously mandated the two bartenders requirement for safety reasons, and that the business was not complying with this requirement. The manager said he would try to talk to his brother.

Commissioner Koutoulas said this was his problem and not the Commission’s and the manager said he understood. Chairperson Angus asked if he was at all concerned that a patron of his struck a pedestrian in a motor vehicle – Mr. Rustani said he was “disturbed” by it. The Chairperson followed by asking what he was going to do about it – the manager said he would pay more attention and close earlier. Commissioner Koutoulas recommended that he cut off people sooner and Mr. Rustani said he’d been “doing that a lot lately”. Chairperson Angus advised that he must contact the police anytime there was an incident involving an intoxicated individual, and that he couldn’t just push them out and let it be “someone else’s problem”. Mr. Rustani agreed.

Commissioner Koutoulas added this also applied to incidents outside the bar. Mr. Rustani said he once called the police over an intoxicated individual and the officer reportedly asked him: “What do you want me to do?” The manager said this was not an appropriate response but Commissioner Koutoulas said it was since he placed the complaint. The Commission asked if he asked the officer to have the person removed and the manager said he did.



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Chairperson Angus restated that an extended rollback of hours was necessary. Commissioner Koutoulas said she believed it should be permanent. Mr. Rustani said he thought this was too severe – Commissioner Koutoulas said she thought six incidents in a few months was quite severe. The manager said he believed two of them didn't apply. Chairperson Angus said he was unable to corroborate his claims since he didn't have camera footage for proof. The manager said he would if he could find it but the Chairperson remarked he had had plenty of time to do so. The manager replied no one had asked him to – Chairperson Angus asserted that the manager should have brought any supportive evidence to the hearings he was summoned to answer to. She added that it was his responsibility as the business owner and manager to review and provide footage without being asked to, and that he has had at least two months to prepare since he was first notified of the hearings in October. Commissioner Koutoulas restated the importance of complying with the previous mandate of having two bartenders on duty Thursday-Sunday nights. She also underlined that while he may not be directly responsible for these incidents, he is responsible for his patrons as the manager. Mr. Rustani said they were not his regulars but the Commission said this was irrelevant: the rules are the same regardless of the patron in question and regardless of the absence of his brother on shift. The manager said two bartenders was only necessary on Friday and Saturday nights, in his opinion. Chairperson Angus pointed out that some of these incidents were on a Monday and a Tuesday. The manager said you could not always foresee incidents occurring and that he could not be a mediator for every undesirable party. The Chairperson referred to the incident in 13.2 and noted that had his brother, a second employee, been present at the time, he could have called the police while the manager dealt with the individual. Mr. Rustani said his brother was unavailable in August; Commissioner Driscoll asserted that he should have hired someone else and Commissioner Koutoulas pointed out that incident was on a Saturday night. Chairperson Angus stated that the stipulation for two bartenders did not mean Mr. Rustani and his brother "if available" – it was to have two people period. The manager said he would "look into it" if his brother was unavailable to help. The Commission said he needed to address this or consider closing Thursday-Sunday nights. Commissioner Koutoulas put forward a stipulation to have the bar close at 6PM Thursday-Sunday nights if only one bartender was available, mentioning this would be generous. The Commission discussed other stipulations before closing the hearing.

The following Motion was made in response to Items 12.1-12.3 & 13.1-13.3.



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Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to:

- Find that there was a violation of 204 CMR 2.05 (2) for all three Show Cause Hearings.
- Place New Lantern Cafe on a 1-year probation until November 5, 2026.

During this probationary period:

- New Lantern Cafe must close Monday through Sunday at 11PM, with a last call at 10:30PM.
- Thursday through Sunday, if there are not 2 or more bartenders working, New Lantern Cafe must close at 6PM, with a last call at 5:30PM.
- Require New Lantern Cafe to update its camera system within one week to correct the display time and ensure 30-day footage retainment, and notify Clerk Flynn by November 14, 2025.

