



City Council

Agenda Item

Subject: Discussion of Resolution No. 25-22, a Resolution Resetting the On-Sale License Fee for Full-Service Restaurants pursuant to Chapter 2.02 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Watertown.

Meeting: City Council - Aug 04 2025

From: Alan Stager, City Manager

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On June 17, 2019, the Watertown City Council reset the fee for the on-sale license fee for a full-service restaurant, issued pursuant to Chapter 2.02 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Watertown, to One-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000), and that said fee shall remain in effect until further action by the City Council. Since June 17, 2019, there have been no applications for the on-sale license for full-service restaurants applying the One-Hundred Thousand Dollar (\$100,000) license fee.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Financial Considerations to be included in discussion.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION / SUGGESTED MOTION:

No action; discussion purposes only.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[RES 25-22 - Resetting On-Sale License Fee for Full-Service Restaurants](#)

RESOLUTION NO. 25-22

A RESOLUTION RESETTING THE ON-SALE LICENSE FEE FOR FULL-SERVICE RESTAURANTS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 2.02 OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WATERTOWN

WHEREAS the City Council adopted Ordinance 08-12, effective on December 26, 2009 and codified at Chapter 2.0201 et al. in the Revised Ordinances of the City of Watertown, which established the procedure for issuance of on-sale licenses for full-service restaurants as provided for in S.D.C.L. §35-4-110 et al; and

WHEREAS the City Council adopted Resolution 09-09 on March 2, 2009 setting the initial fee for the required minimum ten-year period at Two-Hundred Five Thousand Dollars (\$205,000.00), which was calculated according to the then current fair market value of on-sale licenses issued pursuant to S.D.C.L §35-4-1 (4) or (6); and

WHEREAS the required minimum ten-year period expired on December 26, 2018, thereby permitting the City Council to reset the fee at no less than one dollar for each person residing within the City as measured by the last preceding decennial federal census at that time, or Twenty-One Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Two Dollars (\$21,482.00).

WHEREAS the City Council adopted Resolution 19-17 on April 15, 2019, temporarily resetting the fee at the previously set amount, Two-Hundred Five Thousand Dollars (\$205,000), until July 12, 2019.

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Watertown on June 17, 2019, reset the fee for the on-sale license fee for a full-service restaurant, issued pursuant to Chapter 2.02 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Watertown, to One-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000), and that said fee shall remain in effect until further action by the City Council.

WHEREAS the City Council was notified that since June 17, 2019, there have been no applications for the on-sale license for full-service restaurants applying the One-Hundred Thousand Dollar (\$100,000) license fee.

WHEREAS the last 2024 population census from the U.S. Census Bureau dated July 1, 2024 for the City of Watertown is 23,492.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the City Council for the City of Watertown has determined that it in the best interests of the City of Watertown for economic development and the financial welfare of the City of Watertown, to reset the fee of the on-sale license fee for a full-service restaurant, issued pursuant to Chapter 2.02 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Watertown, to Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), and that said fee shall remain in effect until further action by the City Council.

Dated this _____ day of August, 2025.

The above and foregoing Resolution was moved for adoption by Alderperson _____, seconded by Alderperson _____, and upon roll call vote with ___ ayes and ___nays, motion carried, whereupon the Mayor declared the Resolution to be duly passed and adopted.

I hereby certify that Resolution No. 25-22 was published in the Watertown Public Opinion, the official newspaper of said City, on the _____ day of August, 2025.

Kristen Bobzien

ATTEST:

CITY OF WATERTOWN

Kristen Bobzien
Finance Officer

Ried Holien
Mayor