

City Council Workshop Minutes
January 30, 2020
6:00 PM
Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Crestview City Council was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by the Mayor Pro Tem Shannon Hayes . Present were: Council members Andrew Rencich, Cynthia Brown, and Joe Blocker. Mayor Whitten and Councilmember LeBoeuf were not present. Also present were the City Manager Tim Bolduc, City Clerk Elizabeth Roy, City Attorney Jon Holloway, department heads and members of the press.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Open Policy Making and Legislative Session

5. Action Items

5.1. Discussion of Cannabis Ordinance

City Manager Tim Bolduc updated the council members on ordinance 1629 that was passed in November of 2017 Ordinance 1629 changed 18-77 The City is currently in compliance with the state statutes as they currently stand. He read the part of the Ordinance that stated the ban, and reminded the council that the ordinance also stated that we would periodically review and discuss based on any changes to the statute, or the wants and needs of the Citizens. The City at that time felt that since it could be received by mail and that there were other outlets in the county.

There is proof that Medical marijuana has its benefits, but there are other sources in the area. The decision to allow or not allow dispensaries should be made based whether it is right for Crestview Citizens at this time, would they benefit from it and for no other reason. Focus on if there is a need and is this the time to do allow the dispensaries. Mt. Bolduc suggested that each council member speak, then hear from the public.

Mr. Rencich recently visited dispensaries in Tallahassee and was impressed by the professionalism and the joy of the workers when they discussed how it could help patients. He is in favor of the Medical Cannabis and how it will affect the Citizens, and requested information on the law enforcement side. He feels education of the community is key. Mr. Bolduc stated that this meeting is simply about the sale of Medical Cannabis in the City as a use, not about enforcement. He stated he is in favor of the dispensaries in the City. Feels like we need to help people get off of addictive pain medication.

Ms. Brown: What is the number of Crestview citizens that actually need or use the medical cannabis. Mr. Bolduc stated that we do not have that information and because of HIPPA we would probably not be able to gather that information. Ms. Brown feels that since there are other options for Crestview Citizens to obtain the medication that it is not necessary in the City of Crestview. Is there any update from the state? Mr. Bolduc stated no changes in Tallahassee for the Medical but that recreational may be on the ballot in 2021/2022.

Mr. Blocker: stated that he has contacts in Colorado that say it has caused problems there and that

the negative vs the positive is 3/1 to the negative. He has heard that there are more inquires for dispensaries outside the City and feels that there may be a need but does not want it in the City.

Mr. Bolduc that the amount that the card holder can receive, problems come with the recreational. He also stated that the church members he spoke to said to vote no.

Ms Brown asked if the medical dispensaries can become recreational dispensaries. Mr. Bolduc stated that that needs to be addressed in the ordinance if the council chooses to allow the Medical dispensaries. Medical personnel he has spoken too also said no.

Mr. Hayes: Feels that this is something that we need to do. 70% of the Citizens of Florida voted for it and it is medical, not recreational. Feels like if a medical doctor provides it should be allowed.

he feels that the education of the public is needed. on exactly what we are discussing, and it is not about allowing regular marijuana. This is controlled by the Doctors, just like all other medications.

6. Public Opportunity on Council propositions

Speakers:

Frederick Butts: Spoke in favor of the medical cannabis.

Jonathan Mazarat Spoke in favor of the medical cannabis those who have card may not be able to drive to get the medication

Tammy Whittley Had several questions about how the medical cannabis would be distributed.

David Neal is concerned about the use of Medical Cannabis and the ownership of firearms by other members of the household. Not against it but worried about the how it would affect the rest of the household.

7. Comments from the Audience

8. Comments from the Mayor and Council

Andrew Rencich: for allowing dispensaries but monitor as the other legislation moves forward. watch closely

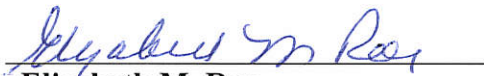
Cynthia Brown: for medical cannabis, but no dispensary in Crestview

Joe Blocker: hold the moratorium until there are more specifics.

Shannon Hayes: for the dispensaries but monitor going forward.

Mr. Bolduc stated that we would pose the question on the next agenda whether to bring an ordinance back.

9. Adjournment



Elizabeth M. Roy
City Clerk



JB Whitten
Mayor

Minutes approved this 11th day of May, 2020 .