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Public participation: (estimate of attendance excluding staff and elected officials)

32

Public Participation Remarks:

1. A DG resident commented that he is experiencing a continued problem with landscaping company leaving clippings in public areas.

Presentations and discussion by elected officials, staff and/or administrators:

Village Manager Dave Fieldman said this is a discussion of recreational marijuana regulations, including State law and how that affects municipal authority and decision-making capabilities. The discussion will then move onto the options to the Village Council's direction.

Mr. Fieldman said that the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act legalizes the possession and use of cannabis in the State effective January 1, 2020 for persons 21 years of age or older, and limiting the amount of cannabis. He said that the State licenses cannabis related businesses. They anticipate 500 licenses being made available by 2022 with 47 licenses available for the Chicago-Naperville-Elgin region, including Downers Grove. He reiterated that it is the State that licenses these businesses. Zoning regulations need to be evaluated. The Village can create its own zoning regulations as they generally do with other businesses.

Options include:

- A. Prohibit cannabis businesses
- B. Consider establishing zoning regulations & tax rates

If the Option A is accepted, Village staff would work on preparing the ordinance that would go through normal zoning processes & present it for approval in November or December 2019.

Option B is an extended process, requiring multiple meetings & discussions. Zoning regulations could take place in September followed by public hearing considerations & amendments in October with Council considerations in November/December. It would not preclude the Village Council from prohibiting cannabis-based businesses at the end of the discussion.

There were three DG residents who spoke opposing cannabis businesses in DG.

Informational Items presented by elected officials, staff and/or administrators:

Mr. Fieldman provided the Manager's Report on the Long Range Plan for DG. Please see recorded minutes on the Village website for the specifics.



**Were any issues on the agenda relevant to any LWV state or local positions or programs?**

**Yes.**

**Consideration of regulation and taxes on Recreational Cannabis Businesses**

**Long Range Business Plan for Downers Grove**

**Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues? If "yes" what action do you recommend?**

**No**

**Additional Comments/Concerns –**

Observation Report filed by \_\_\_\_\_ Lisa Reed \_\_\_\_\_ Date 9/16/19 \_\_\_\_\_

Observation Report Reviewed by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Observation Report posted by \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_