PRE-MEETING AGENDA

Casper City Council City Hall, Council Meeting Room Tuesday, May 18, 2021, 5:30 p.m.



Please silence cell phones during the City Council meeting.

Entrance to the meetings is the east door off David Street. Face coverings are encouraged. Public input via email is encouraged: CouncilComments@casperwy.gov.

	Presentation	Allotted	Beginning Time
1.	Downtown Open Container Area	10 min	5:30
2.	Agenda Review	5 min	5:40
	Approximate Ending Time		5:45

MEMO TO:

J. Carter Napier, City Manager

FROM:

Fleur Tremel, Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk

Carla Mills-Laatsch, Licensing Specialist

SUBJECT:

Downtown Open Container Area

Meeting Type & Date

Pre-meeting May 18, 2021

Action type

Direction Requested

Recommendation

That Council provide direction to staff if they wish to move forward with an open container area.

Summary

On June 2, 2020, City Council passed Ordinance 9-20 which updated the current liquor code. Section 5.08.480 included a clause which states:

"The City Council too, may by resolution create special areas or districts, in which the possession of open containers is permitted between the Friday preceding Memorial Day and Labor Day of each calendar year: however, the periods of time as well as the boundaries of special areas or districts may be established and/or modified by resolution adopted by the City Council. Additional restrictions on beverage distribution, tracking and event control may also be established by resolution of the City Council."

Last year City Council approved a resolution granting open containers for August 21st, August 22nd, August 28th, August 29th, and September 4th through September 7th from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm in the area from Yellowstone Garage from Elm and Yellowstone, East to Durbin on 2nd Street on both the North and South side of the street on the sidewalk only ending at the Himalayan Restaurant. Yellowstone and Ash, South to The Office on West side of the street on the sidewalk only.

Any retail, microbrewery, or distillery license holders wishing to participate had to issue wrist bands to anyone 21 and older. They also had to notify the City Clerk's office and send a digital copy of the wrist band they planned to use. Frontier, Backwards Distillery, Yellowstone Garage, Branding Iron and David Street Station all participated. David Street Station applied for and was issued a Malt Beverage permit in order to participate in this as they do not have a liquor license.

Resulting from last year's open container program, Casper Police Department reported that very few people with open containers in the open container area had a wrist band. Casper Police did not report any other incidents in the area.

Financial Considerations

Last year Casper Police Department added police patrol in the area on the weekends the open container area was permitted. They added four officers per date for roughly a five-hour shift at a rate of \$62.00 an hour for an officer, and \$72.00 an hour for a Sergeant. Last year saw very few incidents and minimal attendance due to COVID; however, this year with the lifting of restrictions, there could be an increased amount in people attending. The financial impact on Casper Police Department's overtime budget would increase depending on the time frame, the area, and the total number of days allowed.

Oversight/Project Responsibility
Carla Mills-Laatsch, Licensing Specialist

Attachments
2020 Resolution
Map of Open Container area

RESOLUTION NO. 20-167

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DOWNTOWN OPEN CONTAINER AREA.

WHEREAS, the City of Casper passed Ordinance 9-20 which updated the current liquor code; and,

WHEREAS, Section 5.08.480 of Ordinance 9-20 allows Council to create an open container area between Memorial Day and Labor Day; and,

WHEREAS, the Council wishes to approve an open container area as follows: beginning at Yellowstone Garage from Elm and Yellowstone, East to Wolcott and 2nd St.; and Yellowstone and Ash, South to The Office on the West side of the street on the sidewalk only; and Center and 2nd St. South on the West side of the street on the sidewalk only ending at House of Sushi; and Wolcott and 2nd St. South ending at the alley south of Backwards Distilling Co. on the sidewalk on the west side of the street only. No alley or side street travel allowed with open containers. A map describing the open container area, labeled as Exhibit A, is attached and made part of this Resolution; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Casper shall mark the boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Council wishes to approve the open container area between the hours of 5:00PM and 10:00PM on the following dates: August 21, 2020 through August 22, 2020; August 28, 2020 through August 29, 2020; and September 4, 2020 through September 7, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, retail, microbrewery, and distillery license holders are allowed to sell beverages for off premise and would be allowed to participate in the open container zone; and,

WHEREAS, the Council shall require any business wishing to sell beverages that are permitted outside of their establishment to give customers a wrist band, just any individual open container permit would require; and,

WHEREAS, the Council shall require businesses to provide the City Clerk with a digital copy of the wristbands the establishment plans to use; and,

WHEREAS, the Council shall require all servers to be TIPS trained.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF CASPER, WYOMING: That the described Open Container Zone is hereby approved.

September, 2020.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED on this 1st day of

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTEST:

CITY OF CASPER, WYOMING

A Municipal Corporation

Fleur Tremel City Clerk

To CERT Mayor



CASPER POLICE DEPARTMENT

City of Casper, Wyoming

KEITH MCPHEETERS Chief of Police



201 North David Street 1st Floor Casper, Wyoming 82601

