



MEMORANDUM

TO: MELISSA MORRIS, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

FROM: CHARLES BOULARD, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT *CMJ*

SUBJECT: HOTARU – LIQUOR LICENSE

DATE: JUNE 26, 2023

The property located at **39723 GRAND RIVER AVE** with the business name of **Hotaru** has received Special Land Use permit **PSLU23-0002** for the purpose of:

- ☐ Auctions
- ☒ **Liquor License: Hotaru**
- ☐ Arcade License
- ☐ Massage License
- ☐ Outdoor Gathering
- ☐ Outdoor Seating
- ☐ Other:

From building safety standpoint, the Building Division does not object to the proposed license. Should you have any further questions with regards to this matter please feel free to contact me at (248) 347-0423.

PSLU23-0002 – 39723 Grand River – Parcel Number 50-22-24-476-025

A public hearing was held on June 21, 2023, at 9:30 AM in the Novi Civic Center for consideration of the Special Land Use (SLU) request for approval for service of alcoholic beverages at the existing restaurant Hotaru, in accordance with section 4.89 of the Novi Zoning Ordinance. The Planning staff had previously reviewed the required application and Site Plan and found the documents to be complete. Jan Zozios, Deputy Assessor, Charles Boulard, Community Development Director and Ben Croy, City Engineer (designee of Jeff Herczerg, Director of Public Works), considered the request in accordance with the standards for review specified in Section 4.89 of the Zoning Ordinance and determined to forward a recommendation to City Council for approval of the Special Land Use.



MINUTES
SPECIAL LAND USE HEARING
CITY OF NOVI
June 21, 2023, 9:30 AM
Mayor's Conference Room | Novi Civic Center
45175 Ten Mile Road

Present: Charles Boulard, Director of Community Development; Ben Croy, City Engineer, Jan Ziozios, Deputy Assessor; Nina Schaffrath, Recording Secretary; Byeongou Kong, Owner of Hotaru; Michael Makki, Plaza Owner

Applicant: Hotaru

Hearing called to order at 09:30 A.M.

Correspondence Received: None

Public Participation:
None

1. PSLU23-0002 – 39723 Grand River PARCEL NUMBER 50-22-24-476-025

The applicant **Hotaru** is requesting Special Land Use approval for **39723 Grand River** parcel number **50-22-24-476-025**. The applicant is requesting approval to use a portion of the parcel for service of alcoholic beverages in accordance with Section 4.89 of the Zoning Ordinance.

Hotaru is asking for a Special Land Use approval for the service of alcoholic beverages. The owner of Hotaru, Byeongou Kong, states that they serve authentic Japanese food and that during lunch time hours they have a line out the door and would like to try and bring in as big of a crowd during dinner hours. Mr. Kong states that the hours of his restaurant are from 11:30 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. and then from 5 P.M. – 9 P.M. for dinner hours. Michael Makki, the owner of the plaza where Hotaru is located says that everyone who visits loves Hotaru, and they have had nothing but a positive experience with Mr. Kong since the opening of the restaurant. Ben Croy asks, what kind of alcohol they plan on serving. Mr. Kong states that they plan on serving Japanese beer and Sake. Jan Ziozios asks how many tables are located in the restaurant. Mr. Kong states there is currently 9 tables and if business during dinner picks up, they would consider adding more but as of right now they do not plan to increase the number of tables. Charles Boulard asks if their staff is going to properly trained to handle alcoholic beverages? Mr. Kong confirms that all staff will be properly trained and be certified to serve alcoholic drinks. Mr. Makki added that Hotaru has been great to have in his plaza and Mr. Kong is great to work with and his restaurant has brought a lot of business to the plaza during the day, and he thinks adding the liquor license will really help boost dinner sales and hopefully keep customers coming throughout the day. Mrs. Ziozios has no objection and made a motion to approve the Special Land Use for a liquor license for Kura Sushi in accordance with sections 4-A, 4-B, and 4-C of the City of Novi Zoning Ordinance. Mr. Boulard seconds the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

IN CASE NO. PS LU23-0002, Motion to recommend approval.

- 1. The proposed establishment will promote the City's economic development goals and objectives and will be consistent with the City's master plan and zoning ordinance.**
- 2. Given the character, location, development trends and other aspects of the area in which the proposed use or change in use is requested, it is demonstrated that the use will**

provide a service, product, or function that is not presently available within the City or that would be unique to the City or to an identifiable area within the City and that the addition of the use or proposed change in use will be an asset to the area.

3. The use or change in use as constructed and operated by the applicant is compatible with the area in which it will be located, and will not have any appreciable negative secondary effects on the area, such as:
 - a. Vehicular and pedestrian traffic, particularly during late night or early morning hours that might disturb the area residents.
 - b. Noise, odors, or lights that emanate beyond the site's boundaries onto property in the area on which there are residential dwellings.
 - c. Excessive number of persons gathering outside the establishment.
 - d. Peak hours of use that add to congestion or other negative effects in the neighborhood.
 - e. Fighting, brawling, outside urination or other behavior that can accompany intoxication.

Motion approved 3-0 Voice Vote.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:41 AM.