

**TOWN OF WEBSTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
DEBORAH KEEFE, CHAIRMAN
ROBERT MILLER, VICE CHAIRMAN
WILLIAM STARZEC
JEFFREY DUGGAN
MARK DOWGIEWICZ**

A Board of Selectmen's Meeting was held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Town Hall on Wednesday, November 20, 2013. Chairman Keefe called the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m.

Attendance: Mark Dowgiewicz, William Starzec, Robert Miller, Deborah Keefe

Absent: Jeffrey Duggan

Pledge of Allegiance: Selectman Keefe led the Selectmen in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MMTC Boston – Medical Marijuana Cultivating Site

Paul O'Shea, William Kokocinski, and Marty Joyce came forward. Mr. Kokocinski thanked the Board for attending the meeting. He stated he will gladly answer any security questions that the Board has but does not want everything out to the public. Selectman Dowgiewicz asked for their background. Mr. O'Shea stated he has over 30 years of experience in running and growing non-profit businesses in the health care industry. Mr. Joyce stated he has worked on Wall Street and he will be the General Manager. Mr. Kokocinski stated he supervised a 9 officer narcotic unit with the Massachusetts State Police. He stated he managed complex narcotics investigations including money laundering and drug trafficking. Selectman Miller asked why on page 12 of their packet they handed out did it mention a dispensary. He stated it is also mentioned on Page 15 paragraph 5 that they will have interaction with patients. Mr. Joyce stated they will not be dispensing out of this location. He stated the packets handed out were a generic that they had used at their dispensary locations. He stated they cannot dispense out of a cultivation facility. He stated it was just worded wrong. He stated MMTC Boston does not have any intention to dispense in Webster. Chairman Keefe asked what prevents MMTC Boston from dispensing in Webster. Mr. O'Shea stated they would have to come back before the Board of Selectmen for approval. Chairman Keefe asked if they had a plan or contract. Mr. Joyce stated they do not have a plan or contract in place. He stated they will be signing a five year lease. Chairman Keefe stated without a plan or contract then it would be impossible for the MMTC Boston to say what they can give back to the Town. Mr. O'Shea stated he does not know what they costs would be. Selectman Dowgiewicz asked if they will guarantee that the profit would come back to the Town. Mr. O'Shea stated they can't guarantee the money. He stated there will probably no funds allocated out the first couple of years until they are established. Chairman Keefe asked if each of the Executive Management Team members had contracts. Mr. O'Shea stated they do not have contract yet. Chairman Keefe asked if they would be taking bonuses. Mr. O'Shea stated that would be discussed during his contract negotiations. Chairman Keefe asked what would happen if the Board did not vote to authorize a letter of non-opposition or of support. Mr. Joyce stated the application process would end. They would not be able to advance to the next phase. Mr. McAuliffe asked how long MMTC Boston has been a corporation. He stated it looked like they pulled together very smart people very fast. Mr. Joyce stated they have over 115 years of experience. He stated they formally became a corporation around six month ago. Mr. McAuliffe stated that this feels very rushed. Mr. O'Shea stated they are looking into hiring seventy five (75) people in the future. He stated they currently have fourteen (14) employees. Chairman Keefe asked if the State will be regulating the funds. Mr. O'Shea stated the Board would regulate the funds. Chairman Keefe asked if they knew six (6) months ago that they would need to find a cultivation site why did they wait five days before the application is due to approach the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Joyce stated they had a relationship between KLT and were looking for a location. He stated he believes this would be great asset to the Town. Selectman Starzec asked if there would be any odors or harmful impact to the atmosphere. Mr. Joyce stated the cultivation center will be a contained atmosphere (a pod) and would have to be vacuum sealed. He stated there will not be any odor. He stated they will be growing seeds from Riverrock. Nancie Zecco came forward. She stated she was very impressed by Mr. O'Shea. She stated she has been trying to do something with substance abuse for this Town. She stated the funds would be very beneficial. James Bazinet came forward. He stated he has concerns with the traffic at that intersection. He stated there are many accident on that road. Mr. Kokocinski stated there will be only one vehicle pick-up during the week and would most likely not affect the traffic in that area. Lori Boise came forward. She asked if workers will have the proper background checks. Mr. O'Shea stated they will be conducting fingerprints, FBI checks and CORI checks on all their applicants. Chairman Keefe asked where MMTC Boston home office will be located. Mr. Joyce

stated the main office will be located in Natick. David Walker came forward. He stated his wife had oral cancer and she suffered greatly. He stated she was constantly in pain. He stated no medication worked. He stated this would help people that are suffering. He stated he would have done anything to help his wife not feel the pain anymore. He stated there shouldn't be any concerns with the stigma of medical marijuana if it helps people. Mr. Miller stated he has firsthand knowledge of people that are suffering. Chairman Keefe stated she is still concerned with the bylaw that is currently in place. She suggested maybe a Special Town Meeting revoking the medical marijuana moratorium. Mr. O'Shea stated there is no time for a Special Town Meeting. He stated they need an answer tomorrow.

Motion: made by Selectman Dowgiewicz, seconded by Selectman Miller to approve a letter of non-opposition for MMCT Boston for the proposed marijuana cultivation center located at 30 Worcester Road.

Vote: Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Starzec - yes, Mr. Miller – yes, Chairman Keefe – no.

Adjournment

Motion: made by Selectman Miller, seconded by Selectman Starzec to adjourn the regular session meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Vote: Mr. Dowgiewicz – yes, Mr. Starzec - yes, Mr. Miller – yes, Chairman Keefe – yes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Courtney Friedland