



**CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL**

**Agenda Item O  
July 13, 2015**

**SUBJECT:** Approval of request to waive Liquor License Application fee and requirement to provide certain application forms for the ownership transfer from Epoch Catering, LLC to Epoch Hospitality, LLC as a Co-Licensee at Suburban Collection Showplace.

**SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT:** City Clerk *CLB*

**CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:** *[Signature]*

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Epoch Hospitality, LLC is requesting a waiver of the requirement as set forth in the City's Licensing Policy to complete and submit as part of its application for transfer the detailed Questionnaire A, specifically those documents pertaining to Site Plan, Building Façade Plan, Interior Plan with Seating Arrangement, Menu and Administrative Land Use. Because this is merely an ownership transfer, none of those things are changing. It also seeks a waiver of the application fee. While Section 3-16(b) allows a waiver of the fee and the application information in the event of a simple change in or among existing ownership by a corporation or a partnership (i.e., as between existing stockholders or members), the applicant here does not meet the technical requirements of that section, because the principals of the transferee are currently employees of the transferor (not owners). More specifically, the owners of the proposed new licensee, Epoch Hospitality, LLC, are Kevin Aspinall and Paul Hess, who have been key management employees of the transferor (Epoch Catering, LLC) for a combined 48 years and have been in the foodservice industry for a combined 72 years. Together, they have been the primary operators and decision makers involved in catering operations at the Suburban Collection Showplace since its opening in 2005.

Epoch Catering, LLC, is currently divesting itself of certain assets after the recent death of its sole member, Toni Wisne Sabina. Its assets were bought by the long-term employees, and the operations of the business are not intended to change.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approval to waive Liquor License Application fee and requirement to provide certain application forms for the ownership transfer from Epoch Catering, LLC to Epoch Hospitality, LLC as a Co-Licensee at Suburban Collection Showplace, given the similarity of the transfer to transfers currently exempt under the ordinance.

	1	2	Y	N
Mayor Gatt				
Mayor Pro Tem Staudt				
Council Member Casey				
Council Member Markham				

	1	2	Y	N
Council Member Mutch				
Council Member Poupard				
Council Member Wrobel				