

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.

Mayor Mark C. Bronson

Clerk/Treasurer Bridget E. Brown

Councilman Brett Mallory

Councilwoman Sara Johnston

Councilman Vaughn Temple

Mayor Pro Tem Nicholas C. Couture

Councilwoman Diane E. Raab

Councilwoman Ashley Ptasnik