

MEMO



To: Mayor John Haila and Ames City Council Members
From: Lieutenant Heath Ropp, Ames Police Department
Date: April 11, 2022
Subject: Beer Permits & Liquor License Renewal Reference City Council Agenda

The Council agenda for April 26th, 2022, includes beer permits and liquor license renewals for:

- **Wasabi Ames** (926 S 16th St) - Class C Liquor License, Sunday Sales and Outdoor Service

A review of police records for the past 12 months found two liquor law violations for the above business. During a compliance check on April 16th, 2021 an employee sold alcohol to a minor and was cited accordingly. A follow-up compliance check was completed on June 9th, 2021, and another employee sold alcohol to a minor and was cited accordingly for the second time.

So far, the Police Department has made recommendations to improve their performance such as asking for customer identification and verifying customer age, as well as utilizing the Iowa ABD Age to Purchase mobile application to scan identifications to ensure validity.

At this time, the Police Department **would not** recommend a renewal of Wasabi Ames' license for the next year.

However, the police department would be in favor of allowing the business to apply for a 6-month license. A 6-month license would give the business and the police department a shorter period of time to evaluate changes to ensure due diligence in keeping underage patrons from obtaining alcohol. The process to initiate this would be for the City Council to deny the requested 12-month license and inform the applicant that they are able to apply for a 6-month license.

If the applicant obtains a 6-month license, during this 6-month period, the Police Department would continue to monitor the above location by conducting regular foot patrols, bar checks and by educating staff through trainings and meetings.