



*City of Westfield, Massachusetts*  
LICENSE COMMISSION

Commissioners  
Christopher Mowatt, Chr.  
Edward Diaz  
Alice Dawicki

MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
59 COURT STREET  
WESTFIELD, MA 01085  
Phone: 642-9302  
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LICENSE COMMISSION  
Monday, January 12, 2026  
Municipal Building  
59 Court Street, Westfield, MA  
Council Chambers Room 207 at 6:00 PM

RECEIVED

MAR 11 2026

WESTFIELD CITY CLERK

MINUTES

Meeting convened at 6:00 PM.

Commissioners Diaz and Dawicki were present. Chairman Mowatt was absent. Commissioner Diaz served as Acting Chair.

Upon motion of Commissioner Dawicki, and duly seconded by Commissioner Diaz, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: The minutes for November 10, 2025 and December 8, 2025, be APPROVED.

The next License Commission meeting was scheduled for February 9, 2026.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: NONE

REGULAR MEETING:

3. Mark Baldyga, Trustee for St. John's Lutheran Church, is requesting approval to secure a one-day beer and wine license, which has been successfully obtained for this event over the past three years, for an event scheduled for February 28, 2026 at St. John's Lutheran Church, 60 Broad Street.

Mr. Baldyga of St. John Lutheran Church stated that he hosts annual game dinners. In prior years, the church obtained One-Day Liquor Licenses; however, this year he stated that the event is considered "private." In practice, tickets are sold to anyone interested, including friends of friends of attendees, although the event is not publicly advertised. The church wishes to allow attendees to bring

their own alcohol (BYOB) to the event. Mr. Baldyga then shared his reasons for requesting that the License Commission allow BYOB for these events and presented a map of the event layout.

Mr. Baldyga stated that he no longer wishes to purchase alcohol due to the cost, as alcohol may only be purchased through approved warehouses. He believes that allowing attendees to bring their own alcohol would be easier. He further stated that he believes the event qualifies as private and therefore does not wish to apply for a One-Day Liquor License. He also noted that most, if not all, of the proceeds from the event are donated to local charities. He explained that ticket proceeds are used to fund these donations and to estimate the amount of food to prepare for the event.

The Commission expressed uncertainty as to whether BYOB would be permissible, given that the event appears to be public in nature. Commissioner Dawicki stated that the Commission had begun researching BYOB policies and, after reaching out to several local businesses, learned that many did not wish to allow BYOB due to the requirements and responsibilities associated with it.

Upon motion of Commissioner Diaz, and duly seconded by Commissioner Dawicki, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: To seek a legal opinion regarding BYOB for St. John's Lutheran Church.

Upon motion of Commissioner Dawicki, and duly seconded by Commissioner Diaz, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: To TABLE the request from the St. John's Lutheran Church until the License Commission has time to review the legal opinion pertaining BYOB.

Mr. Baldyga stated that, regardless of whether the License Commission grants approval for BYOB, the event will proceed without alcohol.

#### 4. Section 14, Special One Day License to be approved by the Commission:

a. Westfield Woman's Club, Inc., 28 Court Street, requesting wine and malt beverages only for BUNCO, clubhouse & theater, Jean Rosenblun, pres., Wednesday, January 14, 2026 & February 11, 2026 from 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM. Kathleen Hillman represented the Westfield Woman's Club. She explained to the Commissioners how the BUNCO game works and stated that the Club's goal in hosting these events is to raise funds for a gala celebrating its 100th anniversary, as well as to support building upgrades.

Upon motion of Commissioner Diaz, and duly seconded by Commissioner Dawicki, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: To APPROVE the one-day liquor application requests for Westfield Woman's Club. Fees waived due to their non-profit status.

#### 5. Update on missing Renewal information for the following:

The Head Licensing Clerk stated that the following businesses have submitted all required and previously missing documents.

FULL BUSINESS NAME	DBA	MANAGER	ADDRESS
ST ROCCO'S MEN'S CLUB, INC	ST ROCCO'S MEN'S CLUB, INC	THOMAS D. ROMANI	300 ELM STREET
ABANOZ, LLC	SANTORINI PIZZERIA AND RESTAURANT	ALI ABANOZ	930 SOUTHAMPTON ROAD
KS JAPANESE RESTAURANT, INC	KS JAPANESE RESTAURANT, INC	ZHONG CHEN	318 EAST MAIN STREET
BRIGHT WESTFIELD, LLC	BRIGHT WESTFIELD	ORION M. HOWARD	109 APREMONT WAY
WHIP CITY SPIRITS, LLC	WHIP CITY SPIRITS, LLC	CHARLES MILLER	131 MEADOW STREET
STARFIRE'S CONCESSIONS, LLC	STARFIRE'S CONCESSIONS, LLC	TAMMY KEENEY	135 KING STREET EX.

6. Review and Approval of Common Victualler Licenses as Submitted:

a. Japolies Inc., d/b/a Northside Creamery, 519 Southampton Road, Petrina Fondakowski & Andrew Fondakowski, owners.

Upon motion of Commissioner Dawicki, duly seconded by Commissioner Diaz, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: To APPROVE the Common Victualler License for Japolies Inc., d/b/a Northside Creamery, located at 519 Southampton Road, with Petrina Fondakowski and Andrew Fondakowski as owners.

7. Status Update on Westfield Police Officer to conduct inspection of Licensed Auto Premises

Commissioner Diaz read a letter from Chief of Police Jerome Pitoniak providing a status update regarding the police officers assigned to conduct inspections of licensed auto premises, namely Lieutenant Parrish, Officer Burl, and Officer Gregory.

Upon motion of Commissioner Dawicki, duly seconded by Commissioner Diaz, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED: To confirm Lieutenant Parrish, Officer Burl, and Officer Gregory as the officers designated to conduct inspections of licensed auto premises.

8. Police Incident Reports

No police incident reports were submitted for this month's meeting.

At 6:48 PM and upon motion of Commissioner Diaz and duly seconded by Commissioner Dawicki, it was unanimously VOTED: To ADJOURN.

A True Record, Attest

*Valentina Rafalskiy*

Head Licensing Clerk



Christopher Mowatt, Chair

*WESTFIELD LICENSE COMMISSION'S MISSION STATEMENT TO SERVE THE PUBLIC NEED AND PROTECT THE COMMON GOOD OF THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF WESTFIELD, BY ENSURING THAT ALL LICENSEES GOVERNED BY THE COMMISSION OPERATE IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL LAWS OF THE COMMONWEALTH.*