



City of Grand Forks

Staff Report

Committee of the Whole – June 23, 2025

City Council – July 7, 2025

APPROVED & ACCEPTED
by City Council

07/07/2025

Maureen Storstad
Maureen Storstad
City Auditor

Agenda Item: Request to transfer Class 1 (General On/Off-Sale) Alcoholic Beverage License from Johnny’s Lounge, Inc. (dba Johnny’s Lounge) to RG Investments, Inc. (dba Johnny’s Lounge) and to approve a site authorization for Development Homes to continue at Johnny’s Lounge under the new ownership

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

Staff Recommended Action: 1) Review and approve transfer and application from RG Investments, Inc with approval subject to final review of various city departments and payment of associated fees; and 2) Approve site authorization for Development Homes at Johnny’s Lounge

Committee Recommended Action: Motion by Osowski, second by Berg to move agenda item to City Council with a recommendation to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

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

BACKGROUND: The Finance Department is in receipt of a request from Jeanie Vigen on behalf of Johnny’s Lounge, Inc, dba Johnny’s Lounge, to transfer the Class 1 (General On/Off-Sale) Alcoholic Beverage License to RG Investments, Inc., dba Johnny’s Lounge, located at 701 South 15th Street.

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT:

- Johnny’s Lounge, Inc is requesting to transfer their alcoholic beverage license to a new owner, RG Investments, Inc.
- RG Investments, Inc. has submitted an application. RG Investments, Inc. also holds a Class 3 (Beer & Wine) Alcoholic Beverage License, dba Cookie’s Lounge. Officers of their Board of Directors are Ken Bulie, President; Joan Oncken, Treasurer; and Brenda Sem, Secretary. Case Wagenaar will be the manager of this establishment a position that he also held for Cookie’s Lounge. All individuals are local to Grand Forks and the surrounding area.
- 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). The business also holds a Food Establishment and Tobacco License.
- City Council approval is required for transfer of an alcoholic beverage license.

- Development Homes has an established gaming site at Johnny's Lounge and requests approval to continue that site with the new ownership. There will be no change in gaming operations for the site.
- City Council approval of site authorizations with new ownership is required.

SUPPORT MATERIALS:

- Letter requesting approval of a transfer of the alcoholic beverage license.
- Excerpt of application from RG Investments, Inc.
(Full application is available for review in the Finance Department)
- Site Authorization Application



June 10, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I, Jeanie Vigen – owner of Johnny's Lounge Inc. Located at 701 S. 15th Street, Grand Forks, ND 58201, am giving permission to transfer my Liquor license to RG Investments. The effective date will be July 15th. July 15th is my last day of ownership of Johnny's Lounge Inc. Any questions or concerns please contact me (Jeanie Vigen – owner) at 218-779-8942.

Thank you,

Jeanie Vigen 6/10/2025

Jeanie Vigen

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: 2025	License Class/Type: (See listing of class type attached hereto) Class 1	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 #:		
Name of Applicant (If an LLC, name of LLC; if partnership, at least 2 partners' names; if corporation, name of corporation) RG Investments, Inc.	Trade Name of Establishment (DBA): Johnny's Lounge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Mailing Address: 3880 South Columbia Road		Is this a renewal application? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
City, State, Zip: Grand Forks, ND 58201		Email Address: jmitzel@developmenthomes.org
Business Telephone Number: (701) 780-9107 Fax Number: (701) 335-4004		
Street Address of Premises: 701 South 15th Street Grand Forks, ND 58203	Legal Description of Premises: Lots 112, 113, 114 & 115, Block D Willmar Addition	
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 type="checkbox"/> Plans or diagram of premises attached <input checked="" 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): July 2025	Closest school (College, Public or Parochial) Name and Street Address: Ben Franklin Elementary School 1016 S. 20th St.	Closest church Name and Street Address: Faith Community Church 1106 S. 17th 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:	Street Address	City State Zip Phone No.
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		



GAMING SITE AUTHORIZATION
 ND OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
 SFN 17996 (4-2023)

G - _____ (_____) _____
 Site License Number
 (Attorney General Use Only)

Full, Legal Name of Gaming Organization
Development Homes, Inc.

This organization is authorized to conduct games of chance under the license granted by the North Dakota Attorney General at the following location

Name of Location
Johnny's Lounge

Street 701 South 15th Street	City Grand Forks	ZIP Code 58201	County Grand Forks
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Beginning Date(s) Authorized 7/15/25	Ending Date(s) Authorized 6/30/26	Number of Twenty-One tables, if zero, enter "0" 1
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Specific location where games of chance will be conducted and played at the site (required)
Conducted in northwest area of bar and played in entire bar area, excluding restrooms.

If conducting Raffle or Poker activity provide date(s) or month(s) of the event(s) if known

RESTRICTIONS FOR CITY/COUNTY USE ONLY

The organization **must** provide the City/County a list of game types included in their Internal Control Manual and have the manual available upon request. The manual must thoroughly explain each game type to be conducted. The City/County can only approve these games at the site.

ACTIVITY TO BE CONDUCTED Please check all applicable games to be conducted at site (required)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bingo | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Club Special | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sports Pools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ELECTRONIC Quick Shot Bingo | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tip Board | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Twenty-One |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Raffles | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seal Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Poker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ELECTRONIC 50/50 Raffle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Punchboard | <input type="checkbox"/> Calcuttas |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pull Tab Jar | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prize Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Paddlewheel with Tickets |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pull Tab Dispensing Device | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prize Board Dispensing Device | <input type="checkbox"/> Paddlewheel Table |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ELECTRONIC Pull Tab Device | | |

Days of week of gaming operations (if restricted)	Hours of gaming (if restricted)
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If any information above is false, it is subject to administrative action on behalf of the State of North Dakota Office of Attorney General

APPROVALS

Attorney General	Date
Signature of City/County Official	Date
PRINT Name and official position of person signing on behalf of city/county above	

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. City/County - Retain a **copy** of the Site Authorization for your files.
2. City/County - Return the **original** Site Authorization form to the Organization.
3. Organizations - Send the **original, signed**, Site Authorization to the Office of Attorney General with any other applicable licensing forms for final approval

RETURN ALL DOCUMENTS TO:

Office of Attorney General
 Licensing Section
 600 E Boulevard Ave, Dept. 125
 Bismarck, ND 58505-0040
 Telephone: 701-328-2329 OR 800-326-9240