



"...meeting community needs...enhancing quality of life."

TO: Safety and Licensing Committee
FROM: Lt. Jeff Miller
DATE: 01/09/2019
RE: Denial of Benjamin Lasfalk

Committee Members:

The police department is requesting that the Safety and Licensing Committee recommend to the Common Council to deny Benjamin Lasfalk's application for a bartender's license. Mr. Lasfalk is a habitual law offender and his criminal history is littered with substantially related offenses that would be detrimental to the community if he were to be allowed to have a license.

As part of any denial of licensing, the police department must determine if crimes are substantially related to the sale of alcohol. Mr. Lasfalk was convicted of felony possession of narcotics for 4 years in a row, starting in 2014. He is on probation for the latest of these offenses which occurred in October of 2017. During this period of time he was also convicted of burglary (2015 CF 25). The relation between alcohol and narcotic drugs is clear. As a person who wants to be responsible to serve alcohol, Mr. Lasfalk has not shown the ability to make good decisions related to his own sobriety. Many of his issues with damage to property, burglary, and traffic offenses seem to stem from his narcotics issue. The police department is not sure he has spent the amount of time necessary to rehabilitate himself and make the necessary life changes to take on the responsibility for alcohol service.

Additionally, Mr. Lasfalk chose not to be fully honest and forthcoming on his license application. As you may note on the document that references his convictions, he was cited for numerous traffic offenses, all of them unreported. One of these convictions was a speeding violation that the form clearly asks for. He reported one damage to property but failed to report the other (2014 CM 947). Perhaps most importantly, he did not disclose the most recent felony possession of narcotics of which he is on probation (17 CF 623).

Finally, Mr. Lasfalk has a probation restriction that he not enter any establishment whose primary business is to sell alcohol. Mr. Lasfalk is currently employed at Stucs Pizza. However, this committee has time and again recognized that an Appleton bartender license can be used to gain employment at any licensed premise. Due to Mr. Lasfalk's history of criminal activity we feel it would be unwise to allow him this opportunity.

The service of alcohol includes coming into contact with individuals in a very vulnerable state and the Police Department feels Benjamin Lasfalk has not demonstrated the necessary maturity and decision making capacity to be allowed a bartender's license in the City of Appleton.

Very Respectfully:

Lt. Jeff Miller
Appleton Police Department