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Supervisors approve new restaurant's liquor-license proposal

License would be transferred and township has several stipulations; one resident objects

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Despite opposition from a resident, Amity Township supervisors approved a proposal from Vincenzo's restaurant to obtain a liquor license.

The family restaurant opened about two weeks ago at 1335 Old Swede Road, also known as Route 662.

The license transfer still requires approval from the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board.

Vincenzo's could then operate a full-service bar, meaning that customers could purchase beer, wine or mixed drinks. Take-out customers also could buy beer.

Amity supervisors approved the transfer as long as restaurant owners, brothers Paolo and Domenico Brutto, agreed not to build a sit-down bar, have live entertainment or host outdoor activities.

Amity resident Mauricio Zuazua asked supervisors to deny the liquor license transfer, citing concerns for his family's privacy. Zuazua attended a hearing on the matter Wednesday with his attorney, Ken Picardi.

Zuazua has lived next to the property, formerly a lawn mower shop, for nearly 11 years with his wife and two children.

"My biggest concern is the privacy in our home," he said. "We barely have any privacy."

Zuazua said restaurant customers can easily see onto his property, and he worries that with a liquor license the restaurant's traffic will increase.

He and his wife, Barbara, fear that a restaurant customer might drink too much and perhaps wander onto their property.

Domenico Brutto, who represented the restaurant at the license hearing, agreed to all township stipulations.

"The liquor and the wine and the beer, for us, it's more to complete the meal than to have a beer sale," he said.

The license available for transfer comes from Jefferson Township, but the name of the establishment was not immediately available.

Paolo Brutto estimated the rest of the paperwork for the transfer will take several weeks to a month.

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