Board of Selectmen's Meeting November 25, 2020 – 9:01 AM Sanford Hall 155 Village Street

Present: Glenn Trindade, Chair (remote); Maryjane White, Vice-Chair (remote), Dennis Crowley Member (remote); John Foresto, Member.

Absent: Richard D'Innocenzo, Clerk.

Staff Present: Michael Boynton, Town Manager.

Other Remote Participants: Susan Dietrich, Chair School Committee; Larry Ellsworth, Democratic Town

Committee; Residents: Michael Fahey, Tracy Stewart.

At 9:01 AM Selectman Trindade called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

<u>Discussion/ Vote: Correspondence to Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) Regarding Marijuana Home</u> Delivery

The Board reviewed the (1) letter from Representative Roy, and (2) draft letter from the School Committee.

Selectman Trindade explained the purpose of the meeting. Ms. Dietrich as School Committee Chair and a member of the Drug Free Steering Committee explained that she became aware of this issue via an article in the *Milford Daily News* regarding the CCC instituting a wholesale delivery license allowing recreational marijuana delivery. These licenses could be issued regardless of whether the Town has allowed marijuana or not. She noted that this is silent on municipal tax revenue but looks like it would be undercut. This also allows cultivators to deliver finished marijuana products in the town where they hold licenses. She reviewed who she spoke with to date on this issue including the Superintendent, the Wellness Director, the Health Agent, and Town Manager. The Drug Free Steering Committee drafted a letter in opposition of this. She also sent information to Representative Roy about this issue. At their meeting on November 19, the School Committee unanimously voted to sign the letter of opposition. She thanked the Selectmen for scheduling this meeting to deliberate this topic.

Selectman Foresto asked who sponsored this bill. Mr. Boynton stated it is not a bill. The CCC is considering implementing this under its authority. Ms. Dietrich confirmed that the CCC is attempting to amend their current rules and this is not going through the legislative process. There was a question on who initiated and recommended this action. Mr. Boynton stated it was initiated by the cannabis industry. Selectman Foresto stated that since wholesale alcohol is not allowed he does not feel this would be appropriate. Selectman Crowley requested that the section of the letter referencing that the Medway residents have voted against the sale of marijuana be bolded and recommended that this letter be send via overnight delivery.

Mr. Ellsworth stated he personally supports the sale and consumption of cannabis and sees no reason to ban it, but a safe delivery process must be developed along with quality control of the product noting this should be regulated the same as a retail store. He stated his concern about the speed of the process and lack of legislative involvement. Mr. Fahey reiterated his agreement with the comments

made by Mr. Ellsworth and stated the Town should be able to control whether this is allowed at the local level. He further explained his opposition to this potential licensing.

Selectman Foresto moved that the Board vote to support and authorize Selectman Foresto to co-sign the letter to the Cannabis Control Commission from the School Committee regarding home delivery of marijuana as presented. Selectman White seconded. No Discussion. It was so called by roll call vote; Crowley - aye; Foresto - aye; Trindade - aye; White - aye. VOTE: 4-0-0.

At 9:15 AM, Selectman Foresto moved to adjourn. Selectman White seconded. It was so called by roll call vote: Crowley - aye; Foresto - aye; Trindade - aye; White - aye. VOTE: 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted, Liz Langley Executive Assistant Town Manager's Office