

City of Toledo

Office of the Clerk of Council

One Government Center, Suite 2140



To: President Cherry and members of Council
From: Julie Gibbons, Assistant Clerk of Council
Date: December 20, 2019
Subject: Internet Café Moratorium

Councilman Sykes asked me to research the regulations regarding internet sweepstake cafes.

I found as follows;

Locally and in the state of Ohio, the Internet sweepstake cafes are regulated under the direction of the Ohio Casino Control Commission. (OCCC). Michael Masterson leads the Ohio Casino Control Commission's (OCCC) Enforcement Division comprised of Gaming Agents, Investigators, and Gaming Agent Supervisors who are all certified peace officers. OCCC Gaming Agents are on duty 24-7 at each of Ohio's four casinos and have full police powers and arrest authority.

I spoke with Mr. Masterson and he acknowledged they are under his supervision. If we know of any establishments operating illegally or under the law we can contact them directly.

One city, Jacksonville Florida, banned them altogether.

We have met with the Plan Commission and the law department regarding these establishments and possible changes that could be made to our current regulations.

Currently, the city of Toledo taxation department issues them a license and the Plan Commission can issue them a Special Use Permit after a process. There are also spacing requirements within the Special Use Permit.

If you have additional, questions, please feel free to call me.