

Council Questions
City Council Meeting Agenda
April 25, 2016; 7:00 PM

From Alderman David Sage

These are questions related to agenda Regular Agenda Items 9C and 9D.

1. Per our fee recovery study presented in Feb. 2016,
<http://www.cityblm.org/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=10172>
Does p. 21 suggest the cost to the City Clerk's office to initiate an annual liquor license renewal is \$400?

1. and 2. Staff were not able to find license cost information by following the referenced link. However, it is true that the cost to apply for most liquor licenses is \$400, this helps offset not only the cost of processing the application, but pays for the costs of publication in the Pantagraph and the mailing of notice to nearby properties. If the application is approved and the Council creates a liquor license, the annual license fee is charged; however, the \$400 application fee is not charged for annual license renewals, it is a one-time fee for the initial application.

2. And then the annual liquor license itself is added on top of the \$400?

See above

3. Is my math correct in that if the annual compounding is considered, the actual total license increase is closer to 53% over three years?

4. Concerning downtown hire-back:

a. How many BPD officers are hired back each week for downtown?

A team of two officers are assigned on Thursdays and four officers are generally assigned on Fridays and Saturdays. However, as I stated during the presentation to council, these numbers can fluctuate depending on information the department receives (i.e. Pub Crawl or other events establishment may be having that will cause a larger than average number of people to come downtown.

b. What's the total being budgeted in FY17 for downtown hire-back?

We have estimated approximately \$130,000 for downtown Hireback

c. What nights each week are BPD officers hired back for downtown patrol?

See "a"

d. What time does the downtown police patrol start and end on the specific hire-back nights?

Our details run from 11p-2a on Thursdays and 11p-3a on Fridays and Saturday.

e. What ordinance violation revenues are generated by hire-back officers in the downtown on these specific nights?

Not exactly sure what this question pertains too? However, first and foremost, we are not conducting downtown hire-backs to generate revenue. Hire-backs are conducted for public safety reasons due to the large volumes of people that are downtown on the days of the hire-backs that can at any time (and have per the video) cause safety issues for our citizens. Our impact downtown cannot be quantified by data as there is no way to measure what crimes our presence deters. There is no way to measure the behaviors we change by issuing ordinance violations for alcohol, disorderly conduct etc. or the impact from removing impaired drivers and intervening, minimizing, or deterring the fights that occur. Law enforcement should never be associated with generating revenue. Any questions regarding fines from ordinance violations can be addressed by the legal department.

* Another reminder that is highlighted in the PowerPoint, of the 20,662 calls for service for 2013 - 2016, from Sunday through Saturday, 18,744 of the calls for service occurred on Thursday - Saturday.

5. How much does the town of Normal tax annually for each individual gaming machine?

The Town of Normal has charged an annual license fee of \$200 per terminal for approximately the past three years. For information regarding some other municipalities, please see the survey of municipal gaming fees in the Council materials.

From Alderman Diana Hauman

Regular Agenda Item No. 9D

How will we assure that the fees from VGMs will, in fact, go towards pensions? Is this in addition to what we have budgeted for pensions or will this "subsidize" this/these line items on future budgets?

Regular Agenda Item No. 9E (c)

City Council,

Please consider why J.G. Stewart may be the lowest bid for sidewalk repair. Some of us in Dimmitt's Grove have not had the best work or experience with them when sidewalk repairs and handicap ramps were installed in our neighborhood the last few years. Please check out their workmanship and the number of complaints or repairs that had to be redone and see if in fact the city and the taxpayers are in fact getting the quality of work that is paid for.

I read in the paper today that this will be considered in tonight's meeting. \$895,619 contract for approval for work on sidewalks with J.G. Stewart. We thank you for looking into the work and quality of work they have done in the past.

City staff does review each complaint that comes into the Department and provides the contractor with written evaluations of their performance if no resolution is able to be attained. These written responses can be included in future contract consideration. In the case of J.G. Stewart, City staff has not found them to be unresponsive to reasonable concerns brought by staff or citizens in recent years. Since changes in our specifications and different contractor inspection, there have been only a handful of complaints that have been received. Staff is not aware of extensive concerns with this contractor. The email from Ms. Etheridge at 407 S. Evans is difficult to respond to because the City is in pre-litigation with this individual. She does have one version of what occurred and the City has a different understanding. The City has responded through our attorneys and we are hopefully close to a resolution, but nothing has been published yet. I had spoken previously with Pamala Eaton about concerns and talked with her again today on the issue. Overall, she was pleased with City staff's response and the end product. She did let me know of one other individual she was aware of with a concern. I called that individual and his concern was from 11 years ago. The recommendation of contract approval remains from staff.

Pamala Eaton
Eaton Gallery
411 N. Center, Bloomington, IL 61701

Bloomington Police Department: Focus on Downtown Hireback



Front to Locust Madison to Prairie



Bloomington Police Department: Focus on Downtown Hireback



CALLS FOR SERVICE FY13-FY16

Downtown 11pm-3am (Sunday through Saturday)

	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	Grand Total
911	293	206	167	105	771
Front Desk		1			1
Officer Initiated	3,764	6,376	6,081	2,593	18,814
Non-911 Telephone	373	293	276	134	1,076
Grand Total	4,430	6,876	6,524	2,832	20,662

Bloomington Police Department: Focus on Downtown Hireback



*CALLS FOR SERVICE BY UNIT TYPE FY13-FY16,
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, Downtown 11pm-3am*

