

**Town of Plymouth**  
**80 Main Street**  
**Terryville, CT 06786**  
**www.plymouthct.us**

**Plymouth Town Council**  
**Tel: (860) 585-4001**  
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Minutes

April 28, 2022

**Call to Order:** Mayor Joe Kilduff called the scheduled April 28, 2022, Town of Plymouth Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m., in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall.

**Roll Call:** Present for the meeting were Town Councilman Nate Brown, Town Councilman Dan Gentile, Town Councilman Joe Green, Mayor Joe Kilduff, Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann and Town Councilman Ron Tiscia. Also in attendance was Town Attorney William Hamzy.

#### **Fire Exit Notification**

Mayor Joe Kilduff noted the Fire Exits for the record.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

American Legion Post 20 Commander Keith Golnik led the Town Council Members and the Public audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Reading of Legal Notice: LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING, Notice is hereby given to the legal voters and qualified taxpayers of the Town of Plymouth pursuant to CGS sec. 7-163e that the Plymouth Town Council will hold a Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. on April 28, 2022, in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall, 80 Main Street, Terryville, CT, to give citizens an opportunity to hear and or/make oral or written recommendations concerning A PROPOSED ORDINANCE ENTITLED “Chapter 9, Article VII, Sec. 9-90 PROHIBITION OF RETAIL SALE OF CANNABIS” Joseph T. Kilduff, Mayor, dated this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 2022, Plymouth, CT**

Town Councilwoman Roxanne McCann read the Legal Notice into the record as follows: Notice is hereby given to the legal voters and qualified taxpayers of the Town of Plymouth pursuant to CGS sec. 7-163e that the Plymouth Town Council will hold a Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. on April 28, 2022, in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall, 80 Main Street, Terryville, CT, to give citizens an opportunity to hear and or/make oral or written recommendations concerning A PROPOSED ORDINANCE ENTITLED “Chapter 9, Article VII, Sec. 9-90 PROHIBITION OF RETAIL SALE OF CANNABIS” Joseph T. Kilduff, Mayor, dated this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 2022, Plymouth, CT

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**To consider and take Public Comment regarding A PROPOSED ORDINANCE ENTITLED  
“Chapter 9, Article VII, Sec. 9-90 PROHIBITION OF RETAIL SALE OF CANNABIS”**

Town Attorney Bill Hamzy gave a brief overview of the proposed Ordinance, noting the Ordinance was drafted as simply as possible. He further stated that recognizing the Public Act enacted last year allows basically everything; retail sale, allows people to grow, allows micro-cultivators, allows wholesale sellers, decriminalizes possession, and this is where we start from. Town Attorney Bill Hamzy stated the Public Act gave towns the authority to prohibit retail sales and also regulate if retail sales or other activities were being conducted through Planning and Zoning regulations. He further stated the Ordinance simply bans the retail sale of cannabis or hemp to the general public. Town Attorney Bill Hamzy stated if someone wanted to open a store front on Route 6 to sell cannabis type substances it would not be allowed; all other activities that the State law permits would still be permitted. He further stated this is a brief description of the purpose and the theory and the rationale behind the proposed Ordinance subject to this Public Hearing.

Martin Sandshaw, 7 Richmond Drive, Plymouth, stated he started as 70% in favor and 30% against this issue, noting he was concerned about the effects on children, and questioned if the Town can afford the resources that would be involved supporting this endeavor, i.e., police activity, traffic control, etc., and briefly elaborated. He further stated after his research he is opposed to the retail sale of cannabis and would support the proposed Ordinance as written.

Bill Ogonowski, 160 Main Street, Terryville, stated he was against the proposed Ordinance and in favor of a retail outlet for cannabis, noting the Town needs all the legitimate business it can get. He further stated a retail outlet would provide a safe supply of cannabis not tainted with fentanyl and other drugs and would be closed to anyone under the age of 21. He further stated the outlets that he has seen resemble a doctor's office or a bank lobby, noting this would be good for the Town and for personal freedom.

Vinnie Klimas, 5 Coral Drive, Terryville, stated he was in favor of using cannabis for medical purposes under the management of a physician, but he's opposed to any recreational use without having concrete tests to evaluate how much of the drug is in the person and how much has it altered their thinking. He further stated he would be just as opposed to someone drinking and driving without concrete sobriety tests.

James Coscina, 15 Container Drive, Terryville, stated his company currently has tinctures and rubs with CBD product at the local Beacon Pharmacy and questioned if that was an issue.

Town Attorney Bill Hamzy stated it was not an issue.

James Coscina stated this Council is smart in the sense that they know a lot of things will be issues and will need ironing out, specifically in the retail space, and briefly elaborated.

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**To consider and take Public Comment regarding A PROPOSED ORDINANCE ENTITLED  
“Chapter 9, Article VII, Sec. 9-90 PROHIBITION OF RETAIL SALE OF CANNABIS” Cont’d.**

Curtis Wilbanks, 7 Woodland Road, Terryville, stated CBD marijuana and THC are most troubling to him and that recreational cannabis is not in the best interest of the citizens of Plymouth. He further stated the decision should not be about money and briefly elaborated.

Dan Bukowski, 35 Eagle Street, Terryville, CT, stated he was 100% in favor of retail cannabis sales, both medical and recreational. He further stated he has visited a variety of dispensaries within the state, and noted all medical dispensaries require a valid ID and/or a State issued cannabis medical card in order to enter the retail space and briefly elaborated. Dan Bukowski stated revenues from the sale of cannabis would be great for the Town and would help downstream to current businesses, as well.

In Board of Education Chairman Walter Seaman’s absence, Mayor Joe Kilduff read Walter Seaman’s written comments concerning the agenda item for the Plymouth Town Council and the Public Audience. Walter Seaman stated we need to limit the availability of these products by not allowing retail storefront access of marijuana to students and children in our community. He further stated he believes in a competent adult’s right to choose, and he also agrees to the medical benefit of marijuana products however, a retail operation will provide the opportunity for these products to end up with our students and children, noting items such as gummies are targeted and marketed to underaged consumers. Walter Seaman stated he is in full support of the Ordinance preventing a retail operation of marijuana in our Town and hopes the Council agrees.

Martin Sandshaw, 7 Richmond Drive, Plymouth, stated the National Sheriffs Association, the National District Attorneys Association, the National Narcotics Officers Association, all feel that States that legalize marijuana are unable to control the black market for the drug and briefly elaborated. Martin Sandshaw stated he is in full support of the ordinance as written.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Town Councilman Nate Brown made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to adjourn the Town of Plymouth Public Hearing at 6:20 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Hale  
Recording Secretary