

Results of the Special Town Meeting 2018-November-29

Present: Selectboard: Chair David DiNicola, Judith Hoag and Albert Sirard

Moderator: Joseph Kearns Town Clerk: Suzanne C. Lemieux

Planning Board: Dale Hoag, Kimberly Jaszlics Savery and Sharon Holt

Joseph Kearns opened the meeting at 7:04 pm with a quorum of 12 present. Actual count of 32 .

Special Town Meeting Warrant was issued by the Selectboard, duly signed and posted by the Constable

Each article requires a majority 2/3rd vote.

Article 1. Local Option Adult Use Marijuana Excise Tax. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to accept M.G.L. c. 64N Section 3, to impose an excise on the retail sale of adult use marijuana at a rate of 3%. After Residents and Board Members discussed issues including economic progress, the sufficiency of the Town's Agricultural bylaw and other concerns, a voice vote was taken. The results were too close to call. A standing self-counting vote was taken. 23 were in favor. 12 were against. Motion failed.

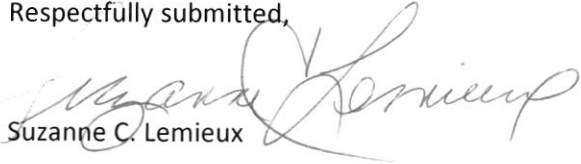
Article 2. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to amend its Regular By-Laws adopting a new Chapter IV Article V, "Adult Use Marijuana" Section 1 as follows: Limitation on the Number of Adult Use Retail Marijuana Establishments. The number of adult use marijuana retail establishments permitted to be located within the Town of Middlefield shall not exceed two. After issues including caps, control and property concerns were discussed a voice vote was taken. It was stated that it was very clear that a 2/3rd majority was not reached. No rebuttal was heard. Motion failed.

Article 3. A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to amend its Regular By-Laws adopting a new Chapter IV, Article V, and Section 2 as follows: Prohibition on Public Consumption of Marijuana or Tetrahydrocannabinol. See Adult Use Marijuana bylaws. Some discussions included the current prohibition law in effect on the state level and recognizing the distinctions of the use of medical and recreational marijuana. All in favor of Article 3 signify by saying AYE. Opposed NAY. Motion failed on the voice vote, did not get 2/3rd.

Article 4: A motion was made and seconded to see if the Town will vote to amend its Zoning By-Laws Section IV: Special Land Use Regulations by inserting a new Section 4.9 "Marijuana Establishments" as follows: Definitions for Adult Use Marijuana: See Definitions. After discussion of sample bylaws and differences between the state and local bylaws, a voice count was taken. All in favor of Article 4 signify by saying AYE. Opposed NAY. Motion failed.

Motion to dissolve was made at 8:13.

Respectfully submitted,


Suzanne C. Lemieux

Town Clerk