

Special Meeting of the Crystal Lake Township Board

Meeting held at 1651 Frankfort Highway, Frankfort MI 49635
April 24, 2019

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Amy Ferris at 12:30 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Ferris, May (arrived a few minutes late), Nielsen, Popp and Sullivan were present, constituting a quorum.

Purpose: Ferris stated that the purpose of the meeting was to determine the Board's response to a possible Citizen's Initiative Petition to put the question of prohibiting marijuana establishments within Crystal Lake Township on the ballot for a [possible] election on August 6, 2019.

Conflicts of Interest: There were no conflicts of interest.

Public Comment:

- Clara Heniser stated that she support the right of marijuana establishments to operate with Crystal Lake Township (CLT);
- Dennis Heniser stated he also supported the right of marijuana establishments to operate within CLT;
- Paul May stated that he preferred to have the issue discussed at a regular Board meeting with more opportunity for public involvement

Discussion:

After providing some background about the legalities involved in the petition process, Sullivan moved that the Board adopt the attached Ordinance to prohibit marihuana establishments within the boundaries of Crystal Lake Township and to provide penalties for violations thereof; Ferris seconded; members discussed CLT voters' support of marijuana use in the November 2018 election; the lack of public input at this point to guide the Board regarding allowing or not allowing marijuana establishments in the Township; the difficulties facing such potential establishments getting authorization, given our current zoning restrictions; the lack of licensing guidelines from the State; and the fact that not enough was known about the final form the petition would take; roll was called; Ferris and Sullivan voted yes; May, Nielsen and Popp voted no. Motion failed.

Public Comment: P. May stated that the Board should limit inappropriate Public Comment and needed to make clear to the public the legal distinctions between allowing marijuana use and allowing or not allowing marijuana establishments to operate in the Township.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Sue Sullivan, Clerk, reporting.