

Liquor License Ordinance

An ordinance to establish procedures and standards for review of applications, renewals, and revocation of license to sell beer and wine or spirits.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MADISON HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. Title

This ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the "Charter Township of Madison Liquor License Ordinance."

Section 2. Application for New License

Applications for license to sell beer and wine or spirits shall be made to the Township Board in writing, signed by the applicant, if individual, or by a duly authorized agent thereof, if a partnership or corporation, verified by oath or affidavit, and shall contain the following statements and information:

- 2.1 The name, age and address of the applicant in the case of an individual; or in the case of a co-partnership, the persons entitled to share the profits thereof; in the case of a corporation, the object for which organized, the names and addresses of the officers and directors, and, if a majority interest in the stock of such corporation is owned by the person or his nominee, the name and address of such person.
- 2.2 The citizenship of the applicant, his place of birth, and, if naturalized citizen, the time and place of his naturalization.
- 2.3 The character of business of the applicant, and the case of a corporation, the object for which it was formed.
- 2.4 The length of time said applicant has been in business of that character, or in the case of a corporation, the date when its charter was issued.
- 2.5 The location and description of the premises or place of business which is to be operated under such license.
- 2.6 A statement whether applicant has made application for a similar or other license on premises other than described in this application, and the disposition of such application.

- 2.7 A statement that applicant has never been convicted of a felony and is not disqualified to receive a license by reason of any matter or thing contained in this ordinance or the laws of the State of Michigan.
- 2.8 A statement that the applicant will not violate any of the laws of the State of Michigan or the United States or any ordinances of the Township in conduct of its business.
- 2.9 The application shall be accompanied by building and plat plans showing the entire structure and premises and in particular the specific areas where the license is to be utilized. The plans shall demonstrate adequate off street parking, lighting, refuse disposal facilities and where appropriate, adequate plans for screening, and noise control.

Section 3. Restrictions on Licenses

No such license shall be issued:

- 3.1 To the person whose license, under this ordinance has been revoked for cause.
- 3.2 To a person who, at the time of application or renewal of any license issued hereunder, would not be eligible for such license upon a first application.
- 3.3 To a co-partnership, unless all of the members of such co-partnership shall qualify to obtain a license.
- 3.4 To a corporation, if any officer, manager or director thereof, or a stock owner or stock owing in the aggregate more than five percent (5%) of the stock of such corporation would not be eligible to receive a license hereunder for any reason.
- 3.5 To a person whose place of business is conducted by a manager or agent unless such manager or agent possesses the same qualifications required of the license.
- 3.6 To a person who has been convicted of a violation of any federal or state law concerning the manufacture, possession or sale of alcoholic liquor or a controlled substance.
- 3.7 To a person who does not own the premises for which a license is sought or does not have a lease therefore for the full period for which the license is issued or to a person, corporation or co-partnership that does not have sufficient financial assets to carry on or maintain the business.
- 3.8 Any law enforcing public official or any member of the Township Board, and no such official shall be interested in any way either directly or indirectly in the manufacture, sale or distribution of alcoholic liquor.
- 3.9 For premises where there exists a violation of the applicable Building, Electrical,

Mechanical, Plumbing or Fire Codes, applicable Zoning Regulations, applicable Public Health Regulations, or any other applicable Township Ordinance.

- 3.10 For any new license or for the transfer of any existing license unless the sale of beer, wine or spirits is shown to be incidental or subordinate to other permitted business uses upon the site, such as, but not limited to, food sales, motel operations, or recreational activities.
- 3.11 For premises where it is determined by a majority of the Board that the premises do not or will not reasonably soon after commencement of operations have adequate off-street parking, lighting, refused disposal facilities, screening, noise, or nuisance control or where a nuisance does or will exist.
- 3.12 Where the Board determines, by majority vote, that the proposed location is inappropriate considering the following:
 - a. Desirability of establishing a location in developed, commercial area, in preference to isolated, underdeveloped areas;
 - b. The attitude of adjacent residents and property owners;
 - c. Traffic safety;
 - d. Accessibility to the site from abutting roads;
 - e. Capability of abutting road to accommodate the commercial activity;
 - f. Distance from public or private schools for minors;
 - g. Proximity of the inconsistent zoning classification;
 - h. Accessibility from primary roads or state highways.

Section 4. Term of License

Approval of a license shall be for a period of one year subject to annual renewal by the Township Board upon continued compliance with the regulations of this ordinance. Approval of a license shall be with the understanding that any necessary remodeling or new construction for the use of the license shall be commenced within six months of the action of Township Board or the Michigan Liquor Control Commission approving such license which ever last occurs. Any unusual delay in the completion of such remodeling or construction may subject the license to revocation.

Section 5. Reservation of Authority

No such applicant for a liquor license has the right to the issuance of such license to him, her or it, and the Township Board reserves the right to exercise reasonable discretion to

determine who, if anyone, shall be entitled to the issuance of such license. Additionally, no applicant for a liquor license has the right to have such application processed and the Township Board further reserves the right to maintain a list of all applicants and to review the same when, in its discretion, it determines that the issuance of an additional liquor license is in the best interest of the Township at large and for the needs and convenience of its citizens.

Section 6. License Hearing

The Township Board shall grant a public hearing upon the license application when, in its discretion, the Board determines that the issuance of an additional liquor license is in the best interest of the Township at large and for the needs and convenience of its citizens. Following such hearing the Board shall submit to the applicant a written statement of its findings and determination. The Board's determination shall be based upon satisfactory compliance with the restrictions set forth above.

Section 7. Objections to Renewal and Request for Revocation

- 7.1 Before filing an objection to renewal or request for revocation of a license with the Michigan Liquor Control Commission, the Township Board shall serve the license-holder, by first class mail, mailed not less than ten days prior to hearing the notice of a hearing which notice shall contain the following:
- a. Notice of proposed action.
 - b. Reasons for the proposed action.
 - c. Date, time and place of hearing.
 - d. A statement that the license may present evidence and testimony and confront adverse witnesses.
- 7.2 Following the hearing, the Township Board shall submit to the licenseholder and the Commission a written statement of its findings and determination.

Section 8. Criteria for Nonrenewal or Revocation.

The Township Board shall recommend nonrenewal or revocation of a license upon a determination by it that based upon a preponderance of the evidence presented at hearing either of the following exists:

- 8.1 Violation of any of the restrictions on licenses set forth in paragraph B above.
- 8.2 Maintenance of a nuisance upon the premises.

Section 9. Severability

Should any section or part thereof of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional, null or void by a court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remaining actions or parts thereof of this Ordinance.

Section 10. Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect immediately. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.