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Grand Total
3rd Shift	2,032	2,936	3,117	8,085
CID		1		1
Downtown Hireback	1,493	4,187	4,233	9,913
Other Unit	138	278	323	739
SCU	1	5		6
Grand Total	3,664	7,407	7,673	*18,744

***Of the 20,662 calls for seven days a week,
18,744 occurred Thursday-Saturday**

Bloomington Police Department: Focus on Downtown Hireback



PREDOMINANT CALL TYPES DOWNTOWN

	911	Officer Initiated	Telephone	Grand Total
Bar Check		7,764	9	7,773
DUI	11	2	25	38
FIGHT	83	197	75	355
Pedestrian Contact		4,531	4	4,535
Theft	4	3	15	22
Grand Total	98	12,497	128	12,723

Bloomington Police Department: Focus on Downtown Hireback



COSTS FOR STAFFING DOWNTOWN WITH HIREBACK AND ON-DUTY SUPPLEMENTS

	*COST	**OV's (\$)
FY 2013	\$97,788.46	\$70,750.00
FY2014	\$119,922.34	\$107,790.00
FY2015	\$132,534.94 OT \$103,637.92 On Duty \$28,897.03	\$103,575.00
FY2016	\$45,665.79 OT \$33,766.99 On Duty \$11,888.80	\$19,300.00

* BPD did not start tracking 3rd shift on duty costs until FY2015

** OV's issued, not necessarily paid

Bloomington Police Department: Focus on Downtown Hireback



Video #1

Bloomington Police Department: Focus on Downtown Hireback



Video #2

Bloomington Police Department: Focus on Downtown Hireback



OPTIONS FOR DOWNTOWN POLICING STRATEGIES:

Option 1: Consider having bar owners utilize Special Police Service contracts with the city for the hireback of police officers.

- Not recommended by Bloomington Police Department:
 - Increased liability for the city.
 - Officer safety if inadequately staffed.
 - Current officer staffing inadequate to meet possible demand.
 - Officers are in the bars and not outside.

Bloomington Police Department: Focus on Downtown Hireback



OPTIONS FOR DOWNTOWN POLICING STRATEGIES:

Option 2: Enforce proper conduct by liquor licensees:

- If alcohol related disturbances can be connected to a particular establishment, sanctions against the establishment can be sought if patron was over served.
 - Still requires law enforcement.
 - Difficult to prove.
-
- **Option 3: Only staff hireback for special events**
 - Does not address the thousands of calls generated currently downtown on non-special event nights.

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OPTIONS FOR DOWNTOWN POLICING STRATEGIES (cont.):

Option 4: Explore liquor establishments paying a fee for liquor licenses related to their occupancy capacity or other fees.

Option 5: Hire additional officers to establish a shift to cover bar hours:

- Costs would be more than the hireback is currently.
- Officers would be assigned to work a set 40 hours a week shift to address issues occurring approximately 12 hours a week.
- Contractual issues.

Bloomington Police Department: Focus on Downtown Hireback



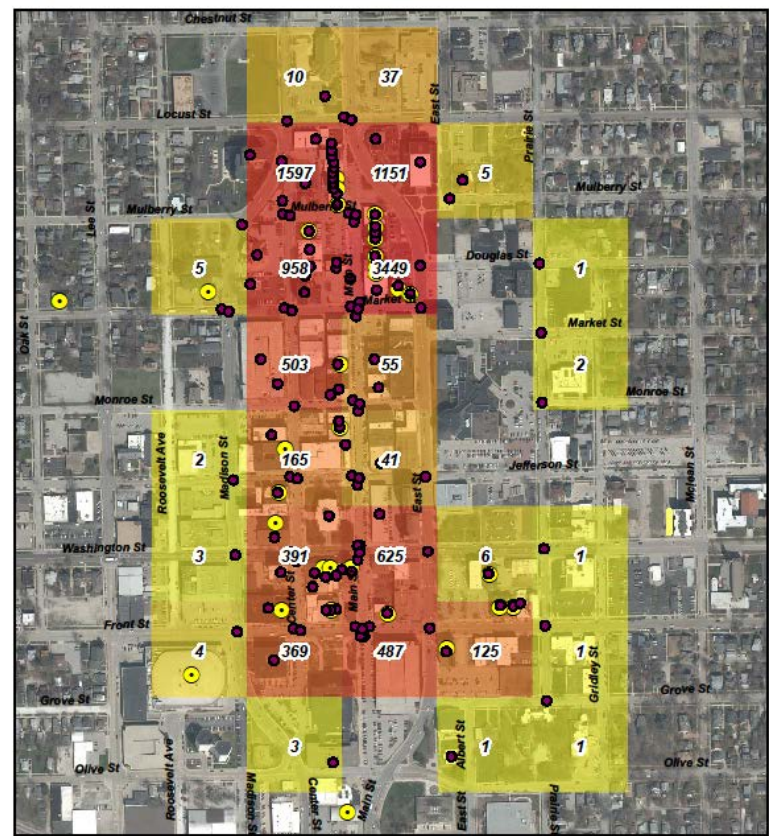
OPTIONS FOR DOWNTOWN POLICING STRATEGIES (cont.):

Option 6: Leave Program Status Quo.

Bloomington Police Department: Focus on Downtown Hireback



Downtown Hireback Call For Service Locations



0 125 250 500 750 1,000 Feet

Locations of liquor license locations and call for service addresses. Counts shown are the sum of calls for Downtown Hireback officers from Fiscal Year 2013 to current date.



Legend

- CFS Location
- Liquor License Location



Map created 11-13-2015 by the BPD Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit.