

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TITLE: Selectboard License Fees for 2021

BACKGROUND: The COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted just about every business in Great Barrington, making the financial challenges of owning and operating a small business even more difficult. As we approach our annual license renewal season, the Selectboard considered, and adopted, a reduction in fees for those license holders most impacted as a way to minimize the financial burden on some establishments.

Revenue generated annually: approximately \$65,000 (revenue from all Selectboard licenses)

The Selectboard discussed this topic on Dec. 7 and voted at that time to ask that the Finance Committee review a recommendation from staff at its next meeting. As requested, staff presented the Finance Committee with a recommendation at their regular meeting on Dec. 15.

After discussion, the Finance Committee voted unanimously to support the measure.

The Selectboard voted Dec. 21 to adopt the measure reducing licensing fees for certain businesses.

APPROVED: The Selectboard should offer a 50% abatement on *only* the below list of license types for all applicants in good tax standing with the Collector's office at the time the license is issued:

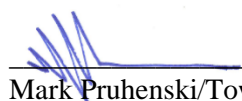
<u>License Type:</u>	<u>License Fee:</u>	<u>Total:</u>
Common Victualler Restaurant All Alcohol-	\$950	\$32,300
Common Victualler Restaurant Beer and Wine-	\$450	\$ 2,250
Common Victualler Restaurant Beer and Wine (without food) -	\$450	\$ 450
Club All Alcohol -	\$650	\$ 650
Seasonal Club All Alcohol-	\$600	\$ 600
Innholder All Alcohol -	\$950	\$ 950
Annual Automatic Amusement Device -	\$30 per machine	\$ 480
Annual Common Victualler License -	\$25	\$ 1,800
Annual Innholder License -	\$50	\$ 550
Annual Lodging License-	\$50	\$ 50
Annual Motion Picture License -	\$75	\$ 150
Annual Weekday Entertainment (Indoor)	\$25	\$ 500
Annual Sunday Entertainment (Indoor/Town Fee only)	\$85-175	\$ 1,205
Annual Bowling	\$30/1 st lane + \$15/add'l lanes	\$ 500
	ESTIMATED TOTAL:	\$42,435

Staff further recommends that all fees be paid when the license is issued to the applicant, and that all remaining license fees not listed above remain at their current rate.

FISCAL IMPACT: If all of the above noted license fees were discounted at a rate of 50%, we can expect our local revenues to be reduced by approximately **\$21,218**.

PREPARED AND APPROVED BY:

DATE:



Mark Pruhenski/Town Manager

12/17/2020