Second: Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

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

13.4 Carol Ann Duggan, Manager

Haverhill Lodge #165, B.P.O.E. of Haverhill, Massachusetts, Inc.

d/b/a Elk's Club

24 Summer Street

-Show Cause Hearing: Alleged violation of 204 CMR 2.05 (2) Permitting an illegality on the licensed premises to wit

-Incident that occurred on or about October 7, 2025 at 7:44PM

Carol Ann Duggan and Joseph Michaud were sworn in. Lt. Kevin Lynch presented the facts. On October 7, 2025, the HPD Narcotics Unit conducted an investigation based on multiple tips that an individual was selling cocaine in the establishment. The individual was arrested that night and charged with distributing cocaine. Ms. Duggan claimed this was “all new to [her]” and that she was working that night. She said you couldn’t see the Men’s Restroom from the bar and that the monitor connected to its camera was located in her office, so it isn’t “for anyone to just see”. She said she only knew the charged individual smoked marijuana and was unaware of this incident. Commissioner Koutoulas advised that smoking marijuana was illegal inside the bar and the party replied that he would smoke outside, which they cannot control. Ms. Duggan said the individual was immediately banned when she heard what occurred and that he was not a member. Commissioner Koutoulas commented that there were multiple occasions prior to the evening in question but Ms. Duggan reaffirmed that it



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was the first they had heard about it. Commissioner Koutoulas said this was concerning and asked if there was ever anyone that surveilled the restrooms. Mr. Michaud said the men's room was in the hallway and that only someone using it could know if "somebody was doing anything". Commissioner Koutoulas noted there is a window that enabled HPD to observe the illegality, but Ms. Duggan replied that it was on the opposite side of the bar. The Commissioner asked if they hadn't heard any rumors about what was taking place, and the pair stated they had not. Mr. Michaud said he was a dart player that came with a darts league on Tuesday nights but he never noticed anything related to cocaine. The pair said he always appeared friendly and sober but was banned that night.

Commissioner Koutoulas asked what their solution going forward was. Ms. Duggan said they now have new cameras and Commissioner Koutoulas verified if they covered the hallway in the men's room. The pair confirmed so and said the footage is fed to Ms. Duggan's office. Chairperson Angus asked who was monitoring the footage in the office – Ms. Duggan replied she could see it the following day. Mr. Michaud said it wasn't possible to monitor every person in every part of the building.

Commissioner Koutoulas said it was their responsibility. Commissioner Driscoll suggested they install a monitor for the cameras at the bar. The director said they would need to put in a completely different camera system. Commissioner Koutoulas said she believed they needed a security person. The director said they haven't had an issue in over 30 years until this incident. Commissioner Driscoll noted that the incident in question had several occasions prior to it and that perhaps there were some "unsavory" patrons among their clientele; Commissioner Koutoulas added that someone else could take the place of the charged individual.

Chairperson Angus asked if other members of the darts league were members of Elk's Club – the manager said many of them were. The Chairperson asked if he had been signed in and the pair replied yes but would need to look at the book to see who did. Ms. Duggan said she had been gone for three weeks in September and that her interim replacement had never mentioned anything like this incident occurring. The replacement had started paperwork to be the new manager before withdrawing, and wished to stay on as a bartender but there was a question as to whether or not they were using drugs so she was dismissed by the board. Commissioner Koutoulas asked if the club had a bartender named "Christina/Kristina". The pair said Kristina Raymond from the AMVETS club would occasionally fill in but was not a regular employee. Commissioner Koutoulas noted she was not on the Elk's Club TIPS roster and needed to be. Chairperson Angus seconded this and the director explained she had not worked for them at the time they filled out the roster.



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Commissioner Koutoulas asked Lt. Lynch for his opinion on a remedy for the situation. The lieutenant said this incident was not an isolated one and agreed with the Commissioner to have a security person since the bartender lacked the ability to monitor patrons. He also expressed his concern over patrons using drugs and consuming alcohol in addition. Commissioner Koutoulas addressed the pair, noted there had been several public safety issues in the past, and that the Commission had previously suggested having security. The director said they did “downstairs” – the Commissioner suggested acquiring additional security. Ms. Duggan replied they have signs “everywhere” saying drugs are not allowed in the building but the Commissioner explained signage was merely a deterrent and not a protection, and that a security person could monitor any signs of illicit activity and notify the police. She added that there had been a serious incident at the club in the past year, and that this is concerning as it doesn’t happen everywhere else. Chairperson Angus noted it was two years ago. Commissioner Driscoll inquired if the whole building needed to be open when the club was in use – the director replied there was a members entrance and a non-members entrance, and that the building did need to stay fully open in order for members to access the restrooms. Ms. Duggan added that members needed a key card to open their entrance but wouldn’t know if members are giving their cards to non-members, despite them not allowing it. Chairperson Angus asked what the purpose of the non-members entrance was and the director explained it was for functions and non-members to be buzzed and signed in. Commissioner Koutoulas asked if the club had any gambling card-games and the director denied so.

