

# Council-in-Committee Minutes

Council Chamber City Hall 14245 - 56 Avenue Surrey, B.C. MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

Time: 4:46 p.m.

### **Present:**

Chairperson - Councillor Martin Councillor Bose Councillor Gill Councillor Hepner Councillor Hunt Councillor Rasode

Councillor Villeneuve Mayor Watts

Councillor Steele

#### **Absent:**

Deputy City Manager

City Clerk
City Manager
City Solicitor
General Manager

**Staff Present:** 

General Manager, Engineering General Manager, Finance & Technology General Manager, Human Resources General Manager, Intergovernmental Affairs General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture General Manager, Planning & Development

#### A. DELEGATIONS

 Terry Uppal ULounge Hospitality Inc.

File: 4320-50; 0550-20-10; 7907-0064-00

Mr. Terry Uppal, ULounge Hospitality Inc. was in attendance before Council with respect to the "no designated dance floor" restriction placed on their establishment located at 16051 - 24 Avenue.

- Mr. Terry Uppal introduced himself to Council and stated that he resides at 15168 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Surrey and is one of the owners of ULounge Hospitality Inc. which operates ULounge in the Grandview Corners Shopping Centre.
- Mr. Uppal stated that in the spring of 2008 the ULounge went through the licensing process for a new liquor primary license which today is called ULounge. During that process, a concern was brought up by Council in regards to not wanting a nightclub but rather an upscale venue that represents the vision and demographic region for the Grandview and Morgan Heights area. Since inception Terry is happy to report there have been no incidents.
- The reason he is before Council today is that there is an issue with the "no designated dance floor" restriction. Basically, customers who are interested in dancing start dancing wherever they please because there is no designated area provided. His request is for Council to consider removing the "no dance floor" restriction from the ULounge license.
- If the restriction is removed, it will remove the clogging of key service areas and will allow better flow in the establishment.
- Terry explained that the RCMP have verbally expressed support for his request as it improves traffic flow in the lounge.
- Councillor Hepner said that she believes that originally when the restriction was placed on the ULounge it was important for Council to see that Mr. Uppal could deliver on the ambiance promised with his

- application. Councillor Hepner indicated from what she has observed so far, a good job has been done.
- Councillor Hepner asked where within the ULounge the proposed dance floor would be located.
- Mr. Uppal explained the dance floor would be away from the main area of the room and not in the candle lounge.
- He stated that the "living room" is more cocktail orientated and makes
  more sense from a service standpoint. He went on further to explain that
  a dance floor would not be utilized every single night but more on a special
  occasion type evening. The backrooms of the ULounge would continue to
  be booked for corporate events.
- The Chair posed a question to Staff in terms of process; it was asked if it is appropriate for Council to make a recommendation on the licensing today.
- It was recommended by the General Manager of Planning and Development that the issue should be referred back to Staff to prepare a Corporate Report.
- Councillor Villeneuve asked whether the establishment was considered a lounge where people can go in and have a conversation or maybe a cocktail. She commented that when you start putting in dance floors in establishments they become clubs, and expressed concern over changing the atmosphere from a cocktail lounge to a club and said that once you do add dancing it changes the element of the business and the clientele.
- Mr. Uppal explained that ULounge is unique because food is served during
  all hours of operation. He clarified that the ULounge is not permitted to be
  a night club due its lease with Smart Centres, and also added that by
  having food served at all hours they are classified as an upscale pub.
- Mr. Uppal also stated that the music volume would not impede with conversation, because the music would be in a specific area designated for dancing.
- Councillor Rasode asked if Council could get clarification from Staff that
  removing the "no dance floor" restriction would not negatively impact the
  surrounding businesses or residents. She indicated it was important that
  Council get clarification that the hours of operation would not change in
  terms of this proposed amendment.
- Mayor Watts asked for clarification regarding the dancing, i.e., are they thinking of dances for special occasions and this will this not be every Friday, Saturday, etc?
- Mr. Uppal explained that four nights a week there is currently a DJ already on site in the top corner playing music. His intent is to not make the ULounge into a nightclub, he is leaning more towards an upscale club, and is interested in pursuing special occasion situations, i.e., New Years Eve, Halloween, Christmas, etc. or if someone wants to rent the ULounge for a private function. He explained that right now, as things are, it is confusing because people do not know where to go to dance should they wish to.
- Councillor Martin thanked Mr. Uppal and said that Staff will report back to Council with a Corporate Report.

It was

Moved by Councillor Villeneuve

Seconded by Councillor Hepner

That a Corporate Report be made to Council regarding the potential impact on surrounding businesses and residents

should the ULounge "no dance floor" restriction be removed.

Carried

2. Vincent Lalonde, General Manager Engineering

File: 0550-20-10; 5400-80 (08400)

To appear before Council to make a presentation regarding 84 Avenue between King George Highway and 140 Street

**Note**: See Corporate Report R167 of the Regular Council - Public Hearing agenda.

Mayor Watts asked that this item be deferred to the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

It was

Moved by Councillor Rasode Seconded by Councillor Hunt

That the presentation regarding 84th Avenue

between King George Highway and 140 Street be deferred until the Public Hearing portion of the meeting.

Carried

- B. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL
- C. CORPORATE REPORTS
- D. DELEGATION REQUESTS
- E. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS
- F. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

## G. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Steele Seconded by Councillor Hepner

That the Council-in-Committee meeting do

now adjourn.

**Carried** 

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

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