#### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The City of Stoughton Plan Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 9, 2019 at 6:00 o'clock p.m., or as soon after as the matter may be heard, in the Council Chambers, Public Safety Building, 321 South Fourth Street, Second Floor, Stoughton, Wisconsin, 53589, to consider a proposed conditional use permit application by Brianna Fero, for an Indoor Commercial Entertainment use at 193 W. Main Street, Stoughton, Wisconsin. The use is proposed to serve beverages, snacks and allow customers to play board games, card games and other similar games. There will also be retail sales onsite.

Additional information including a location map can be found at: http://stoughtoncitydocs.com/planning-commission/

For questions regarding this notice please contact Michael Stacey, Zoning Administrator at 608-646-0421.

Michael P. Stacey Zoning Administrator

Published August 22, 2019 Hub Published August 29, 2019 Hub

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Written justification for the proposed conditional use indicating reasons why the Applicant

believes the proposed conditional use is appropriate with the recommendations of the City of Stoughton Comprehensive Plan, particularly as evidenced by compliance with the standards set

out in Section 78-905(5)(c)1.-6, as follows.

(d)

## Written Description of Proposal

(b) Gemini Games is a board game lounge and novelty & hobby shop located on the corner of 193 W Main St. and Water St. We are requesting an Indoor Commercial Entertainment conditional use permit to allow us to serve beverages and shelf-stable snacks to the customers that play board and card games within our store. While we are a retail store, it is common for nearly all hobby shops around the state/country to also provide their customers with play-space for hobbies like collectible card games, tactical miniature games, and a variety of board games. Outside of retail shopping and typical games, common activities for customers might include structured game tournaments, miniature painting evenings, and game tutorial weekends. Accompanying these events with pre-packaged snacks and beverages is common for this type of business and would serve our customers' needs as well as benefit our business.

The Gemini Games building is a rented space in downtown Stoughton surrounded by other retail businesses, various restaurants/bars, and art & entertainment establishments. The building itself was previously used as a retail space and no structural changes are necessary to the interior or exterior of the building to accommodate the needs of this request.

# Written Justification for Proposal

(d) As a hobby game store, sometimes referred to as a "Friendly Local Game Store", it is very common to provide to play-space for the hobby games that our customers are interested in. This particular aspect allows brick & mortar stores to compete with big-box and online retailers and is essential to any hobby store's sustainability. As we expect to potentially host customers for multiple hours, it would be natural for these customers to look for shelf-stable snacks and beverages.

This lines up with the goals of the Stoughton Comprehensive Plan in a myriad of ways. As a destination spot, it brings another specialty retailer to downtown Stoughton and aligns with the Plan's desire to add more arts & entertainment to the area. While appealing to all ages, these hobbies and services are particularly appealing to those between the ages of 20-40. In addition to these benefits to the downtown area, it is worth noting that our play-space and serving of shelf-stable snacks and beverages should not have any notable adverse effects to the surrounding area or community.

## III Justification of the Proposed Conditional Use Request.

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ablic property or rights-of-way, or other matters affecting the public health, safety, or general welfather as they now exist or as they may in the future be developed as a result of the implementation as provisions of the Zoning Ordinance, the Comprehensive Plan, or any other plan, program, map dinance adopted?
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	proposed conditional use located in an area that will be adequately served by and will not impose the burden on any of the improvements, facilities, utilities or services provided by public agencies the subject property?
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- III. 1. Gemini Games conditional use request is in harmony with the Comprehensive Plan in a number of ways. Firstly, as a destination store, we expect it to help improve the city's economy by bringing people in from the surrounding areas that may not have come to Stoughton otherwise. We will provide an exciting service that is not already found within the city or surrounding area, but will maintain the local, family-run, small business aesthetic that our community identifies as a key trait of Stoughton's downtown district. Additionally, the current and expected population increase will likely be young professionals who wish to buy or rent in a city with a "small town" feel, but with "big city" amenities. The hobby game industry has doubled in size since 2013 and, even though our food offerings are shelf-stable snacks, Gemini Games could be considered in the same category as the very popular and fast growing "Gaming Cafes" businesses throughout the country, and will be the first of its kind in the area. Our business will be targeting the same demographic that will be a growing portion of the population.
- III. 2. Gemini Games does not have very many foreseeable impacts on the surrounding area. The game lounge will be relatively quiet, as many people will be playing games and will be required to be respectful to other guests. In addition, we expect guests to be respectful to the other businesses, patrons, and residents in the area. It is our intention to have a respectable, clean, well-run, and attractive looking business that we believe will only positively affect the character of the neighborhood. The only significant impact on the area will be an increase in parking. As we will have estimated that we will have anywhere from 5-30 person weekly events, there could be some expectation of increased parking needs for the area.