Mr. Michaud stated that the club could not afford an additional, long-term security person and that it was at the point of trying to close down and sell the building. Commissioner Koutoulas expressed her desire for a solution as she foresaw such incidents reoccurring otherwise. Mr. Michaud said these incidents happen at every bar but Commissioner Koutoulas replied they all need to be addressed. The pair said they are trying to address it, banned the charged individual from the building, and reported it to the club’s board right after. Commissioner Koutoulas asked if they acquired a Trespass Order against them and the manager said they did not. The Commission asked Capt. Jamie Landry if they could and the captain said yes, that it was not necessary to have the individual removed again but could subject him to further charges in such event. The director said he didn’t mind getting one and the manager added that should the darts league ever attempt to bring him back in, she would ban the entire league even if they were members. The manager then said that had anyone asked her if she knew this incident was going on, she would have answered no and looked out for it. Commissioner Driscoll replied that there was not a question if she



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knew it was happening but pointed out the lack of knowledge and surveillance to identify such a situation. Mr. Michaud said the individual was not at the bar and doing this in the bathroom out of sight – the Commissioner replied ignorance was not an excuse. Ms. Duggan said patrons could be using the restroom or going outside to smoke “for all [they] can see”. Commissioner Driscoll underlined the issue that their surveillance system did not enable them to monitor such incidents from the bar. The manager replied that if anyone were to tell her that there was an issue, she could have someone take over the bar while she went to her office to monitor footage. The Commissioner asked if the bar was on the same floor as the office – the manager said it was. The Commissioner reemphasized his prior suggestion to reinstall the monitor for all cameras at the bar. The director explained that the new cameras he had just installed were plug-in and could not be moved over. Both the director and manager also expressed privacy concerns with the bartender on duty having access to all cameras. Commissioners Driscoll stated the monitor wouldn’t enable the bartender to control the cameras but simply view surveillance footage, which would be “perfect because the bartender is the one responsible for what’s happening in the building, apparently.” Mr. Michaud mentioned that patrons would be able to see footage as well. Commissioner Driscoll asked why it wasn’t possible to have the monitor at a low angle out of sight from patrons and Mr. Michaud said the monitor could only sit on top of a safe behind the bar. Commissioner Koutoulas suggested using a Ring camera. Lt. Lynch spoke, noting that patrons were able to see problems in the bar but management was not, and said he was only hearing excuses from the present party. He added that this was a very serious incident but that management did not seem interested in preventing reoccurrences. The manager said that HPD had a clearer view of the incident since they did their investigation from outside the bathroom window, but Chairperson Angus noted that they only conducted their investigation in the first place because they were notified by patrons. Commissioner Koutoulas noted that the club being members-only made surveillance difficult, and it was therefore on management to conduct it. Mr. Michaud said he would install a Ring camera if it would “solve the problem” but Commissioners Koutoulas and Driscoll expressed skepticism. Commissioner Koutoulas asked how many people worked on a typical night and the party replied one bartender. The Commissioner stated she had a problem with this in the event that the bartender stepped away but the party responded that there was always a TIPS-certified member that could take their place. The Commissioner suggested asking members to volunteer with surveillance but the director stated they had trouble getting volunteers to do anything and members that did already assist with such matters needed to be paid.



