Minutes of the Wilton Special Town Meeting October 1, 2024

Members Present: Keith Swett, David Leavitt, Phil Hilton, Tiffany Maiuri (Chair), Maria Greeley (Town Manager)

Article #1: To choose a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting. Moderator: Tom Skolfield

Article #2: Shall an ordinance entitled **"2024 Amendments to the Cannabis** Ordinance of the Town of Wilton" be enacted?

Motion by David Leavitt Second by Mike Wells

Open for Discussion:

Nancy Merrow: Understands there are 5 Retail Cannabis Stores in Wilton.

Mike Wells asks for Clarification.

Gary confirms we had 5, and now there are only 4 as one revoked their license. He named the 4 Retail Stores:

Honeycomb, Earthkeeper, Cannatopia, Marijuanaville.

Question by Nancy Merrow

- 1. Is the Town allowed one more if approved? Confirmed that this is correct.
- 2. Has concerns of Cannabis stores opening Downtown, is this allowed? There are no accommodations for Cannabis/Marijuana Facilities such as retail store or cultivation downtown. The Municipality regulates by land use.

David Alano: Explains he is a small business owner that approves of the ordinance in support of small businesses and farmers to make a living.

Keith Amato: Explains that putting the ordinance in place is also part of supporting small businesses.

Question by Frank Bereni: What are the regulations for testing by the State for Retail Stores?

Mike Wells: Testing facilities are permitted and we do not limit those. They are defined with many categories that the State of Maine Office of Cannabis Policy (OCP) will permit.

Mike also elaborates on a previous question about home growers. The plan is not to limit home growers, but to limit those that didn't have permits. The OCP drafted a good Statute and Policy that now allows the towns to regulate those facilities and determine if a facility is illegitimate. Our Code Enforcement Officer can now determine and report those that need to be reported to the Office of Cannabis Policy (OCP). Any home-based operating business including registered caregivers must have a home occupation permit.

A resident asks about limits to the number of stores and facilities?

Mike answers: By State Law the town cannot limit the number of caregivers. We can only limit the number of Retail Stores which is a limit of 5.

Question is asked, is there a way to lower the number of Retail Stores allowed? No, the number can only be raised on the current ordinance written. The only way to change it would be to redraft the warrant and vote at another Special Town Meeting or Annual Town Meeting.

Vote Passed

Motion by David/Second by Mike-Move to Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM