RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF PRO RATED LIQUOR LICENSE FEES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Walz issued executive order No. 20-04, and subsequently extended that declaration by Executive Order No. 20-20 closing restaurants, bars, and other establishment from on-site consumption; and

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota and numerous communities have been impacted by the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic forcing the slow down, and in some cases, shuttering of businesses creating significant unemployment; and

WHEREAS, the City has the ability to refund on-sale liquor license fees on a pro rated basis through Minn. Stat. §340A.480, subd. 5.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the City of North St. Paul, Minnesota:

1. Refund pro rated liquor license fees for intoxicating on-sale liquor licenses calculated from March 16, 2020 until the on-sale restriction has been lifted.

ADOPTED by the City Council on this ______ day of ______, 2020.

Motion by
Second by

Voting: Aye:
Nay:
Absent:
Abstain:

CITY OF NORTH ST. PAUL

BY: ________________________________
Terrence J. Furlong, Mayor

ATTEST:

Scott A. Duddeck, City Manager/Clerk

As Deputy Clerk of the City of North St. Paul, I hereby certify that this Resolution is a true and correct copy of the one adopted by the City Council at a regular meeting held on the ______ day of ______, 2020.
TO: Soren Mattick  
FROM: Leah Koch  
DATE: April 20, 2020  
RE: North St. Paul, Prorated liquor license

On March 16, 2020, Governor Walz issued executive order 20-04. This order prevents bars, restaurants, and other establishments from serving food and beverages on-site for the time being. The burden on local businesses, especially those with on-sale liquor licenses is immense. The City, through Minn. Stat. §340A.480, subd. 5, has the authority to give pro rata refunds for any time that the business is unable to carry on the licensed business.

On Friday, April 17, 2020 Governor Walz signed a bill that allows restaurants to temporarily sell wine, hard seltzer, cider, and beer with takeout food orders. (SF 4489). The new law went into effect on April 18, 2020. This new law is a small reprieve from the financial devastation these businesses face because they cannot sell liquor on-sale.

If passed by the City Council, refunds on liquor license fees would be pro rated from March 16, 2020 until the restrictions for on-sale liquor sales are lifted.