



CITY OF RAPID CITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Kooiker and Common Council

FROM: Wade Nyberg *WEN*

DATE: August 21, 2014

RE: Journey/Storybook Island Special Event Alcohol License

Our ordinance relating to special event alcohol licenses was updated in 2012 to match state law. Historically, special event licenses have been available to non-profit civic, charitable, educational, fraternal, or veterans organizations. The 2012 change added a “person” to which the special event license could be issued: permanent license holders. With the changes in the law, a licensee who has a liquor license can now get the same type of special event license (malt beverage, wine, etc) for an offsite location (somewhere other than their normal licensed premises).

Additionally, an exception to the normal public hearing process was added to our ordinance to reflect state law changes. If a permanent license holder applies for a special event alcohol license, and the offsite location is publically owned property, a separate public hearing is not required. This cuts down the time and number of Council meetings needed, as we don’t need a “set-for-hearing” agenda item, publication of notice in the paper, and a subsequent Council meeting to approve the license. Only one Council meeting is required, at which the Council can approve or deny the request for the special event license.

This is the first application of its kind, where a permanent license holder (the Journey) is applying for a special event license offsite on publically owned property. As such, I wanted to provide this memo to explain the change from our normal procedure in granting special event licenses. Please let me know if you have any questions.