To: Natick Select Board, Jamie Errickson

From: Paul Joseph

Re: Update about Natick Policies, Rules and Regulations for Alcoholic Beverage Licenses

Date: Wednesday, May 18, 2022

CC: A. Loomis, B. Lauzon, D. Donovan

In January 2022, the Natick Select Board established a goal of reviewing and potentially updating/revising/sunsetting each of the policies for which it is responsible. The Board identified the Town's Rules and Regulations governing the permitting and enforcement of Alcoholic Beverage Licenses among its highest priorities.

Over the past four months, a team consisting of myself, Donna Donovan, Lt. Brian Lauzon, and Amanda Loomis has met 4 times to conduct a preliminary review of existing Rules and Regulations for On-Premise, Off-Premise, One-Day Special Permitting, and Club Licensing. Between those monthly meetings, members of the team conducted research and/or gathered and shared institutional knowledge, resulting in this list of preliminary recommendations for the Select Board's consideration.

It is important to note that the recommendations here represent a starting point for the Select Board's consideration and for its future deliberation, discussion, and decision(s).

This memo is being furnished with copies of the existing rules and regulations and a summary of community survey feedback gathered by me during this working group process. These documents will be available to the public via Novus Agenda under tonight's meeting agenda.

License Type(s)	Current Rule/Reg	Proposed Change(s)/Notes
On Premise, Malt and Wine, All-Alcohol	Require revenue from sale of alcohol to not exceed 35% per year	Eliminate this requirement
On Premise, All-Alcohol	Require minimum of 100 seats	Rescind the Bylaw to eliminate the seating capacity restriction. <i>*Requires Home Rule Petition</i>
On Premise, Malt and Wine and Liqueurs and Cordials	Require minimum of 15 seats	Consider rescinding the Bylaw to eliminate the seating capacity restriction. <i>*Requires Home Rule Petition</i>
On Premise, Malt and Wine, All-Alcohol	Require food prepared on- site to be available during alcoholic beverage service hours	Eliminate this requirement if (a) defined partnership(s) provide food option (e.g. food trucks or local restaurants via delivery or carry-in and (b) prepared/packaged food is made available at all times.

Recommendations and areas for deliberation:

License Type(s)	Current Rule/Reg	Proposed Change(s)/Notes
N/A	B.Y.O.B is not currently allowed	Allow B.Y.O.B option for local restaurants. By Policy change (public hearing to change Common Victualers rules and regs). Policy to include required training and service & corking rules.
All Alcohol	Alcoholic Beverages not allowed on Town Property	Allow beverage service (e.g., via caterer, licensed restaurant, other supplier) on non-school properties (e.g. Sassamon Golf Course). Consider additional locations based on additional research, community feedback, and involvement of Boards/Committees (e.g. Rec and Parks). *Does not apply to NPS properties.
TBD	No Rules governing Service Trucks (e.g. Beer Truck, "Mobile Pub," etc.)	Consider appropriate licensing for mobile service options.
Retail (Off-Premise)	Consumption not allowed on premises without One-Day Special Permit	Consider the permitting of "Wine Bars." Via additional (On-Premise) permit, promote opportunity for consumption and retail purchases from separated spaces within same location.
All	TIPS Training - In-Person course/training required	Allow online training for certification; require in-person training for renewals* (with in-person/virtual 'every other' training period)
On Premise, Malt and Wine, All-Alcohol	Undefined penalties for license violations	Adopt a schedule of strict, and escalating penalties, for violations to be embedded in the Rules and Regs.
On Premise, Malt and Wine, All-Alcohol	No explicit security camera policy	Require camera coverage for entire consumption area; adopt a schedule of strict, and escalating penalties, for violations of system failures (e.g. recordings not retained).
Brewery, Winery	Tastings only	Allow for sales and consumption of vendor's manufactured product on premise, subject to all training rules and availability of food. <i>*Future: Consider</i> <i>micro distillery as additional vendor</i> <i>option.</i>

License Type(s)	Current Rule/Reg	Proposed Change(s)/Notes
On Premise, All Alcohol	No Rule governing Minors seated at bar	Consider prohibiting minors from sitting at bar area.
	Clarify role of NPD across all licenses.	Propose defining the Natick Police Department, through its Chief and/or their designee, as Agent of the Legal Licensing Authority
On-Premise	Service Hours: M-Sa: 11 a.m midnight, Su: 10 a.m midnight. Last Call: 30 minutes before closing, limit of 1 drink per person, and not longer than 1-hour past kitchen closing	Consider adjusting hours based on community norms and market opportunities (e.g., is midnight restrictive near entertainment venues?) - TBD
On Premise, Malt and Wine, All-Alcohol	Service in Pitchers Prohibited	Consider allowing service in pitchers up to 64 oz. to party of two or more.
On-Premise	"Clearing" requirement	Consider requiring prompt clearing of previous beverage(s) prior to deliver of additional beverage.
Club	Requires a financial report, "certified by a (CPA)…" by November 30 th each year to verify charitable events' revenues, expenses, and contributions to local non- profit organizations	Consider simplifying this to (a) eliminate required, certified CPA statement and (b) update form for submission. TBD.
All		Consider designating (portion of) fees and/or penalty payments for community education about addiction, resources (e.g. Natick 180), and marketing through license holders of all types.