
From: SchaOn Blodgett, CCP, BTAT <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2023 4:35 PM
To: Dan Roe <Dan.Roe@cityofroseville.com>; Jason Etten <jason.etten@gmail.com>; Julie Strahan <Julie.Strahan@cityofroseville.com>; Robin Schroeder <Robin.Schroeder@cityofroseville.com>; Wayne Groff <Wayne.Groff@cityofroseville.com>; Pat Trudgeon <Pat.Trudgeon@cityofroseville.com>
Subject: Public Comment on 2023-04-24 Agenda item 7b: Review and Consider an Ordinance Amending City Code Chapter 309: Massage Therapy

Caution: This email originated outside our organization; please use caution.

While I will try to make it to the Public Comment portion tomorrow evening for the Massage Bill, I wanted to make sure this was still sent (especially because of the links):

To the Mayor and City Council Members:

The policy objectives of this legislation are to ensure that the community is safe and law-abiding. It is meant to have strict enforcement of massage businesses and therapists – yet does not actually meet its objectives. Some things that could be added to this to actually meet the objective are things that Minneapolis has done on the business owner side of the licensure. Things like requiring a site plan of the massage business, a business plan, bank records with explanation of source of funds, tax records, information on each partner of the business, workers compensation information, samples of advertising materials, and more. Those are things that are used to detect possible issues of Human Trafficking and Prostitution. Obviously, you wouldn't be able to ask for client specific records or appointment books as that is Private Health Information. Minneapolis also distinguishes between Multi-Therapists

(Commercial) and Home-based/Single Operators. Additionally, with this being a coding and enforcement issue, wouldn't any fines then come back into the city's funds?

<https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/business-services/licenses-permits-inspections/business-licenses/massage-tanning-tattoo/massage/>

Some of the issues with the proposed law changes: 309.03 does not allow for Naturopathic Doctors which are registered, not licensed, in the State of MN or Traditional Naturopaths to utilize massage techniques, even though this is completely within their scopes of practice. An example of how this is handled with the proposed State Legislative Bill is licensure would only be required for someone who holds themselves out as a massage therapist, and incidental massage is not prohibited. Saint Paul has also taken a similar stance in their city massage law.

Next – what about Shamanic Practices (something protected under the 1st Amendment of the Constitution, Freedom of Religion) that in many traditions includes aspects or styles of massage? What about therapies that include light-touch, non-manipulative therapies like Feldenkrais, Somatic Bodywork, BodyTalk, yoga, Healing Touch, energy healing, qigong, Ortho-Bionomy, Polarity Therapy, Rosen Method, Reflexology, Reiki, and many others. Under the current Roseville law, those 146a, some which are 1st Amendment protected therapies require a massage licensure even though they have spiritual (religious) components to them. Even in the Christian and Catholic Religions, massage is sacred (anointing of oils, <https://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-study/topical-studies/why-is-anointing-oil-important-in-the-bible.html>), but it is also sacred in Buddhism (washing and anointing of oils on the feet, head mostly), as well as Hinduism within Ayurvedic practices (<https://beaire.com/en/aire-magazine/ayurvedic-massage-hindu-techniques-and-principles>), as well as aspects of shamanic practices of the Hmong, Native Americans (<https://kripalu.org/resources/native-american-bodywork-practices>), Hawaiian (Lomi Lomi) and African (<https://panafricanbeauty.com/2016/04/10/african-massage/>), just to name a few.

Next, under 309.06(B), you are requiring Massage Therapists to produce a photo identification with name and address upon demand by a police officer, yet, two things, wouldn't that be a violation of the 4th Amendment of the US Constitution unless the officer has a reasonable suspicion of a crime. Next, it is very common knowledge that minorities are told over and over again and coached to not show ID to an officer. Example: <https://www.flexyourrights.org/faqs/when-can-police-ask-for-id/>

Lastly, why are we even burdening the Roseville Police Department with enforcing this when massage therapists are already regulated under MN Statute 146a? That law actually offers more consumer protections than that of the current or proposed Roseville law. One – a practitioner must provide a Client Bill of Rights that outlines the practitioner's training helping to educate and inform the client of the practitioner's skills, which instills more credibility than a license ever will. On the state side, complaints are handled and investigated by the MN Department of Health, Office of Unlicensed Complementary and Alternative Medicine. The State

Law already outlines Personal Interactions and that clients have the right to expect courteous treatment, free from verbal, physical, or sexual abuse. Is it fiscally responsible for the city to be burdened with the expenses of this when it is already provided for on the state side?

While yes, this would get away from the education requirements for therapists, it opens up the field for a wide variety of very talented therapists that have focused on specific techniques, or have learned massage as an apprenticeship, which is very common in other countries, and is inclusive and respectful to immigrants and lower income individuals. Another example, Thai Yoga Massage/Bodywork can be taught in as little as 33 hours, or some very extensive programs are 300-hours. These types of decisions should honestly be up to each individual business on who they would like to employee, as well as the consumer in what services they feel is best for them.

Additionally, this gets the city out of attempting to regulate something it clearly has little understanding of and is amazingly complex. For example, up until the last set of public statements on this, rehabilitation wasn't even included as a purpose for massage. These are some of the reasons why the State Law is so broad.

In conclusion, yes – regulate the business side of massage, though incorporate things to actually meet the end goal, and get rid of regulating the nuances of massage and Complementary and Alternative Medicine. Thank you for your time.

Make it a GREAT Day,

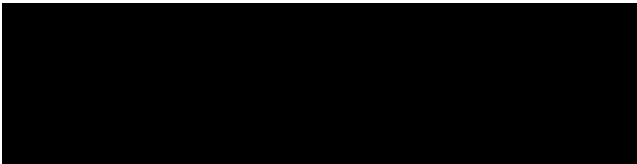
SchaOn Blodgett, CCP, BTAT, *he/him*

Traditional Naturopath • Complementary & Alternative Medicine Professional under MN Statute 146a

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"A man too busy to take care of his health is like a mechanic too busy to take care of his tools."
Spanish Proverb

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: *RVCouncil; [Rebecca Olson](#); [Pat Trudgeon](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Contact City Council
Date: Thursday, April 20, 2023 3:08:52 PM

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Contact City Council

Please complete this online form and submit.

Subject stuff

Contact Information

Name: roger hess jr

Address:

City: roseville

State: MN

Zip: 55113

This form goes to the Mayor, all Councilmembers and certain City Staff. Due to the volume of emails submitted, a personal reply is not always possible.

How would you prefer to be contacted? *Field not completed.*
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Please Share Your Comment, Question or Concern

councilmember,

1) shouldn't there be a penalty stated for massage ordinance 309.06 (B), if there is a failure to provide an approved photo ID? i suggest \$1,000 for the massage therapist and \$1,000 for the business, and one day of closure, for each violation. you have set penalties for alcohol compliance failures.

2) if st. paul water department is making substantial increases to roseville's costs because of their construction project, have they

said how long it will take to pay off the project, and will they then be lowering roseville's costs once the project is paid for?

have a great day!

roger
roger hess jr

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