



City of Grand Forks

Staff Report

Committee of the Whole – November 10, 2025

City Council – November 17, 2025

Agenda Item: Application for Class 4 (Food & Beverage) Alcoholic Beverage License from The Spud Jr, LLC, dba The Spud Jr

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

Staff Recommended Action: Review and approve application from The Spud Jr, LLC with approval subject to final review of various city departments and payment of associated fees.

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

Council Action:

BACKGROUND: The Finance Department is in receipt of a new application for a Class 4 (Food & Beverage) Alcoholic Beverage License from The Spud Jr, LLC dba The Spud Jr, to be located at 116 S 3rd St, formerly Rhombus Brewery.

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF FACT:

- The Spud Jr, LLC has submitted an application for a Class 4 Alcoholic Beverage License with 100 seats or less and has paid the application fee. Issuance fee of \$31,920.00 and annual fee of \$3,895 apply to this class of license. All fees must be paid prior to license issuance.
- Officers of The Spud Jr, LLC, with equal shares are:
 - Justin LaRocque
 - Roger Swanberg
 - Cole Swanberg
- The Spud Jr has operated in East Grand Forks, MN for a number of years and is relocating their business to Grand Forks, with a planned opening early January.
- Mr. LaRocque also has interest in another business in Warroad, MN
- Issuance of new alcoholic beverage licenses requires review and approval of various city departments including: Fire, Police, Health, Building Safety, Finance, and City Attorney.
- City Council approval is required for issuance of a new alcoholic beverage license.

SUPPORT MATERIALS:

- Application from The Spud Jr, LLC (Excerpt)
(Full application is available for review in the Finance Department)

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: <u>2026</u>	License Class/Type: (See listing of class type attached hereto) <u>4</u>	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 #:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Name of Applicant (If an LLC, name of LLC; If partnership, at least 2 partners' names; If corporation, name of corporation) <u>The Spud Jr LLC</u>	Trade Name of Establishment (DBA): <u>The Spud Jr</u>				
Mailing Address: <u>302 Demers Ave / 116 S 3rd St GF ND 58201</u>		Is this a renewal application? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
City, State, Zip: <u>East Grand Forks MN, 56721</u>		Email Address: <u>thespudjr@gmail.com</u>			
Business Telephone Number: Fax Number: <u>8</u> /					
Street Address of Premises: <u>116 S 3rd St</u>	Legal Description of Premises: <u>Lot 1, Block 4 Township of GF First Resubdiv</u>				
State how the premises is zoned under the Grand Forks zoning ordinance: <u>Retail / Restaurant</u>					
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	*Plans/diagram must depict all bar and lounge areas. If a renewal application and if substantial changes have been made, attach updated plans/diagram			
Date title acquired (if premises owned by applicant):	Closest school (College, Public or Parochial) Name and Street Address: <u>Central High School</u> <u>Phoenix Elementary</u>	Closest church Name and Street Address: <u>Freedom Church</u>			
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: <u>Rhombus Guy LLC</u>	Street Address <u>116 S 3rd St</u>	City <u>GF</u>	State <u>ND</u>	Zip <u>58201</u>	Phone No. (215) <u>701 286-9816</u>
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> LLC - Proceed to Page 5 of the Application					
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporation - Proceed to Page 5 of the Application					