We also believe that we will impact other local businesses positively by referring our guests to nearby bars and restaurants to order food to eat in our lounge. We are not a restaurant and only intend to have beverages and shelf-stable snacks, and expect that people will want to bring food in from nearby businesses. Since we will not be constructing anything and are moving into an already established building on Main Street, our impact on public health, traffic, safety, the environment, and otherwise will be minimal if it exists at all. We intend to work with the City of Stoughton if improvements or changes to our building become part of the Comprehensive Plan.

- III. 3. Gemini Games will fit in very well with the surrounding businesses and land uses currently in place on Main Street and Downtown Stoughton. As a destination shop, we will bring people in from surrounding communities to experience other shops and businesses in the area. Walking traffic, shopping, dining, and entertainment are the main focus of Downtown Stoughton and a free-to-play board game lounge and novelty / hobby specialty retailer serves to only improve those aspects for the area. Our shop is designed to be extremely welcoming and emulate that kitchen-table feel of playing games at home, making the store a warm, yet fun place to step into.
- III. 4. Gemini Games is in an established building and its needs will not cause any undue strain on any public agency.

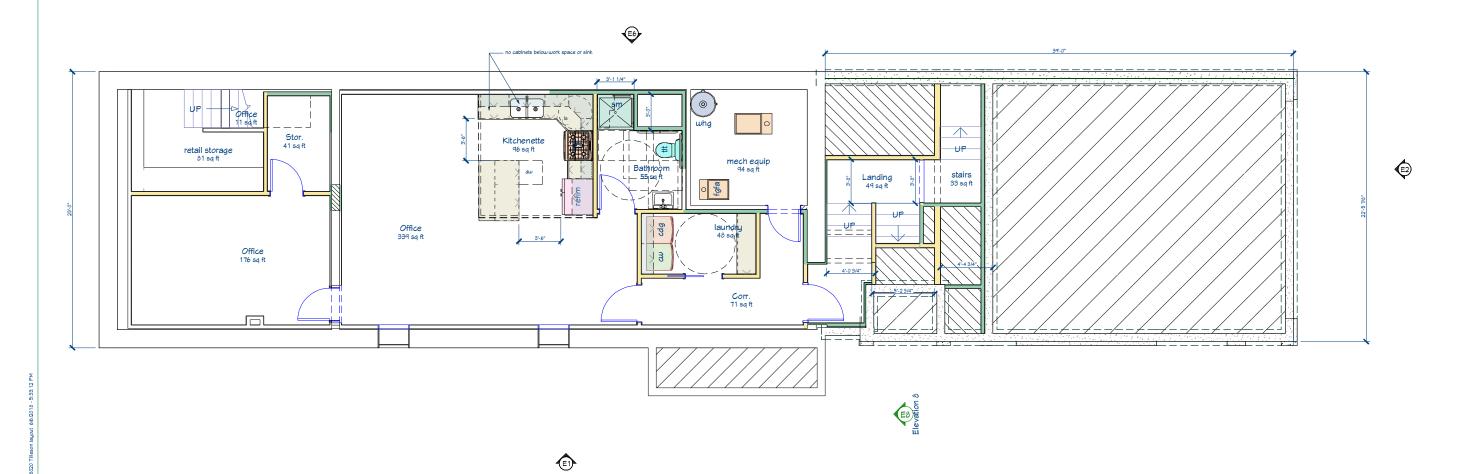
III. 5. Yes. The negative impacts that we, the owners, have been able to identify (minor parking needs) would come with any business and are significantly outweighed by the positive ones, namely increases in entertainment, cultural, and economic growth for the City.

### IV. Application Information for City Use

Notified Neighboring Property Owners (within 300 feet)	Date: 8/19/19
Notified Neighboring Township Clerks (within 1,000 feet)	Date: NA
Class 2 legal notice sent to official newspaper by City Clerk	Date: 8(12(19
Class 2 legal notice sent to official newspaper by City Clerk  Class 2 legal notice published on 8(27)(9 and 8)9(9	Date:
Conditional Use recorded with the County Register of Deeds Office after appre	

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Ground Floor Plan

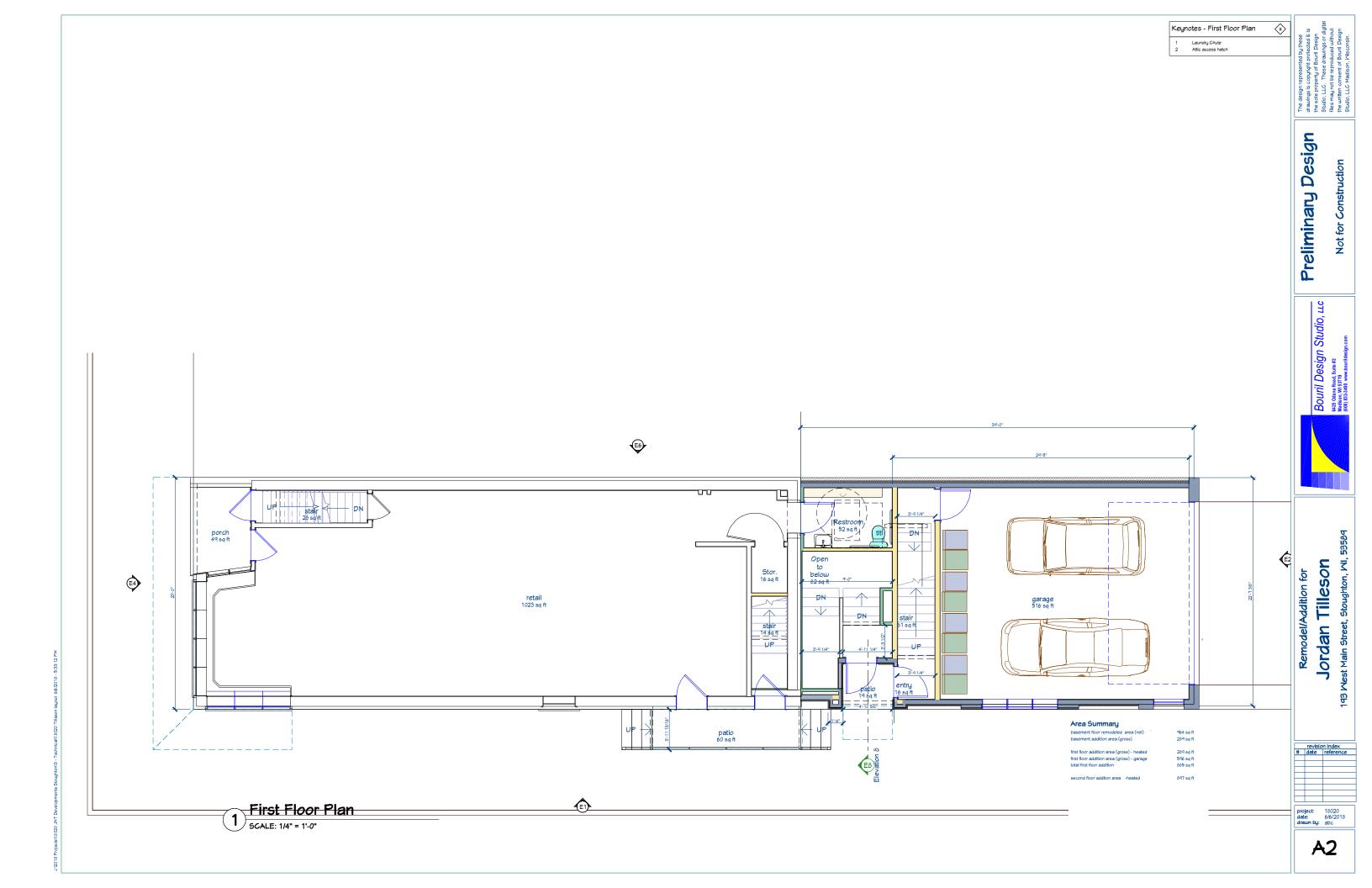
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

Bouril Design Studio, LLC 6425 Ghan Road; Sulte #2 (688) 833-340 www.boundesgn.com

Not for Construction

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### Google Maps 318 S Water St

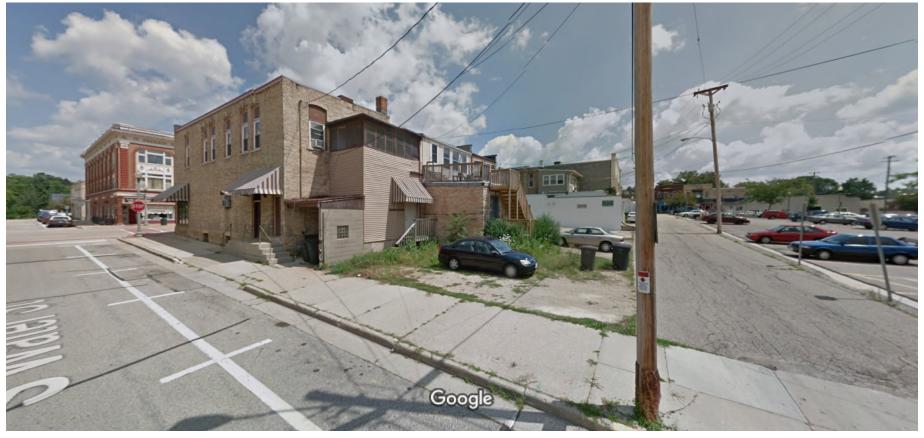


Image capture: Aug 2011 © 2018 Google

Stoughton, Wisconsin

Google, Inc.

Street View - Aug 2011

