

MINUTES
Town of Guilford, CT
Board of Selectmen
Board of Selectmen Cannabis Workshop
Thursday, October 17, 2024, 8:30 am
Town Hall, 31 Park Street, Guilford, CT 06437

First Selectman Hoey called the meeting to order at 8:33 am

Present: Board Members: Matthew Hoey, Charles Havrda, Susan Renner, Louis Federici and Sandra Ruoff

Town Officials: Clerk Traci Brinkman

1. Discussion on an ordinance related to Cannabis.

The board discussed the need to make a decision on this issue. The current moratorium expires November 30th. Without an ordinance or moratorium, it opens the Town up to cannabis establishments without any guidelines.

It was noted that there are retail facilities in Branford and Old Saybrook. Mr. Hoey spoke with the first selectman and he said it has been a great thing for the town. It is in a good location out of the town center and it is generating revenue. He added, however, that this board they never looked at this issue as revenue generating.

Board members acknowledged those who have spoken on both sides of the issue. Those against are very passionate about why they don't want it. For those in favor, it would be nice to have, however, they would not undergo any hardship since there are other retail locations nearby.

There was discussion about other towns that have prohibited cannabis establishments. The board asked the first selectman if he could get the tax numbers from the towns that do have it.

The board discussed whether there should be an outright ban on everything or if the ordinance could be crafted to allow other cannabis businesses like growing, etc. They felt more consideration should be given to those other uses outside of the retail business.

The board decided to discuss this issue at its regular Monday meeting. There is a possibility they may need to extend the moratorium one more time to allow for more time to craft an ordinance.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Ms. Ruoff and seconded by Ms. Renner, the board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

*Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None*

Respectfully submitted,

Traci K. Brinkman
Clerk
Board of Selectmen