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Mayors Give Opinions on Liquor-by-Drink Issue

Doniphan County Commissioners are considering whether to place a liquor-by-the drink issue on the November general election ballot.

Elwood City Attorney Joel Euler made the request last month on behalf of several business owners in his community.

On Monday representatives of the cities of Elwood, Highland and Troy met with county commissioners to give their opinions on the issue.

Elwood Mayor George Mitchell Jr. said the intent of his city is to keep tax revenues in Doniphan County.

Highland Mayor Ken Stewart said his city council fully supports the issue.

Troy Mayor Bob Jenkins said his city council was divided on the matter.

All three mayors said they favor a requirement that liquor by the drink only be allowed in establishments where food accounts for at least 30 percent of gross receipts.

Doniphan County Sheriff Jerry Dubach voiced his opposition to the possible referendum.

Dubach said Doniphan County has a high rate of underage drinking and large number of alcohol-related accidents that shouldn't be promoted or encouraged through the sale of liquor-by-the-drink in the county.

Commission Chairman David Van Laar thanked those present, saying the commission would take the issue under consideration and make a decision at a later date.