

CITY OF CHARLOTTE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, MI 48813 (517) 543-2750
Workshop Meeting
January 12, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

By Mayor Armitage on Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Armitage, Pro-Tem Mayor Weissenborn, Council members Duweck, Chin, Van Langevelde, Dyer, and Rodriguez. A quorum was met. City staff in attendance were City Manager LaPere, City Attorney David Revore, and City Clerk LaRocque

In the audience Police Chief Brentar

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Mayor Armitage

EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCILMEMBERS:

All were present

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No comments

APPROVE AGENDA:

Motion by Weissenborn supported by Duweck to approve the agenda. Carried; Yea 7, Nay 0, Absent 0

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a. Discussion on Commercial Marijuana Licensing

A presentation was given by City Attorney Revore “Marijuana in your community”. The information included a review of the three laws passed by electors in Michigan and passed by the

voters of Charlotte as well; Michigan Medical Marijuana Act of

2008; Medical Marijuana Facilities Licensing Act of 2016; and Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act Of 2018.

The presentation included the allowance and restrictions of each act giving examples and context to the available licenses and procedural processes required by municipalities. He touched on the zoning requirements or restrictions the licenses may be subject to and the need for municipalities to “opt-in” to allow medical marijuana uses under PA 281 of 2016 if Council wants to proceed in this direction.

Council discussed the available zoning areas of the city; where retail facilities may locate; environmental concerns and more. Chief Brentar answered questions about crime and public nuisance issues that may be expected with allowing this avenue of business. Council also heard from Mitch, a 2-year resident who is experienced with medical marijuana start-up and operations and has offered his expertise. It was the consensus of council that they would like to continue to pursue opting-in to allow medical marijuana uses within the City of Charlotte.

- b. Discussion on 2023 Council Priorities

Council decided to postpone this portion of the agenda to another meeting time.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Keisha – Downtown business owner – She overcame personal objections and spoke in support allowing licensing for medical marijuana commerce.

Justin – Surrounding area resident – spoke in support of allowing licensing and to reserve licenses for the smaller growers.

Janice – 30-year resident – She is an MS patient who utilizes CBD oil for pain management. She spoke in support of allowing licensing.

Dennis – 45-year resident – encouraged council to move forward with retail.

Mitch – 2-year resident – Assured council that growers are not involved in lacing their product. Suggested giving licensing preference to residents of Charlotte.

Lance – Resident – Would like to see council move quickly as they have enough information to make a decision and suggested they focus on retail first and then growers.

Kelly – Resident – She shared the positive effects that retail facilities have brought to other areas to be in support of allowing commercial licensing.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

No comments

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Dyer supported by Duweck to adjourn at 9:09 p.m.
Carried. Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

Michael Armitage, Mayor

Mary LaRocque, City Clerk