

**CITY OF CHARLOTTE
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**Workshop Meeting
July 13, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER:

By Mayor Armitage on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 7:04 p.m

PRESENT:

Councilmembers: McRae, Baker, Weissenborn, Hoogstra, Dyer & Mayor Armitage. Staff: Manager LaPere, Deputy City Clerk Densmore, Community Development Director Myrkle

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by McRae, second by Weissenborn to approve the agenda as published. Carried. 6 Yes. 0 No. 1 Absent.

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:

Councilmembers: VanStee

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

DISCUSSION ITEM:

a. Social Districts
Myrkle provided an overview of the statute, requirements of the city to enact a Social District, and participation by the businesses. Council discussed the various opportunities and practicality of setting up a social district within downtown. Chief Brentar addressed questions about the limitations due to Cochran and Lawrence being part of the state highway system. CharlotteRising Director Lisa Barnas provided information about experiences in other mainstreet communities.

Council decided to postpone further discussion on this topic as they do not see a huge demand for the social district given the current opportunities for businesses to have outdoor seating and dining.

b. Marijuana Regulations

City Council Minutes 7-13-2021 Page 1 of 1

LaPere provided an overview on the statutory regulations, types of commercial activities that could be permitted, licensing program implementation, and concerns of administration for regulation. Council discussed various possibilities of allowing marijuana grow operations as well as retail establishments.

McRae suggested the decision to permit retail establishments should be placed on the ballot. Consensus was reached that Administration provide additional information to Council about commercial grow operations and the potential impacts on the community as well as the process for implementation of such a licensing program.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Leisa Eldred of 310 High St. spoke in support of commercial marijuana businesses and she also urged Council to take into account the resident's views on these topics.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

McRae spoke on the role of Council and requested a progress update on the Stoddard & Clinton house.

Weissenborn asked for a progress report on electric car charging station at the library.

Armitage asked for an update on the trash receptacles downtown.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Baker, second by Dyer, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Carried. 6 Yes. 0 No. 1 Absent.

Mayor Armitage

Mikayla Densmore, Deputy City Clerk