

SEPTEMBER 25, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING – RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA	
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Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council was held on Tuesday, September 25, 2018 in the Borough Hall and was called to order by Mayor O'Brien at 7:02 pm followed by a salute to the flag.

Notice of the meeting had been satisfied in accordance with Open Public Meetings Act Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 by advertising in the Home News Tribune, notifying the Sentinel Publishing Co. and the Star Ledger, posting on the bulletin board and filing with the Municipal Clerk.

Roll Call: Councilpersons Buchanan, Grillo, Lembo.

Absent: Councilpersons Kilpatrick, Melendez & Novak.

Others Present: Mayor O'Brien, Municipal Clerk Theresa A. Farbaniec, and Borough Attorney Michael DuPont, Daniel E. Frankel, Business Admin.

Mayor O'Brien announced that this is a special meeting to hear primarily from the residents of Sayreville on if they are in favor or not of retail sales of recreational marijuana. He said that this meeting is not about medicinal marijuana. Mayor went on to say there would be no dialog between the Council and speakers. The Council is interested on what the people have to say and that there is a five minute limit.

There were no Sayreville residents in attendance at this time.

Mayor then called from the Non-resident list.

Those appearing were:

- Ed Grimes, Old Bridge, NJ

He said that he took issue with what the Police Chief had to say at the last meeting and that he did not agree with the many things he had to say. He said that the Chief cannot be objective. He spoke in favor of adult recreational marijuana and its use and about medical marijuana and home growing.

- Jeff Oakes, 60 Pemberton Ave., Oceanport, NJ

Lobbying for adult use of recreational marijuana. Does not agree with statements that the Police Chief made at the last meeting. Commended the Council for holding this meeting tonight to hear what people have to say. Requested the committee do their due diligence with regards to health concerns and the use of marijuana.

- Jeff King, 24 Elizabeth Parkway, Eatontown, NJ

Spoke in favor of responsible adult use marijuana, social and spiritual use of cannabis. He said that he felt that zoning for such use fits this town. He also spoke about home grow and home delivery of cannabis. Spoke about the use of alcohol in comparison to marijuana.

- Steven Reid, Mayor of Point Pleasant Beach

He said that Pt. Pleasant was the first town to say "no" to any dispensaries. He spoke about what is in the "new bill" and concerns about the medical dispensaries and how recreational can come in through these dispensaries. He asked the council to think about – how recreational marijuana would not be good for the community. He said that he is the Executive Director of NJ Responsible Approaches of Marijuana Policy (RAMP). He said that his group is fighting against recreational use marijuana. He spoke about the strengths of the THC, and the edibles. He spoke about Colorado. And about jobs testing when using recreational marijuana.

- Aubrey Conway, Sayreville, NJ

She said that her priority was strictly medical marijuana.

Said that there was misinformation. She said that the health benefits do not come with the card and she said that people are already using recreational marijuana in

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Sayreville and everywhere. She said that these dispensaries are not targeting children, that edibles are another way to consume cannabis. She said that she would just like to see this council be provided with facts and not fearmongering when making a decision. She spoke about the opioid and alcohol crisis.

- Mike Vintzileos, Brick, NJ

Spoke in favor of medical and recreational marijuana. He said that he associates cannabis with both medical and recreational. He said that there are a lot of people that cannot afford the medical program. He said that having access to recreation marijuana available to all people would be the best way to provide medicine for all people.

- Angela Colandrea, 15 Ridge Avenue

Spoke in favor of medical and recreational marijuana. She said that she is a patient and that there is a certain list to qualify you for use of medical marijuana. She said that if your condition is not on the list you are forced to purchase through the black market. She said that it is important to remember that medical and recreational marijuana are both for medicinal use as they both have medicinal properties.

There were no further comments.

Mayor thanked everyone for coming out and giving their testimony. He said that there was a conflict tonight with the Board of Education – Back to School program. So we will be conducting additional meetings on this topic. Date has not yet been scheduled.

There was no other business.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor called for a motion to adjourn. So moved by Councilman Lembo.
Seconded by Councilman Buchanan.

Roll Call: Councilpersons Buchanan, Grillo, Lembo, all Ayes.

Time: 7:43 PM.

Theresa A. Farbaniec, RMC

Date Approved