Council to move ahead on alcohol ordinance

BY NORMAN CANNADA
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SENECA — Now that voters have approved a referendum allowing Sunday alcohol sales in the city of Seneca, the council is moving quickly to put the law into effect.

The council will have its first reading tonight of an ordinance allowing Sunday alcohol sales in the city. The meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. at City Hall.

City Attorney Mike Smith said the proposed ordinance would have the same language from the referendum approved by more than 60 percent of voters in last week's general election.

The ordinance would allow establishments with appropriate ABC permits to serve alcoholic beverages on Sunday. It would also allow the Sunday sale of beer and wine by retail stores.

The ordinance will require a second reading to become law. Smith said that second reading could come as part of a special meeting connected to the city's monthly work session Nov. 27. If not, the ordinance would be presented for a final reading at the council's next scheduled meeting Dec. 11.

Smith said the city's goal is to have the law in place prior to the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

The local option referendum allowing Sunday sales of alcohol in the city was approved 1,805 to 1,171 in the election.

The council voted in August to let the voters decide on Sunday alcohol sales in the city at restaurants and retail stores.

ncannada@upstatetoday.com | (864) 973-6684