



CITY OF LE SUEUR
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Jasper Kruggel, City Administrator
SUBJECT: Liquor License Fee Reduction
DATE: For the City Council Meeting of Monday, June 22, 2020

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Consider reducing on-sale liquor license fees for the 2020-2021 liquor license and providing reimbursements of license fees for the period of March 17th – May 31st.

SUMMARY

The City of Le Sueur has received a request from a group of “On-Sale” liquor license establishments to issue refunds for the period of time that they were forced closed due to the Governor Walz’s [Executive Order 20-18](#) related to the COVID-19 pandemic. This period was from March 17, 2020 through May 31, 2020. This period of forced closure was 76 days or 20.8% of the year. If using this forced closure as the period for a refund of the \$2,000, “On-Sale” portion of the liquor license, that refund would be \$416.44 per establishment.

The City of Le Sueur has also received a request to reduce the current liquor license fee for “On-Sale” liquor sales from \$2,000 to \$1 for the period of July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021.

Additionally, the City of Le Sueur has received a request to reduce the 2019-2020 “Off-Sale” liquor license fees and “Sunday Sales” fee based on the “Stay At Home” order as well as reducing the fee for the 2020-2021 to \$1. All establishments have been able to continue “Off-Sale” liquor sales throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Staff has been in communication with our various liquor license holders and understand the financial hardships that COVID-19 has produced for some of our local businesses.

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED

Staff is requesting City Council review this request this group of our liquor license holders in Le Sueur and provide direction on how to proceed with this request. Staff recommends that any refunds be consistent with all liquor license holders to foster equality.

An alternative option would be to request the Le Sueur EDA to consider this request.