

STAFF REPORT

Date: September 19, 2024

To: Mayor and City Council

Through: Jackie Bryant, Interim City Manager

Subject: Staff Report (For Possible Action): Approval of a Nevada State Liquor Wholesaler License Application for NV Distributors LLC, Alex McGinley, 405 Western Road, Suite 56 and if approved, authorize the Mayor to sign the Nevada State Liquor License Application.

From: Lance Ferrato, Director of Business Licensing

Department: Business Licensing

Summary:

This is an application (R163545Q-APP-2024) by NV Distributors LLC, located at 405 Western Road, Suite 56, for a change of address to their existing Nevada State Liquor Wholesaler license. Nevada Revised Statutes (“NRS”) requires Council to review applications submitted for state licenses that will operate within the City. Based upon a background investigation conducted by the Reno Police Department (“RPD”), Council must find satisfactory evidence that the applicant is of good moral character in order to approve. Staff recommends that Council find satisfactory evidence that the applicant, Alex McGinley, is of good moral character and approve the state license application for NV Distributors LLC “NV Distributors” and authorize the Mayor to sign the application.

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

Economic and Community Development

Previous Council Action:

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

Background:

Pursuant to NRS Chapter 369 entitled “Intoxicating Liquor: Licenses and Taxes,” certain persons and businesses engaged in the importation of liquor, wholesale dealers of beer, wine and liquors, winemakers, instructional wine-making facilities, breweries, brew pubs, and craft distilleries are required to obtain a state license to engage in the activities listed involving intoxicating liquor. Prior to the revisions in SB 22 (2015 legislative session), state law required applications for state licenses to be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners in the county in which the

applicant maintained their principal place of business.

SB 22 revised the provisions of NRS 369.190, governing the review and approval of the state license. The revisions in the bill now require an applicant whose principal place of business is located within an incorporated city to submit the state license application to the governing body of the city instead of the Board of County Commissioners. The governing body shall approve or disapprove the application based on evidence that the applicants are of good moral character. The state license requirement is in addition to any licensing requirements in the municipal code of the local jurisdiction(s) in which the business is physically located.

On March 8, 2023, NV Distributors LLC was approved by Council to move to 405 Western Road, Suite 56; however, a state application was never filed. Staff was contacted by the Department of Taxation regarding this matter which prompted this application.

Discussion:

On August 27, 2024, staff received a state license application from NV Distributors (Exhibit A) to move from 3515 Airway Drive, Suite 210 to 405 Western Road, Suite 56. NRS 369.190(3) and RMC sec. 5.07.055(c) specify that Council shall determine if there is “satisfactory evidence that the applicant is a person of good moral character” when reviewing and approving a state license application.

RPD completed the applicant’s background verification on August 27, 2024, and recommended approval of the application. Based on completion of the background investigation, staff has determined that the applicant is “of good moral character” and suitable to hold the state license under the provisions of NRS and RMC.

Financial Implications:

No financial implications at this time.

Legal Implications:

Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada law.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends Council find satisfactory evidence that the applicant, Alex McGinley, is of good moral character and approve the Nevada State Liquor Wholesale License application for NV Distributors to move to 405 Western Road, Suite 56 and authorize the Mayor to sign the application.

Proposed Motion:

I move to approve staff recommendation.

Attachments:

Exhibit A - NV Distributors LLC State Application

Exhibit B - Notice of Waiver - Alex McGinley