

Charter Township of Emmett

Special Meeting

To Discuss Limiting Medical Marihuana Licensing and Discuss Recreational Marihuana

August 1, 2019

Supervisor Tim Hill called the Special Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday August 1, 2019. The Meeting was held at the Township Hall located at 621 Cliff Street, Battle Creek, MI 49014.

The pledge of allegiance followed the opening.

Board Member Attendance

Present:

Buller, Brown, Myers, Dougherty, Myers-Malone, Gunning, and Hill **QUORUM PRESENT**

Special Meeting:

Motion 19-08-01 by Myers/Buller to approve the Agenda.

Roll Call Vote:

Hill, Myers, Dougherty, Brown, Gunning, Myers-Malone, & Buller **ALL YES**
MOTION CARRIED

This Special Meeting commenced by having “presenters” from different medical marihuana facilities talking about the type of business that they plan to sell as well as other facilities in the State of Michigan.

Michigan Pure Med, Common Citizen (Medical Marihuana Facility) had CEO, Mike speak about his past and how he came to this engagement. Their store offers a book called the citizen code which talks about how to gradually manage pain using marihuana. They are trying to change the terminology towards cannabis. Mike stated that they will hire based on community engagement and passion for the plant. This facility has a nurse on staff. Mike stated that their facilities would have to pull out of cities that don't pass recreational marihuana because they sell their products nine recreational to every one medical marihuana patient. Mike stated that by requiring community engagement, using distance, and limiting the number of recreational licenses may be an answer to this moratorium.

Mike also stated that Warren, Michigan (3rd largest city in Michigan) only gave out fifteen licenses.

Buller spoke that he had asked all companies about how they were only applying for medical marihuana licenses and that the Board was not obligated to Opt-In for Recreational.

DH-BC Holdings, PLLC are looking at purchasing Riverview Recreation to build a grow facility, but concerned about a moratorium on marihuana licenses. This particular facility would employ 120 full time employees. Owner would like to work with Emmett Township to have a Kayak/Canoe station at the River and make Emmett Township a destination location for families. The potential buyer is interested in this property because it is hidden from Columbia Ave. They are almost finished with the pre-qualifications and are willing to invest in the Water and Sewer.

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Scott Grenquist spoke about licenses. How applicants are using the market to buy/sell properties.

Tracy Rombough owns rental lots across from the old KFC building and needs help as buffers are a concern.

Hill and Dougherty stated that this is Capitalism and we should let the market decide.

Dougherty had four main points of concern:

- 1) Public Safety
- 2) Permitting
- 3) Inspections
- 4) Follow-Ups, Enforcement

Buller stated that the State is not enforcing, that they are falling flat on their face. He is writing violations for working without permits. After the third offense it becomes a felony, but the State doesn't enforce this.

Resident stated that facilities are counting on Recreational Marihuana. Asked the Board to create a committee that would look into things such as:

- 1) How are other municipalities handling this?
- 2) What is the burden on the Township? Public Safety?
- 3) What is the burden on the Roads with increased traffic?
- 4) What will be the workload?
- 5) How will the Township vet through licenses?

These are just some of the ideas that need to be thought out completely. Reward Capitalism?

Gunning stated that the Board did ask Lt. Geigle for a report from the City of Lansing, but haven't heard back yet.

Jesse Jacox stood up and made clear that just because a business bought a piece of property and was approved for license through the Township that when they RE-SELL the property the new owners will still have to make application to the Township.

Buller asked if recreational marihuana could be sold at gas stations? Owners stated "NO".

Hill stated that LARA is also in charge of the trailer parks and we have trouble with LARA taking responsibility with them currently.

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Resident spoke about son addicted to meds, dead at age 35. Asked the Board to have an open mind that maybe if these businesses were open before he could have gone and gotten help from a reliable tested drug instead of off the street.

Dougherty wants a committee to set standards for all Marihuana.

Resident stated that HEMP was made legal last year in a federal farm bill, and how we live in a great agricultural state. Things to think about...

Committee to set standards will be brought to the next Board meeting.

-What is the cost of the consumer when we're not looking at enforcement?

-What would it take to revoke a license if not in compliance with the planning commission?

There was much discussion on the topic of Medical and Recreational Marihuana.

Motion 19-08-02 by Dougherty/Myers to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Voice Vote.

**ALL YES
MOTION CARRIED**

Timothy Hill, Supervisor
Emmett Charter Township

Tracy Myers-Malone, Clerk
Emmett Charter Township