
City Council

Motion without Notice

MM38.29	ACTION			Ward: 15
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Liquor Licence Application – Increase in Licensed Capacity Town Talk Restaurant and Bar – 616 Vaughan Road AGCO File No. 802389 - by Councillor Moscoe, seconded by Councillor Hall

*•This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.
Council has added this Motion to the agenda for debate.*

Recommendations

Councillor Moscoe, seconded by Councillor Hall, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the City Clerk to advise the Registrar of the AGCO that an increase in the indoor capacity of the liquor licence from 105 to 149 patrons for Town Talk Restaurant and Bar, 616 Vaughan Road, is not in the public interest having regard to the needs and wishes of the residents, and that the Registrar should issue a Proposal to Review the application to increase capacity.
2. City Council request the AGCO to provide the City of Toronto with an opportunity to participate in any proceedings with respect to Town Talk Restaurant and Bar.
3. City Council authorize the City Solicitor to attend all proceedings before the AGCO in this matter and direct the City Solicitor to take all necessary actions so as to give effect to this Motion.

Summary

Town Talk Restaurant and Bar Inc. is the corporate licensee of an establishment located at 616 Vaughan Road operating under the name Town Talk Restaurant and Bar (“Town Talk”). An application was submitted by Town Talk to the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (“AGCO”) to increase the indoor capacity of the establishment from 105 patrons to 149. The deadline for objections to the AGCO was August 2, 2009. Because of the labour disruption at the City of Toronto a Motion regarding the Town Talk application could not be considered by Council until the meeting of August 5 and 6, 2009.

Town Talk is located in an area containing several licenced premises in proximity to the intersection of Vaughan Road and Oakwood Avenue. Some of these premises, including Jaffar’s Bar that operated at the current location of Town Talk, have been convicted in the past

of violations under the Liquor Licence Act. There is a history of violent incidents in the area and specifically at Town Talk, including the murder of a patron on July 21, 2007, on the boulevard out front of the establishment. Local residents have complained to the City about excessive noise emanating from Town Talk, the behaviour of patrons outside the establishment, the violent incidents in and around Town Talk, and the lack of parking on the premises.

The local Councillor and area residents are concerned that an increase in capacity for Town Talk can only lead to an increase in problems in the future. Town Talk is located near residential buildings that will be impacted by the proposed increase in capacity. Several objection letters from residents have been sent to the AGCO.

The problems experienced at Town Talk and the immediate area affords reasonable grounds to believe that the proposed increase in indoor capacity of the liquor licence for Town Talk is not in the public interest having regard to the needs and wishes of the municipality in which the premises are located.

(Submitted to City Council on August 5, 2009 as MM38.29)