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Commissioner Koutoulas restated she would like the club to have a security person to roam the building. Mr. Michaud said the bartender on duty is the “steward” of the building and that the club has always had only one working at a time except for functions. Commissioner Driscoll advised that the club ensures that any member who temporarily relieves the bartender on duty is not consuming alcohol. The Commissioner also stated that if the bartender is in fact the steward, then they had to have visual access to all the newly installed cameras. The director said he would need to install a whole new camera system to make this possible. He then asked if it would suffice to have a monitor at the bar while the footage is still recorded in the manager’s office. The Commission remarked that this had always been the suggestion. Mr. Michaud said this would be an expense but cheaper than hiring a security person. Commissioner Koutoulas asked Lt. Lynch what he thought about the solution regarding his familiarity with the building. The lieutenant said the club seemed to be more concerned with employees “possibly stealing or overserving” than ensuring patrons’ safety but that anything they could have “is better than what they have now”. Ms. Duggan said they did not want employees to have access to the cameras’ functions but Commissioner Driscoll said this was not the Commission’s suggestion – they simply wanted the club’s bartenders to have access to live monitoring.

Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to place Elk’s Club on a 6-month probation, until May 6, 2026, and to give the club 14 days to notify Clerk Flynn that a new monitoring-system has been set up at the bar to provide bartenders full visual access to all surveillance cameras.

Second: Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

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

13.5 Jean-Pierre Saliba, Manager

Royal Crest Motors, LLC

d/b/a Royal Crest Motors

769 Amesbury Road

-Show Cause Hearing: Alleged Violation of Motor Vehicle Dealers II License – Vehicles in excess of license number

-Incident that occurred on or about September 16, 2025 at 10:30AM

Jean-Pierre Saliba, manager, was sworn in. Lt. Kevin Lynch presented the facts. On September 16th, Lt. Lynch conducted a compliance check and allegedly counted 100 cars for display on the lot. The Royal Crest Motors license allows for 87 cars for sale & display and 6 for customer/employee parking. The lieutenant noted this was not the



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first time this dealership had been cited for being over capacity. Mr. Saliba spoke, admitting Lt. Lynch was correct but said it was not “on [a] daily basis”. The manager explained that five days before the incident, he had contacted a towing company to remove eight cars from his lot and bring back six, stating this kept him under the limit. The towing company allegedly misunderstood the directions and brought cars to his lot before towing the eight away first, but eventually did so on the day of the incident. Mr. Saliba stated he was away when this occurred and did not find out until the tow-truck driver had informed him via text message on September 14th. He stated he was out of compliance for “almost five days”.

Commissioner Koutoulas stated the numbers didn’t match as towing away eight cars and replacing them with six would be a net loss of two, whereas the dealer was found to have 13 extra cars for-sale. Mr. Saliba replied that Lt. Lynch had counted 100 total including cars with plates, but the Commission stated that plates were irrelevant in regards to the capacity number. Commissioner Koutoulas asked the manager how many cars he had when he requested the towing company to remove eight — the manager said 92 total, including customer/employee vehicles. He argued that if the towing company had correctly followed the assignment, he would have remained under capacity. Chairperson Angus inquired who was left in charge to ensure this would be fulfilled correctly. Mr. Saliba said it happened after-hours and that they do not check when cars are dropped off. He added that the extra cars were brought on September 14th which left them out of compliance for two days. The Chairperson asked what the manager did when he saw the surplus the morning of the 15th. Mr. Saliba stated he called the tow truck driver, who did not arrive until September 16th, 6PM, to remove the extra eight cars. Commissioner Koutoulas said the driver would have had to remove 13 cars to bring the manager back under capacity, as per the police report. Mr. Saliba stated there were 100 vehicles total and that some of them did have plates as they were customer cars for repair. Chairperson Angus asked if there were more than six customer cars on the lot and the manager denied so. Lt. Lynch interjected to say that cars with plates were scattered throughout the lot and not in a designated area for customer parking. Mr. Saliba restated he had 87 cars for display but Chairperson Angus noted the extra eight would have brought him at 95 for display. Mr. Saliba explained the 100 cars counted on the lot included customer cars, but Commissioner Koutoulas argued that customer cars were not parked in designated areas for customer parking. Mr. Saliba explained that customer cars for repair were sometimes moved between spots but Commissioner Koutoulas stated he could not have customer cars moved into the lot as it would count against his number of 87 cars for display. The manager stated they sometimes needed to move cars around to repair



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them. The Commissioner asked if any were in the bay and the manager said two of them were and the remaining were right outside the bay.

