

**Selectmen's Public Hearing  
On Proposed Marijuana Ordinance  
April 24, 2018**

**Selectmen Present:** Chairman Scott Littlefield, Dan Gay, Jarod Harriman

**Planning Board Present:** Chairman Dan Plourde, John Boissonnault, Bruce Reynolds, Darren Adams, Shannon Belanger

**Town Employees Present:** Jim Roberts (CEO), Linda Bristol (Secretary)

**Public Members Present:**

Tim Lucy, Allen Wiegner, Edward and Sarah LeBlanc, Keith Buzzell, Donald Letendre, Carrie and Tony Cyr, Becky Hebert, Dixie Harris, Christy Lajoie

Selectman Scott Littlefield called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 PM. He then turned the Hearing over to the Planning Board for questions and answers.

Chairman Dan Plourde asked Shannon Belanger to give an overview of the work the Planning Board has been doing on the proposed Marijuana Ordinance and Zoning Ordinance.

Shannon stated that under Findings; Purpose of the Ordinance that no retail sales of marijuana will be allowed in Dayton. Medical marijuana will be allowed.

The Zoning Ordinance details the Construction of Language and Definitions such as how and where you can operate as a primary caregiver. A caregiver may cultivate and grow medical marijuana within a permitted Medical Marijuana Caregiver Growing Facility or within the caregiver's primary year-round residence.

Dan Plourde thanked Shannon for all her work on this and for giving the overview.

Dan Plourde asked the audience to please give their name when asking a question so that we have it for the record.

Tim Lucy asked why you need a license if you are growing at home.

Dan Plourde it is needed so that the Town knows where it is being grown. Ed LeBlanc said that if the state says we can do it, then why are we going beyond that on personal use? He thought people would have a serious issue on the personal level. He feels conservative on commercial use but thinks we should go with the State for personal. He said the State is now only allowing three plants.

Dan Gay noted that he has received complaints from Town residents on licensing by the town.

John Boissonnault asked if these residents are here.

Dan Gay stated that as a Selectman, he is their representative.

John Boissonnault noted that we do not wish to argue that this is an input session and questions or concerns are welcomed.

Dan Gay said he was just relaying what people have said to him.

John Boissonnault stated that if he had not shown up tonight then they would have had no voice in the matter.

Ed LeBlanc noted that some people could not make it.

Jarod Harriman asked if the Zoning Ordinance set out where it can be grown.

Dan Plourde said it does because we do not want it growing on front lawns.

Jarod Harriman noted that people do not want to see it.

Keith Buzzell said if there is an ordinance in place, why need a license? And, I have it growing on my front lawn.

Jarod Harriman likened it to the need for a building inspector. It is the same idea.

Dan Plourde said it is also needed so that if someone complains about it being in a front yard, we can investigate the complaint.

Keith Buzzell said we are not talking marijuana, it is medical cannabis.

Dan Plourde said we are stating what the State has for regulations. We are asking for a license for medical marijuana.

Ed LeBlanc asked how many complaints there were in Dayton last year.

Dan Gay said he had received three or four complaints.

Sarah LeBlanc said that there is a social stigma at showing up at a public forum and it is invasive. If someone has three plants, four acres in from the road she felt it is nobody's business.

Ed LeBlanc said that the State already says that it cannot be grown on the road.

Dan Plourde stated that what he is hearing is that getting a license is an invasion of privacy.

Keith Buzzell had questions concerning B. 11 and 16 under Medical Marijuana of the Zoning Ordinance. He asked if the language was made up or taken from the State. He said caregivers give out high CBD's and the best medicine for the patient's issue. For example, if tinctures are the best medicine, you must extract them. If the caregiver is not allowed to do that, there is not sense of being a caregiver.

Dan Plourde noted that some of the language was taken from other towns.

Keith Buzzell that this language makes it impossible to provide the needed care in this town as tinctures and oils are needed.

Dan Plourde said he had a good point.

Sarah LeBlanc said she was concerned about the enforceability on the private side.

Jarod Harriman said he also is concerned about enforceability. It has been a major issue in every state.

Keith Buzzell asked how the Board came up with where it could be grown.

Dan Plourde said it was decided in mixed use or commercial zones and away from schools, day care facilities, etc.

Allen Wiegner asked why the license needs to be exhibited to the public.

Sarah LeBlanc said if you advertised that you have a license, it would be like all teenagers coming to her house when she is not home.

Chairman Scott Littlefield asked if everyone in attendance is from Dayton and they answer was that they are.

Dan Gay asked if there is a restriction on signage.

Dan Plourde said no signage is allowed.

Scott Littlefield asked if you come for a personal license, isn't that public?

Dan Plourde said that it is.

Sarah LeBlanc asked if you are on the list, who has access.

Scott Littlefield said that the public does.

Keith Buzzell asked why the restrictions. Isn't that part of the stigma such as not having it close to a day care facility,

Dan Plourde said we are trying to be on the safe side.

Jarod Harriman said it is a complicated issue. The State vote was close.

Ed LeBlanc asked what the vote was in Dayton?

Bruce Reynolds said it was voted down.

Jim Roberts noted that concessions can be made. Maybe we can do away with the license for personal use. He noted that anyone is welcome to attend the Planning board meetings and give their input.

Jim said that we picked up some of the language from neighboring towns. He said that personally he does not care if the Town requires a license or not.

Jarod Harriman asked the group if there were any other questions.

Christy Lajoie asked why there will not be any social clubs or recreational marijuana.

Darren Adams said because 95 percent of the townspeople didn't want them.

Dan Plourde noted that the Town has no Police Department, so we would have no way to enforce.

Christy Lajoie said that we have Funky Bow in Lyman. People are drinking and leaving there drunk. They must make money on it.

Darren Adams said that we are not saying that you cannot make money on it, but that he took an oath when he became a member of the Planning Board to do what the majority of the people want.

Ed LeBlanc said that as long as it is medicinal that he does not have an issue with it.

Jim Roberts noted that one problem is that the State is not required to tell the towns who obtain a license, but hopes that will change. If they have been providing medicinal marijuana prior to January 1 then they would be grandfathered.

Dan Plourde stated that he thinks the Planning Board is willing to take out the license requirement for private use.

Keith Buzzell said that there are safe ways to do the extracting.

Dan Plourde told the audience that we had somebody who rented his home and wanted to do extracting a shed.

Bruce noted that we had someone come to the Board asking for a Conditional Use Permit, but did not even live in Dayton or know where in town he was going to live.

Jim Roberts said the big issue with knowing where they are is safety.

John Boissonnault asked if anyone in the audience wanted anything else in the ordinance.

Keith Buzzell said just the verbiage. The difference between medical and recreational should be defined better.

Dan Gay asked if the Planning Board is planning a follow-up meeting.

Dan Plourde said it will be addressed at the next meeting.

Dan Gay asked Keith Buzzell if he would be willing to come to the Planning Meeting.

Keith said that he would, but his wife knows more about it.

John Boissonnault asked if he would bring her with him.

Keith said that he would and noted that she is a nurse.

Sarah LeBlanc said Thank You for listening to their points of view.

Jarod Harriman thanked the audience for showing up and that their input was appreciated.

Dan Gay said that he also wanted to thank the Planning Board for all the work that has been done on this and to also thank Jim Roberts.

Selectmen Chairman Scott Littlefield adjourned the meeting at 7:15 PM.

THESE MINUTES MAY NOT BE TRANSCRIBED VERBATIM. SECTIONS MAY BE PARAPHRASED FOR CLARITY.

