

THE BOROUGH OF BANTAM PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 416

BANTAM 06750

INCORPORATED 1915

MINUTES
December 6, 2022
PUBLIC HEARING
Bantam Borough Town Hall
7.00 pm

Present: Adam Yarrish, Acting Chairman
Carol Powers, Acting Vice-Chair
Lex Sidon
Pete Donohue

Chairman Yarrish called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

1. PUBLIC HEARING

The Commission reviewed the amendments proposed to be added to the regulations. These additions are noted below:

Article 1, Section 101: Definitions

- a. Cannabis. Marijuana as defined in Section 21a-240 of the C.G.S.
- b. Cannabis Establishment. Producer, dispensary facility, cultivator, micro-cultivator, retailer, hybrid retailer, food and beverage manufacturer, product manufacturer, product packager and or delivery service.

Article III, Section 202.3: Residential Districts

Cannabis Establishments are not permitted in Residential Zones

Article III, Section 203.3: Commercial Districts

Cannabis Establishments are not permitted in Commercial Districts

Article III, Section 204.5: Special Use Districts

Cannabis Establishments are not permitted in Special Use Districts

Chairman Yarrish opened the floor for public comment.

Mr. Dick Sheldon, Borough Warden, spoke in support of the amendments. He referenced Great Barrington, Massachusetts as a relatively local community to embrace the sale of cannabis. He noted that, while they keep the sale of products off the beaten path, it still draws large crowds which leads to other issues such as parking. He also noted that there were large billboards that advertised the product and that he found them unsightly, adding that Torrington and (he believed) Thomaston both voted to allow cannabis sales.

Ms. Kim Griffens, Borough Clerk, spoke in support of the amendments. She is not in favor of this type of sales in the borough and feels that there are locations near Bantam that can cater to this lifestyle.

The Commission briefly discussed what, if any, economic benefit cannabis sales would bring to the borough. Warden Sheldon stated that there was no economic benefit to the borough.

Mr. Donahue stated that he passes through Great Barrington for work and agrees that the large-scale sale of products and the advertising of the product has truly changed the aesthetic of the city and not, in his opinion, for the better.

No additional members of the public spoke.

Motion made by Ms. Powers to close the public hearing on the proposed amendments to the regulations relating to cannabis establishments. Motion seconded by Mr. Sidon and carried unanimously.

2. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further public comment to the Commission relating to the proposed amendments to the regulations Ms. Powers moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. Motion seconded by Mr. Sidon and carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Valerie L. Douglass
Commission Clerk