

More hours to sell alcohol on table

Written by Elizabeth Barrett

Thursday, 24 February 2011 14:59 -



DICKINSON

BAUER

Council against 2 a.m. close but looking at expanding hours.

Local bar and restaurant owners won't be able to stay open until 2 a.m. but business hours may increase.

At their Feb. 15 meeting, the Gothenburg City Council asked that an ordinance be drawn up that would allow bars and restaurants to stay open until 1 a.m. every night and from noon to 1 a.m. Sunday (see box for current hours.)

Extending hours to sell alcohol surfaced in January when Pete's Lounge owner Cherry Alger asked that her business be allowed to stay open until 2 a.m.

Last year, state legislators passed a law that allows local governments to decide if businesses can serve drinks on their premises until 2 a.m.

The council tabled Alger's request to get community feedback.

During the January meeting, she and other bar owners said they'd like to accommodate pool players who frequent their businesses on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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CITY ALCOHOL SALES

Liquor & off-sale beer
Sun. Noon-6 p.m.
Mon.-Fri. ... 6 a.m.-11:45 p.m.
Sat. 6 a.m.-1 a.m. Sun.

On-sale beer
Mon.-Fri. ... 6 a.m.-11:45 p.m.
Sat. 6 a.m.-1 a.m. Sun.
Sun. 4-10 p.m.

Bottle club
(bars, restaurants)
Mon.-Thurs 6 a.m.-11:45 p.m.
Fri. 6 a.m.-1 a.m. Sat.
Sat. 6 a.m.-1 a.m. Sun.
Sun. 4-10 p.m.

On-sale beer is sold and consumed in a business. Off-sale beer is bought and taken from the business. Bottle club means the sale and consumption of alcohol in a business. Package is when alcohol is bought and taken from the store.

Strongly opposing the City's plan to increase hours for alcohol sales, the City Council has rejected the plan to allow bars and restaurants to sell alcohol until 1 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, and until 10 p.m. on Sundays.