

SCRANTON CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEARING

IN RE: FILED OF COUNCIL NO. 63 2019 APPROVING
 THE TRANSFER OF A RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE OWNED
 BY RDRM, INCORPORATED, HC 2, BOX 177, THORNHURST
 TOWNSHIP, THORNHURST, PA 18424-0177; LICENSE NO.
 R 16828 TO GIANT FOOD STORES, LLC, FOR USE AT
 1600 NAY AUG AVENUE, LACKAWANNA COUNTY, SCRANTON,
 PA 18509 AS REQUIRED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR
 CONTROL BOARD.

HELD:

Monday, June 3rd, 2019

LOCATION:

Council Chambers
 Scranton City Hall
 340 North Washington Avenue
 Scranton, Pennsylvania

MARIA McCool, RPR

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1 MR. ROGAN: We call this public
2 hearing to order. Roll call, please.

3 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Perry.

4 MR. PERRY: Here.

5 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Donahue.

6 Mr. Evans.

7 MR. EVANS: Here.

8 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Gaughan.

9 MR. GAUGHAN: Here.

10 MS. CARRERA: Mr. Rogan.

11 MR. ROGAN: Here.

12 MS. REED: The purpose of said
13 public hearing is to hear testimony and discuss
14 the following: FILED OF COUNCIL NO. 63 2019
15 APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF A RESTAURANT LIQUOR
16 LICENSE OWNED BY RDRM, INCORPORATED, HC 2, BOX
17 177, THORNHURST TOWNSHIP, THORNHURST, PA
18 18424-0177; LICENSE NO. R 16828 TO GIANT FOOD
19 STORES, LLC, FOR USE AT 1600 NAY AUG AVENUE,
20 LACKAWANNA COUNTY, SCRANTON, PA 18509 AS
21 REQUIRED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL
22 BOARD.

23 MR. ROGAN: Our first and only
24 speaker is Ellen Freeman.

25 MS. FREEMAN: My name is Ellen

1 Freeman. I'm the attorney for Giant Food
2 Stores. And you have in front of you an
3 exhibit that was passed out prior to the
4 hearing.

5 It's just a floor plan of the
6 grocery store as well as an enlarged portion of
7 what it will look like after a remodel. Giant
8 Food Stores does plan to include a cafe in the
9 front right-hand side of the grocery store
10 which will have seating and food options for
11 patrons.

12 And they'll also have that liquor
13 license there in order to sell beer and wine to
14 go primarily for takeout. That's typically
15 their business. Although they did allow for
16 on-premise consumption. They do limit that
17 though. The customer is only permitted to
18 consume two standard pours of beer in one
19 sitting.

20 In addition to that, the policy is
21 the customer must have purchased a food item to
22 actually have a dine-in experience.
23 Customers cannot take the beer throughout the
24 grocery store. It is limited to that seating
25 in the gray shaded area.

1 They're going to employ 100 percent
2 carding policies. No matter what your age,
3 you'll be carded by an associate within that
4 licensed area. And they also have limited
5 hours of operation for their alcohol sales.

6 So it's going to be limited from
7 Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.;
8 and from Sunday from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. And at
9 10 p.m. each evening when the alcohol sales
10 have ceased, the register that's located on
11 that gray shaded area will no longer be
12 employed by anyone.

13 And then all of the cold beer doors
14 will actually physically lock so that the
15 product is locked up at the end of the selling
16 period. While the grocery store may still be
17 open, the alcohol sales will have ceased for
18 the evening.

19 I'm just going to keep it short
20 tonight. But if there is any questions from
21 Council members, please let me know.

22 MR. ROGAN: Thank you.

23 MR. EVANS: Now, do you have these
24 in any of your other stores?

25 MS. FREEMAN: Yes, Giant Food Stores

1 currently has 98 open and operating locations
2 in Pennsylvania with liquor licenses in some
3 format.

4 MR. EVANS: The policy you mentioned
5 about having two beers while you're sitting
6 there, is that a company policy or is that an
7 LCB rule?

8 MS. FREEMAN: That is a company
9 policy that they've employed across their 98
10 other stores. They found it's very infrequent
11 that they have anyone consume alcohol. It's
12 about 2 percent of their sales at the other
13 locations. So they're really not anticipating
14 a lot.

15 MR. ROGAN: Anyone else? Thank you.

16 MS. FREEMAN: Thank you.

17 MR. ROGAN: Is there anyone else who
18 would like to address Council on this issue?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. ROGAN: If not, this meeting is
21 adjourned.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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3 I hereby certify that the proceedings and
4 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the
5 notes taken by me of the above-cause and that this copy
6 is a correct transcript of the same to the best of my
7 ability.

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10 _____
11 Maria McCool, RPR
12 Official Court Reporter
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