

**Rochester City Council Public Hearing  
October 15, 2019  
Council Chambers  
7:00 PM**

**COUNCILORS PRESENT**

Councilor Abbott  
Councilor Bogan  
Councilor Hamann  
Councilor Hutchinson  
Councilor Gray  
Councilor Keans  
Councilor Lachapelle  
Councilor Lauterborn  
Councilor Torr  
Councilor Walker  
Deputy Mayor Varney  
Mayor McCarley

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Blaine Cox, City Manager  
Katie Ambrose, Deputy City Manager  
Terence O'Rourke, City Attorney  
Vincent Gregg DeNobile, Resident  
Charlie McIntyre, Executive Director of  
the NH Lottery Commission  
Lou Archembault, Resident

**COUNCILORS EXCUSED**

Councilor Gates

**Minutes**

**1. Call To Order**

Mayor McCarley called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Deputy City Clerk Cassie Givara took a silent roll. All councilors were present except for Councilor Gates, who was excused.

Mayor McCarley invited members of the public to come forward and speak regarding either of the two items slated for Public Hearing. The Mayor announced that Charlie McIntyre, Executive Director of the NH Lottery Commission, would be available for questions and comment.

**2. Shall we allow the operation of Sports Book Retail Locations within the City of Rochester?**

Vincent Gregg DeNobile, resident, inquired what the term "sports book" meant and asked for an explanation. He also inquired if Rochester would receive monetary benefit from allowing Sports Books regardless of whether or not one was established in the City. Mr. DeNobile asked how much money Rochester had received to date from Keno.

**3. Shall we allow the operations of Keno Games within the City of Rochester**

Executive Director McIntyre explained that a "Sports Book" is a term for a retail establishment where people can go to place a variety of sports bets or wagers. Director McIntyre stated that the state legislature had limited the number of Sports Books locations throughout the state to 10 establishments. At this point there have been no decisions made regarding where Sports Books will be established, but the City needs to vote to allow the question of Sports Books on the municipal ballot in order for the public to vote on the matter.

Mr. McIntyre reported that currently the State is out to bid for an operator to run the service, but it is still unknown where the Sports Books will ultimately be located. If an establishment did want to open in Rochester, it would need to go through the normal permitting process.

Mr. McIntyre stated that there was funding from Keno distributed to Rochester per eligible kindergarten student. This program had been decoupled in the last budget so there is no longer a Keno to kindergarten funding correlation. The state will still fund kindergarten for eligible students regardless on Keno sales.

Mr. McIntyre reported that  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the businesses which allowed Keno had seen an increase of up to 30% in business.

Lou Archembault, resident, inquired about the odds of winning Keno as well as if EBT cards could be used for these games.

Executive Director McIntyre answered that the odds of Keno vary based on how many numbers are played in the available field, the level of risk the player is willing to take on, and he explained the process. He stated that the average wager is \$10. Mr. McIntyre clarified that EBT cards and credit cards cannot be used for Keno, and in fact 98% of transactions are cash.

**4. Adjournment**

Mayor McCarley **ADJOURNED** the Public Hearing at 7:07 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cassie Givara  
Deputy City Clerk