

TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES
October 18, 2022

Chairman Kimberley Emberg called to order the meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 5:15 p.m. Selectmen present on were: Donald Alcombright, Sheila Vaughn (virtual), and Tyler Bouchard. Also present were: Keith Hickey, Town Administrator; Elizabeth Lydon, Town Counsel; and Gloria Mitchell, Assistant Town Administrator.

Upon a Motion by Mr. Alcombright, second by Mr. Bouchard, and a roll call vote of Ms. Emberg-aye, Mr. Alcombright-aye, Ms. Vaughn-aye, and Mr. Bouchard-aye.

VOTED: to go into Executive Session to return to open session for the purpose of:

Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, Sec 21(a)(3) that the Board enter executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to existing host community agreements under the newly promulgated Cannabis Equity Act, the public discussion of which may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Board and to return to open session at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Hickey introduced Attorney Lydon and explained that the reason for holding the meeting in executive session was to discuss the strategy of how the Selectmen want to handle the Host Community Agreements that the Selectmen have previously approved. This is being brought forth because an Act relative to equity in the cannabis industry passed by the House and Senate on July 31, 2022, states that municipalities can no longer require 3% of gross sales as a community impact fee. Mr. Hickey noted that the one retailer operating now is a great community business partner and would not want to damage that relationship. Mr. Hickey reviewed the recommended options by Town Counsel.

Attorney Lydon stated that she represents multiple towns receiving requests from marijuana firms to amend their HCAs. Attorney Lydon recommended modifying the existing agreement to comply with the new law or continuing to operate under the existing HCAs.

There was a discussion regarding how the fees are calculated and if the Selectmen should renegotiate.

Upon a Motion by Mr. Alcombright, second by Mr. Bouchard, and a roll call vote of Ms. Emberg-aye, Mr. Alcombright-aye, Ms. Vaughn-aye, and Mr. Bouchard-aye.

VOTED: To have Town Counsel negotiate all existing host community agreements.

Attorney Lydon stated that the Selectmen would need to vote in an open session to accept the amended agreements. Mr. Hickey said the plan would be to have the item added to a future meeting in an open session.

Upon a Motion by Mr. Bouchard, second by Mr. Alcombright, and a roll call vote of Ms. Emberg-aye, Mr. Alcombright-aye, Ms. Vaughn-aye, and Mr. Bouchard-aye.

VOTED: The Board of Selectmen adjourned Executive Session at 5:44 p.m. and go into open session in Room 200 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Gloria Mitchell

Assistant Town Administrator

Board of Selectmen
October 18, 2022, Executive Session

Approved: November 2, 2022
Released: November 2, 2022

Documents used at the meeting:

Agenda

Agenda Addendum