

Received For Record At Jewett City, CT

On: 8/6/2021 At: 9:30 AM

Attest:

*Carrie Prud'homme*  
Borough Clerk

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**JULY 29, 2021**

**In Person & Via Teleconference**

The Special Meeting of the Board of Warden and Burgesses held in Griswold Town Hall, Main Meeting Room, on Thursday, July 29, 2021, was called to order at 6:00pm. by Warden Sharkey.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Warden Timothy Sharkey, Burgesses Laurie Sorder, Jim Kruger, and Laura Laidley.

**ABSENT:** Heather Glover.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Discussion and possible action with Borough Attorney, Duncan Forsyth regarding the Legalization of Cannabis Bill recently approved by the State of Connecticut.

Warden Sharkey opened the meeting for discussion.

T. Sharkey asked what rights as the borough government about bringing in or not bringing cannabis sales into the borough.

Atty Roberts said the borough would have the ability to promote an ordinance, that would

1. Prohibit them from opening.
2. Reasonably restrict their hours and signage; or
3. Restrict their proximity to schools, hospitals, parks and so forth.

Burgess Sorder asked when this may take effect.

- The state needs put together the system, they thought sometime in September, but more than likely licenses aren't going to be issued until sometime next year.

Burgess Krueger asked about zoning.

- Should probably consider a moratorium until P&Z is going to allow or banning it.

Burgess Sorder is there a regulation on how many establishments would be allowed?

- 1 retailer for every 25,000 residents and allows for 1 micro-cultivator containing not less than 2000 sq. feet and not more than 10,000 sq. feet of grow space, which would allow Griswold one of each.

Burgess Krueger areas that be are restricted.

- Essentially be the same as what we have for smoking

Burgess Laidley asked if it would be beneficial to have in the borough.

- A 3% sales tax on the cannabis may be used for the following purposes.
  - \*streetscape improvements around the cannabis retailer
  - \*education programs or youth employment and training programs;
  - \*services for individuals who were released from DOC custody, probation or parole;
  - \*mental health addiction services;
  - \*youth service bureaus and juvenile review boards; and
  - \*community civic engagement efforts.

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Warden Sharkey asked how to bring to the people on what they want on this issue.

- Nothing prohibits us from having a public hearing, referendum instead of a hand vote. Get as much input as we can get.
- Find out what Griswold P&Z is going to be doing about this.

Warden Sharkey asked if people are going to be allowed to grow it?

- Starting in 2023 homeowners can grow up to 3 mature and 3 immature plants at home with a cap of 12 total plants per household starting July 1, 2023.

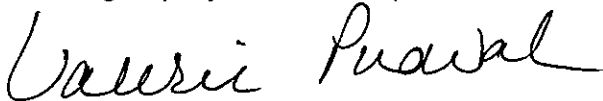
Burgess Sorder noted that it will be a benefit of sales if it is regulated because no additives will be put in it and Atty. Roberts commented it will be controlled by the Consumer Protection.

Warden Sharkey opened the Special Meeting up for discussion with the public.

- Miranda Nagle noted that many towns are leaning toward a moratorium to collect data on how it will impact substance abuse.
- Todd Babbitt First Selectman wondered if this was considered a tobacco product and if not the town would need to consider an ordinance change to amend to cover cannabis products.
- Jim Krueger asked what the time frame will be to make a decision. Atty. Roberts noted that it was expected to begin in Spring of 2022.
- Sharkey asked about gas stations and private business that sell a Delta 8 version (CBD oils, etc.) can those stores have legal proceedings against us. No
- Burgess Sorder if there is a time limit on the moratorium. Atty Roberts gave an explanation on this.

Motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burgess Sorder. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.

Meeting duly adjourned at 6:38pm.



Valerie Pudvah, Clerk

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