

SYNOPSIS
MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES LICENSING ACT WORKSHOP
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2017 7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

WELCOME:

Assistant City Manager Susan Montenegro opened the workshop with an overview of tonight's workshop. A Sign in Sheet and Handouts were available.

The following City Council Members and Planning Commission Members were introduced:

City Council: Loreen Bailey, Burton Fox, Elaine Greenway, Daniel Law, Robert Teich and Mayor Chris Eveleth

Planning Commission: Michelle Collison, Tom Cook, Janae Fear, Daniel Law, Frank Livingston, Chairman William Wascher

City Staff: City Manager Don Crawford, City Attorney's Bill Brown and Scott Gould, Recording Secretary Tanya Buckelew

Ms. Montenegro went through the PowerPoint Presentation which included the new state law and the different medical marihuana facility licenses.

Citizen Comment Period:

- Joyce Enlow, Owosso Resident, is against the facilities in Owosso. She stated it would compromise safety. She asked if the City could do a survey to all residents to get an overall poll.
- Travis Copenhaver, Attorney who represents clients who want to open a facility. Also has experience in ordinance creations.
- Hannah Zackovick, Owosso Resident, spoke of much worse drugs going around Owosso and the black market drug sales. Supports bringing facilities to Owosso and the financial impact could be great.
- Michael Stine, Attorney and is involved with LARA on various boards. He states the purpose of the new law is to take it out of the "basement growers" and bring out in the open, so it can be controlled and tested.
- Dana Barker, Owosso Resident, wants reasonable access to medical marihuana that is tested and regulated, as she needs it and currently doesn't always know what she is getting.
- Lance Bias, Lennon, is a caregiver and needs medical marijuana. He is interested in opening a bakery so the drug can be ingested not inhaled.
- Grant Johnson, Lansing Consultant, states there are over 250,000 registered patients and caregivers in Michigan of which 2,000 are in Shiawassee County. The purpose of this law is to have a safe, monitored and controlled environment. He has experience in assisting communities with the process and ordinances.
- Robert Hooper, Owosso Resident, referred back to when alcohol was illegal. He works in the pharmaceutical field and believes it is a must to have facilities in Owosso, so marihuana is safe and effective for the citizens of the community.
- Matthew Shepard spoke about decriminalization. Keep fees low and he supports medical marihuana be affordable and assessable to residents.
- Allen Vandever, Caregiver/Grower who is in full support of the new law.
- Tom Wright, MMLE Consultant, reiterated some previous comments and also has experience in assisting communities with the process and ordinances.
- Erin, Owosso Resident, became a caregiver and is in full support of the new law.
- Tom Nemith, Perry Resident, discussed locations that would be available – a "Cannabis Zone."
- Ms. Montenegro displayed the City of Owosso Zoning map and explained where possible locations could be. Further discussion was held regarding regulations on distance from schools and churches. Should be less or more?
- Of those in attendance, the majority wants all 5 license types in the City of Owosso.

- Next workshop is Saturday, October 21, 2017 10:00 a.m. – Noon in the City Hall Council Chambers.
- After the October workshop, the information will be presented to Council for a decision to opt out or proceed. If proceed, the Planning Commission will start working on a draft ordinance.

Public Workshop ended at 9:00 p.m.

Recording Secretary,
Tanya S. Buckelew