



May 20, 2008

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Common Council Amends Noise Ordinance, Stargazers Loses License

The Common Council today approved an ordinance that allows the public to assist in policing unnecessary noise and nuisance brought on by loud car stereos. The ordinance clarifies that police may issue citations and fines even if they didn't directly observe the nuisance if a member of the public is willing to testify they were affected by the noise. All residents need to do to begin the process is record a license plate number and report the noise violation.

A total of 14 members of the Common Council are listed as co-sponsors on the ordinance and Ald. Bob Donovan, lead sponsor said, "Throughout this city, loud stereos rattle our windows and disrupt our neighborhoods. This ordinance empowers the people of our communities to take action themselves to put a lid on it." Ald. Donovan amended the original ordinance to help emphasize the importance of recognizing stereo noise over and above engine or muffler sounds.

The Council also upheld the Licenses Committee's decision for non-renewal of the Class "B" license of Stargazers, LLC tavern at 7158 W. Fond du Lac Ave. The decision was based on police reports and neighborhood testimony.

In other action today, the Council:

- Accepted an historic grandfather clock as a gift from Michelle Holly, the granddaughter of long time alderman and Common Council President, Cornelius L. Corcoran.
- Accepted the donation of billboard space and bus stop advertising space from Clear Channel Outdoor and Lamar for use by the Council to alert the public to fireworks safety and the increased fines in place for the illegal use and possession of fireworks.

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Council Takes Action Today/ADD ONE

- Approved a Judiciary and Legislation resolution that expresses City of Milwaukee support for efforts to end unrestricted busing of Milwaukee Public School students.
- Placed on file the proposed sale of city-owned vacant lots in the 14th Aldermanic District for residential development and a substitute ordinance that would have changed the zoning on land located on the east side of S. 6th St. and north and south of W. Rosedale Ave. for affordable housing, retail and support services.
- Approved a calendar change affecting the meeting dates and times of the Community and Economic Development, Finance and Personnel and Judiciary and Legislation committees and changing the Council cycle rotation for the rest of the year.

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