

**APPEAL HEARINGS  
LIQUOR LICENSE  
DECEMBER 22, 2010**

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, heard appeals on the denial of two liquor licenses for 2011 on Wednesday, December 22, 2010, 5 PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor W.E. Burns presided.

Present were: Mayor Burns, Council members Cullars, Eaton, Pope, Rainey and Tutt. Council member Barnett was not present. Also present were City Administrator Eskew, City Clerk Danner and City Attorney Fleming.

Visitors included: Mike Fortson, Lonnie Ray, Lewis Brown, Rita Brown, Billy Hopkins, Freda Norman, Annie B. Derricott, Cynthia Derricott, William Derricott, Cindy Bounds, Paulette George, Bobby Jones, Andrew Raye, Sim Dill Jr., Ronnie Futch, Milton Roberts, Melanie Wells, Rosemary Hopkins, Linda Echols, Kenneth Echols, Hannah Sifre, Jennifer Rogers, Shealyn Byrd, Felicia Browner, Michael Horgan, Angie Roth, Tommy Roth, George Zellars, Meiko Mays, Kim Evans and Kip Burke of the News Reporter.

City Attorney Fleming reviewed the reasons for council decision to deny renewal of the liquor licenses for Mike's Place and WD's Package Store: loud music, loitering, fights, thefts, drugs, violation of the patio requirement in the city's ordinance and violation of the nuisance ordinance.

Attorney Fleming advised council that after the appeal process, council could vote to uphold the revocation of the license or vote to grant license.

Mike Carroll, owner of Mike's Place, advised that he had not known until a discussion with Capt. Glenn in October that he was in violation of the city's patio requirement as it related to his liquor license. Since that time, there has been no violation of outside drinking. There have been several people banned from his establishment for fighting and disruptive behavior. Most of the noise complaints have come from a former employee and when police officers have arrived there was not a noise problem.

Mr. Carroll agreed to remove some picnic tables located outside his business to discourage loitering and outside drinking. Mr. Carroll will submit a plan to the Building Official after the first of the year for the construction of a patio area for his establishment.

On motion by Cullars, second by Eaton, council approved 5 to 0 to grant a 2011 Distilled Spirits Pouring license to Mike Carroll for a business operating as Mike's Place.

Attorney M.V. Booker spoke on behalf of William Derricott, owner of WD's Package Store. Attorney Booker advised that there had been some 32 citations dating from 2007 with only 4 during 2010. Booker further advised that Mr. Derricott had operated his business at this location for some 18 years.

Attorney Booker submitted that perhaps some of the issues relating to council's denial of the liquor license for Mr. Derricott were community problems and not just problems to be addressed by Mr. Derricott.

After discussion, Mr. Derricott agreed to install a fence between his property and neighboring businesses and to hire security for high volume times. Mr. Derricott was advised that "off duty" police officers had the same arrest powers as when on duty.

Attorney Booker also advised that a community meeting will be arranged with business owners in the area to address ways that these issues can be resolved.

On motion by Cullars, second by Eaton, council approved 5 to 0 granting the 2011 Distilled Spirits Package license to Mr. Derricott for a business operating as WD's Package Store, with condition that fence be installed, part-time security be hired and that

a report from the community meeting with ways to resolve community problems be presented at the January 2011 meeting of council.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On motion by Eaton, second by Rainey, council approved adjournment 5 to 0 at 5:54 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_CLERK