



AGENDA SUMMARY EUREKA CITY COUNCIL

TITLE: Appeal of Denial – Card Dealer Work Permit Application

DEPARTMENT: City Clerk

PREPARED BY: Pam Powell

PRESENTED FOR: Action Information only Discussion

RECOMMENDATION

Hold Public Hearing; and
Adopt a Resolution of the City Council Upholding the Police Chief's denial of a Card Dealer Work Permit for Mr. Shaun Padelford.

FISCAL IMPACT

No Fiscal Impact Included in Budget Additional Appropriation

COUNCIL GOALS/STRATEGIC VISION

DISCUSSION

Background

On May 13, 2025, the Eureka Police Department (EPD) received an application from Mr. Shaun Padelford for a Card Dealer Work Permit, as required under EMC § 113.32(A) for employment within a licensed card room.

As part of the application process, Mr. Padelford was fingerprinted and a Department of Justice live scan report of his criminal history was provided to EPD. The application and report were forwarded to the Criminal Investigations Sergeant for review and processing.

On August 12, 2025, Mr. Padelford was formally notified of the denial of his application and acknowledged receipt of the notice.

Mr. Padelford appealed this determination to the City Council within the time frame prescribed. Mr. Padelford is appealing to the Council the Chief's decision that a Card Dealer Work Permit not be issued and is requesting the Council through this appeal process to issue a work permit on behalf of the City. He has provided information, probation evaluations and supporting certificates to aid the Council in determining the outcome of his appeal.

Findings

During the review of Mr. Padelford's criminal history, it was determined that:

- Within the prior two years, Mr. Padelford had been arrested on five (5) separate violent felony charges.
- In July 2024, Mr. Padelford was convicted on two (2) of those felony charges.

EMC § 113.32(B)(1)(i) explicitly authorizes the Chief of Police to deny a Card Dealer Work Permit to any applicant who has been convicted of a felony. Further, the California Business and Professions Code governing gaming licenses (Bus. & Prof. Code § 19857) also establishes felony convictions as grounds for disqualification.

Based on the severity of the criminal convictions, the reviewing Sergeant recommended denial of the permit. The Chief of Police reviewed and affirmed this recommendation.

Conclusion

The denial of Mr. Padelford's Card Dealer Work Permit is consistent with the provisions of the Eureka Municipal Code and the standards applied to ensure the integrity, security, and lawful operation of licensed gaming establishments within the City of Eureka.

Staff recommends that the City Council uphold the Chief of Police's denial of the Card Dealer Work Permit for Mr. Shaun Padelford.