Commissioner Koutoulas then said it appeared the manager did not understand the purpose of the plot plan regarding the separate numbers for display and customer/employee. Mr. Saliba affirmed the cars for repair were right outside the garage bay but Commissioner Koutoulas argued this meant they were never correctly parked to begin with. Lt. Lynch added he did not know how many cars were in the garage as it was closed. Chairperson Angus advised that the purpose of the plot plan's numbering system was to ensure emergency vehicles had access to the lot, and perhaps the solution was to reduce the number of cars for display. Mr. Saliba said his lot had empty spaces all around at the moment. The Chairperson verified if this meant he had less than 87 cars on the lot at the moment and the manager said he had 76 last he checked, claiming this reduced amount was typical during the Fall/Winter season. The Chairperson asked if the manager would blame the two-truck driver if a fire had started at the building — Mr. Saliba stated they were all the required five feet away from the building. Commissioner Koutoulas said he was still not following the approved plot plan which was designed for safety and set in stone. Chairperson Angus asked why the manager didn't try to call a different tow truck driver as soon as he discovered the excess amount. The manager said they usually arrive the next day or after-hours after being contacted. The Chairperson then inquired if the manager typically requested pickup/delivery and did not verify the result until several days later and the manager said he was usually texted when they came by. The Chairperson suggested the manager use a better system for pickup/drop-off to make sure he stayed under capacity. She added that the Commission had already had this conversation previous times with him and had already reduced his number for display, but he still did not want to comply. Mr. Saliba stated it was not intentional or a habit. He offered to show text messages from the tow truck driver — the Chairperson replied they didn't need them as the manager is the one responsible for his business and ensuring the two allotted license numbers are not being exceeded.

Chairperson Angus then said the Commission could take away additional display spaces to ensure compliance could be met. Commissioner Koutoulas proposed taking away two to have 85 for display and 8 for customer/employee parking. Chairperson Angus suggested 80/13 since it appeared the dealership had many cars with plates on the premises. Mr. Saliba was amenable to 85/8, stating the maximum amount of customer cars he's ever had was six or seven. The Chairperson stated this new allotment should be marked clearly on the manager's plot plan and clarified the Commission was not adding additional spaces. Mr. Saliba said he understood. The



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Chairperson asked Lt. Lynch if he was amenable to this change and the lieutenant confirmed so. Commissioner Driscoll asked if the manager had signage clearly labelling his customer spots and the manager stated he did. The Commissioner advised the manager he would need to get two new signs and Commissioner Koutoulas advised the manager that he would need to submit an updated plot plan. The manager agreed.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to:

- Place Royal Crest Motors on a 6-month probation, until May 6, 2026.
- Revise the Dealers License to have 85 spaces for display & sale of used cars and 8 spaces for employee/customer parking (including repairs), with proof of an updated plot plan and signage submitted to Clerk Flynn.

Second: Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

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

14. COMMUNICATIONS

15. OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 Discussion regarding the adoption of M.G.L. Ch. 138, §12, relative to the sale of cordials and liqueurs

Chairperson Angus explained that the Commission had previously voted in June 2023 to request that City Council adopt the provision in M.G.L. Ch. 138, §12, allowing for the new license type of Wine & Malt with Cordials/Liqueurs, and even included a proposed fee of \$2185. For some reason, the order was never submitted to Council, so the Mayor and City Solicitor recommended that the Commission hold a new vote to reconfirm their position and have Clerk Flynn submit the order to Council.

Motion: Commissioner Koutoulas motions to send an order to City Council to request the adoption of the paragraph in M.G.L. Ch. 138, §12 to allow for the Wine & Malt with Cordials/Liqueurs permit, with an attached fee of \$2185.00

Second: Commissioner Driscoll seconded.

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



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16. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Driscoll motions to adjourn.

Second: Commissioner Koutoulas seconded.

Vote: 3-0-0 vote unanimous, meeting adjourned at 8:19 PM.

No Public Comment.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas K. Flynn

License Commission Clerk