

## VILLAGE HALL OF HARRISTOWN

September 13, 2021

The Village of Harristown Board of Trustees held a special meeting on September 13, 2021 at 185 N. Kembark St, Harristown, IL. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss personnel and cannabis dispensary. Trustees Teresa Acree, Kourt Mooney, Jay Trusner (via remote), Larry Ditty, Kevin Vessels, Les Jenkins, Treasurer Julie Rose, Attorney Andrew Weatherford, Clerk Penny Allen and Mayor Evelyn Deverell were present. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### *Visitors*

No visitors present

The only items that can be discussed at this meeting are the items that was stated when the meeting notice was published; personnel and cannabis dispensary.

Mayor Deverell wanted to thank Trustees Larry Ditty and Kevin Vessels for their help at the Sept 4 celebration

### *Personnel*

*Employees Probation period*-Jeremy Embry and Jonathon Closs were hired on June 1, 2021. Their 90 day probation period is over. Jeremy will want insurance, Jonathon will not. Motion by Trustee Vessel to table and go into closed session to discuss. Trustee Jenkins 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 6-0.

### *Cannabis License*

A piece of property was purchased by a company-across from the water tower for a dispensary. He requested that his business would be the only one in Harristown. Attorney Weatherford suggested telling him we won't look for another business but can't be inclusive. Trustee Teresa Acree stated she went to one in Springfield and it was very clean and organized. She does believe traffic would pick up. Trustee Kourt Mooney, said due to where this will be located, he is in favor. He is concerned about the cost for law enforcement but the pros outweigh the cons. Trustee Larry Ditty agreed there would be an increase in traffic but we will have business income. Mayor Deverell said these facilities are very regulated. They pay \$60,000 for a license so more than likely they will follow by the established rules. Trustee Jay Trusner stated he does not have an issue with a dispensary but concerned about the cliental. Another cost will be occurred by getting police coverage. Trustee Acree said the facility has to furnish their own security. All of the Board members are in agreement with a dispensary at this location.

### *Cannabis lounge*

This same company would like to have a lounge at this location where people can consume the cannabis on site. They currently have one in Sesser, Illinois. Mayor Deverell has a copy of their ordinance. Attorney Weatherford said this would be treated like a liquor license; must have a dispensary or tobacco shop in addition to the lounge. Trustee Jenkins said it would be like a bar/tavern. They have to have insurance just like a bar. Attorney Weatherford said Sessers' license comes up every 6 months; the fee is \$2500. Any fines would come to the village. Trustee Mooney said some penalties are civil and not criminal and Attorney confirmed that is true. Trustee Ditty agrees with the other board members. Trustee Acree has no issue with it. She asked if a fence would be installed around the establishment? Attorney stated he does not recall seeing anything saying a fence is a requirement. The village could

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definitely ask them to do it. Trustee Acree said they take a picture of you before you go in. Trustee Vessels said it is a nice location for people to go. Trustee Trusner is unsure. Clerk Allen questioned how is the village going to make money from a lounge? The current facility they have, they charge \$10 cash cover charge. Mayor Deverell will tell this company the Board is willing to talk to them about this.

They asked about if they can have a grower facility there too? It is legal to have both on same property. They wanted to know also if there is an additional liquor and gaming license available. This would make 5 in the village. The gaming and liquor cannot be at the dispensary or lounge; would have to be a separate facility. Mayor Deverell said we need businesses in Harristown. Water and sewer will have to be run to this property. She also thinks they will come and ask for TIF. They need to come to us and tell us what their plans are; need a preliminary plan. Once confirmed, the dispensary has to be up and running in 180 days. Motion by Trustee Acree to enter closed session to discuss personnel. Trustee Vessels 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 6-0.


Entered closed session at 6:56 pm

Back to regular session at 7:06 pm

Motion by Trustee Mooney to take Jonathon Closs off probation, provision he gets one of the licenses with year, and keep Jeremy Embry on probation until further discussion. Trustee Jenkins 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 6-0.

Motion by Trustee Acree to adjourn. Trustee Ditty 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm

  
Penny J. Allen

Clerk