

Ad Hoc Marihuana Committee

Minutes

June 25, 2020

7:00 pm.

Attendance: Mayor Wishart, Council member Witt, Council member Atkin, Casey Buckleitner, Paul Gunderson, Mark Hansen, Katie Kucharek, Tiffany Larson, Dr. Steven Wisniewski, City Attorney Paul Slough, Manager J. Duff.

Mayor Wishart chaired the Committee and opened it up with thanking all the members of the committee for serving. The Committee members then provided a little background on themselves and their desires in serving on the Committee.

Open Discussion on Existing Ordinance

Mayor Wishart turned the meeting over to Manager Duff and Attorney Slough who took the Committee through the various segments of Marihuana legislation in the State of Michigan. There was discussion on the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act (MMMA) the Michigan Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act (MMFLA) and the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act (MRTMA).

Discussion on the various and unique role of municipalities and the purpose of the Committee to establish which, if any portions of the MRTMA, that the City of Gaylord should consider participation in and formulating an ordinance to so accommodate. Various license types were discussed: Growers, Class A, B, C and Microbusiness; Secure Transporter; Processors; Provisioning Centers; Safety Compliance Facilities. Impacts of Zoning and licensing by the municipality and other aspects such as impacts on policing, administration of City, and impact on utilities. Taxation and shared revenues were also discussed. The Committee members openly discussed all aspects of this new business.

Some of the discussion came down to a request by the Committee to have someone from Law Enforcement be in attendance at the next meeting. The Committee also asked to see what kind of biological impacts on water and wastewater would or could be expected from processing or grow operations. The other aspect was what projected or expected potential revenue could be expected and if there is any information available on this to share.

Setting of Future Meetings

The Committee agreed to hold future meetings to the schedule below:

July 7 at 6:00 pm.

July 21 at 6:00 pm.

August 4 at 6:00 pm.

August 18 at 6:00 pm.

September 1 at 6:00 pm.

September 15 at 6:00 pm.

All meetings will be held at the Gaylord City Hall and all meetings will work to be completed by 7:30 pm.

The Committee agreed to work to complete its task of preparing a recommendation on any ordinance changes within the time period presented.

Public Comments

There were two visitors who provided information about their own businesses and expressed thanks that the process and the discussion has begun in the City to look more into this new business in our State.

There being no further issues before the Committee the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Joseph P. Duff
City Manager