



City of Grand Forks

Staff Report

Committee of the Whole - May 27, 2025

City Council - June 2, 2025

APPROVED & ACCEPTED
by City Council

06/02/2025

Maureen Storstad
Maureen Storstad
City Auditor

Agenda Item: Request to transfer Class 4 (Food & Beverage) Alcoholic Beverage License from GM Grand Forks, LLC (formerly dba Crooked Pint Ale House) to FirePot Korean BBQ & Hot Pot, Inc (dba FirePot Korean BBQ & Hot Pot)

Submitted by: Maureen Storstad, Finance Director
Sherie Lundmark, City Clerk

Staff Recommended Action: Review and approve transfer and application from FirePot Korean BBQ & Hot Pot, Inc with approval subject to final review of various city departments and payment of associated fees.

Committee Recommended Action: Motion by Osowski, second by Vein to refer to City Council with a recommendation to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Action: Motion by Osowski, second by Berg to approve on consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

BACKGROUND: The Finance Department is in receipt of a request from Paul Dzubnar on behalf of GM Grand Forks, LLC, formerly dba Crooked Pint Ale House, to transfer the Class 4 (Food & Beverage) Alcoholic Beverage License to FirePot Korean BBQ & Hot Pot, Inc., LLC, dba FirePot Korean BBQ & Hot Pot.

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT:

- GF Grand Forks LLC is requesting to transfer the license to a new owner, FirePot Korean BBQ & Hot Pot, Inc.
- FirePot Korean BBQ & Hot Pot is 100% owned by Xing Ming Lin, who is a long-time resident and business owner in the community. He previously owned a restaurant under Rice Empire Inc, dba Sakura, that held a Class 4 Alcohol License from 2017-2023, at which time he sold it to the current owner and has continued to work at that establishment as an employee.
- Transfers of an alcoholic beverage license involves review and approval of various city departments including: Fire, Police, Health, Building Safety, Finance, and City Attorney.
- Application fee has been paid. Fees due prior to issuance will be \$16,425 Transfer Fee and an annual fee of \$3,895 (pro-rated for the number of months operated in the year)
- City Council approval is required for transfer of an alcoholic beverage license.

SUPPORT MATERIALS:

- Letter requesting approval of a transfer of the alcoholic beverage license.
- Excerpt of application from FirePot Korean BBQ & Hot Pot, Inc.
(Full application is available for review in the Finance Department)



Crooked Pint Ale House

1342 Grand Avenue

Suite 200

Saint Paul, MN 55105

TEL (651) 203-3100

FAX (651) 203-3101

www.crookedpint.com

March 10, 2025

City of Grand Forks - Department of Finance
Attn: Sherie Lundmark
255 N 4th Street
Grand Forks, ND 58203

Re: Sale of the Crooked Pint Ale House Liquor License

Dear Sherie:

I am selling the liquor license to an entity owned by Xing Lin and I am requesting approval of the transfer of alcohol license to his entity.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns regarding this Letter of Intent. We can be contacted at (612) 251-5178.

Sincerely,

Crooked Pint Ale House
Paul M. Dzubnar
612-251-5178
pauld@hightophospitality.com

CITY OF GRAND FORKS
APPLICATION FOR LIQUOR LICENSE
 255 N. 4th St. Grand Forks, ND 58203 • (701) 746-2620

LICENSE INFORMATION. Must be completed for all types of applications

License Year:	License Class/Type: (See listing of class type attached hereto)	Application is hereby made for a Sunday alcoholic beverage license issued by the City of Grand Forks pursuant to N.D.C.C. § 5.02.05.1
(Office use only) License #: 315032	class 4	
Name of Applicant (if an LLC, name of LLC; if partnership, at least 2 partners' names; if corporation, name of corporation) FirePot Korean BBQ & Hot Pot Inc.	Trade Name of Establishment (DBA): FirePot Korean BBQ & Hot Pot Inc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailing Address: 1930 S. Columbia Rd,		Is this a renewal application? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
City, State, Zip: Grand Forks, ND, 58201		Email Address: firepotgf@gmail.com
Business Telephone Number: Fax Number:		
Street Address of Premises: 1930 S. Columbia Rd. Grand Forks, ND 58201	Legal Description of Premises: Lot 1, Block 1, Columbia Park 17th Addition Full service restaurant that offers Korean style BBQ & hot pots.	
State how the premises is zoned under the Grand Forks zoning ordinance: Commercial		
Premises to be licensed is: <input type="checkbox"/> Proposed building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Existing facility <input type="checkbox"/> New building	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plans or diagram of premises attached <input type="checkbox"/> Plans or diagram already on file with City Engineer's Office <i>*Plans/diagram must depict all bar and lounge areas. If a renewal application and if substantial changes have been made, attach updated plans/diagram</i>	
Date title acquired (if premises owned by applicant):	Closest school (College, Public or Parochial) Name and Street Address: Red River High School	Closest church Name and Street Address: Sharon Lutheran Church, 1720 S. 20 th St
If building premises owned by other than applicant, COPY OF LEASE MUST BE ATTACHED.		
In addition, please provide the following with respect to each building owner:		
Name: First Century Realty LLC	Street Address 3003 32 nd Ave S, STE 240, Fargo, ND 58103	City State Zip Fargo, ND 58103
		Phone No. 701-240-2761
Applicant is applying as a:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Sole Proprietor - Proceed to Page 2 of the Application <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership - Proceed to Page 3 of the Application <input type="checkbox"/> LLC - Proceed to Page 5 of the Application <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporation - Proceed to Page 5 of the Application		