

## SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 25, 2020

The Special City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Bronson via teleconference at 5:30 p.m.

### Roll Call:

Present: Raab, Ptasnik, Johnston, Bronson, Mallory, Temple, and Couture

Absent:

### General Business:

- Review and Discussion – Medical Marihuana Applications
  - City Attorney Stephen Lindsay explained that applications should be processed in the order they are received, first come first served.
  - Councilwoman Johnston voiced her concern that incomplete applications may be considered before complete applications that were submitted later.
  - City Attorney Stephen Lindsay responded that the Planning Commission should review the applications in the order they are received, that does not mean that every application must be approved.
  - Councilwoman Raab commented that she agrees with Councilwoman Johnston's comment and does not want to see incomplete applications slow down the process for complete applications.
  - Councilwoman Ptasnik commented that there needs to be a timeline established to make the process efficient for everyone.
  - Mayor Pro Tem Couture summarized the current process for obtaining a permit but thinks that a potential revision to the ordinances may be the best way to move forward.
  - Mayor Bronson responded that he has been working on amended versions of the ordinances.
  - Mayor Pro Tem Couture commented that he would like to see the Planning Commission portion taken out of the process.
  - Councilwoman Johnston agrees that there are needed revisions to the ordinances, but she is concerned with changing the requirements in the middle of the process.
  - Councilwoman Raab agreed with Councilwoman Johnston's comments.
  - Council discussed the differences in timelines between having the Planning Commission review the current applications and amending the ordinances.
  - Mayor Bronson commented that amending the ordinances will not hurt any of the current applicants.
  - City Manager Eustice agreed that the best course of action is to amend the ordinances and accommodate the investors.
  - Mayor Bronson responded that he would call a Special Meeting of the Council on Monday, June 29, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. to review possible ordinance amendments.
  - Council discussed also amending the application to address an applicant who applies for a permit but does not make any effort to establish a business.

**Public Comments:**

- Mr. John Strittmater thanked everyone and commended the City Council for all the time and effort spent on the ordinances.
- Ms. Ashley Brandt thinks that the process should be opened to all the applicants and the ordinances changed.
- Ms. Sharen Lange inquired if all six of the applicants would be downtown and whether the applicant outside of the proper zoning should be considered as an application.
  - City Manager Eustice responded that a permit can be issued without a designated location for the establishment.

**Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

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Mayor Mark C. Bronson

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Clerk/Treasurer Bridget E. Brown

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Councilman Brett Mallory

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Councilwoman Sara Johnston

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Councilman Vaughn Temple

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Mayor Pro Tem Nicholas C. Couture

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Councilwoman Diane E. Raab

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Councilwoman Ashley Ptasnik