

## Board of Selectmen's Meeting

February 22, 2021

### Minutes

Present: K. Young, K. Kemp, J. Quink, T. Cofske, J. Bullock, P. Schmidt, R. Gentile, M. Frost, P. Ouilette, R. Rogers, Paul Cranston Esq., Nicole Costanzo, Esq. (Town Counsel), Gary Mascitis, W. Zinni, R. Ruggles, P.J. McDonald

Chairman, K. Young opened the meeting at 6:30 P.M. and read the required statement for conducting a virtual/remote meeting. K. Young then read the agenda into record.

#### 6:30 PM Ralph Rogers – Community Host Agreement for Marijuana Microbusiness

Ralph Rogers, Owner of Adroit Manufacturing, LLC addressed the Board of Selectmen and thanked the Board for the draft Community Host Agreement for the proposed Marijuana Microbusiness to be located at 435 Lower Road in Gilbertville.

Mr. Rogers stated that he had a few questions and comments pertaining to the draft Community Host Agreement that he would like to go over, but first wanted to explain the difference between “big cannabis” business and marijuana microbusiness. He explained that the Commonwealth Cannabis Commission (CCC) views the microbusinesses different than other CCC licenses. They are considered social equity business that are small business and allows for waiving of fees, understanding that the microbusiness is not making much money in contrast to the other Cannabis type businesses i.e.: Tier 11 Cultivators or Cannabis Retail Stores. In addition, the impacts of a microbusiness are minimal in comparison to the other cannabis operations. Mr. Roger's anticipates having eight (8) total staff only when needed, otherwise it is most likely to be four (4) staff persons. There will be no heavy traffic nor the need for police detail. Mr. Roger's expressed that he is willing to use local vendors when possible.

K. Young suggested that the Board of Selectmen vote to allow Town Counsel to work directly with Mr. Rogers and Attorney Cranston to come back to the Board with a suitable Community Host Agreement. Mr. Rogers stated that he would appreciate the opportunity and will send out an email to open up the dialog between them. Town Counsel, Nicole Costanzo agreed and requested that there be a representative of the Town that she can consult. The Board of Selectmen agreed to have Chairman, Kenan Young be the representative for the Town on this matter.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Officer Ryan Gentile – To Discuss Upcoming Hardwick Police Department Union Contract Negotiations
- Friends of the Stone Church, Inc. Requesting Board of Selectmen to Issue a Letter of Support for the Proposal Seeking Massachusetts Historical Commission Preservation Project Funding

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- Hardwick Pond Preservation Association President Gary Mascitis, VP Bill Zinni - Status Update on the Hardwick Pond Aquatic Weed Control

#### REPORTS:

- MART Monthly Report – January 2021

APPROVALS/SIGNATURES:

- Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Invoice #17 for Services Rendered to Administer the FY2018 Hardwick Assistance Program (Grant # 00829) in the Amount of \$1,452.31 (Paid by CDBG Funds)
- Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Invoice #18 for Services Rendered to Administer the FY2018 Hardwick Assistance Program (Grant # 00829) in the Amount of \$633.85 (Paid by CDBG Funds)
- Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Invoice #19 for Services Rendered to Administer the FY2018 Hardwick Assistance Program (Grant # 00829) in the Amount of \$905.26 (Paid by CDBG Funds)
- Clark & Green Architecture Design Invoice #6 for Architectural Services for the Hardwick Municipal Building Architectural Barrier Removal in the Amount of \$6,560.00 (Paid by CDBG Funds)
- South Barre Rod & Gun Club – 2021 Annual Automatic Amusement License & 2021 Common Victuallar License

ADJOURNMENT:

***This meeting has been posted to meet the Open Meeting Law. The agenda may change due to unforeseen items.***