

**TOWN OF WEBSTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
DONALD BOURQUE, CHAIRMAN
MARK DOWGIEWICZ, VICE CHAIRMAN
ANDREW JOLDA
WILLIAM STARZEC
RANDALL BECKER**

A Board of Selectmen's Meeting was held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Town Hall on Monday, August 24, 2015. Chairman Bourque called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Randall Becker, William Starzec, Andrew Jolda, Mark Dowgiewicz, Don Bourque

Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Bourque led the Selectmen in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adjournment

Chairman Bourque adjourned the meeting to Executive Session at 6:01 P.M. in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21a, Item 4, to discuss the deployment of or strategy regarding security personnel or devices.

Motion: made by Selectman Starzec, seconded by Selectman Dowgiewicz to go into Executive Session and to come back into open session.

Selectman Becker - yes, Selectman Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz - yes and Chairman Bourque – yes.

Selectman Becker left at 6:47 p.m. during Executive Session.

Regular Session reconvened at 6:49 p.m.

Debilitating Medical Condition Treatment Center - Brian Lees - Cultivation Proposal

Chairman Bourque stated the Board of Selectmen approved two previous letters of non-opposition. He stated the Board did not require a host agreement in order to approve those letters. Brian Lees stated DMCTC wants to be good neighbors and will work with the Town to come to an agreement. He stated he will ask Amesbury for a copy of their host agreement. He stated he is unclear of the timing at which a company and a Town would sign a host agreement because it is unchartered territory. Chairman Bourque stated DMCTC will have to renew their license every year. He asked if the Board had to vote each year to renew their support or non-opposition. Mr. Lees stated the renewal is with the State and did not require a letter from the Town for support or non-opposition. He stated he will follow all State guidelines. Chairman Bourque asked if the Board voted to issue a letter of non-opposition could the Board have a say later on in the process. Mr. Lees stated he doesn't see a problem occurring down the line. Selectman Starzec stated the concept of medical marijuana feels like a theory at this point in the process. He stated he wanted to make sure the Town was receiving the financial benefits for having this in Town. He stated he was told that the Town might see an upwards of six figure getting invested in to the Town. Mr. Lees stated profits do not have to be donated to charities, it can be reinvested back into the company to create growth. He stated DMCTC is willing to have an open discussion about a host agreement with the Board. He stated they have no idea what their profits and expenses will be until they have everything up and running. He stated they intend to hire local people. He stated the building owner will pay taxes. Selectman Starzec stated with all the changes on the State level regarding the application process he would like the Board to contact Kopelman & Paige to get information regarding the laws and regulations. He stated he would also like to see a copy of Amesbury's host agreement. Ray Mullins asked if the local Board of Health would be involved. Mr. Lees stated the facility would be inspected by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. He said they will be classified as manufacturing medicine. He stated this will not be locally regulated. Earl Garbor stated he would like to see a host agreement and would suggest they have a sliding scale based of profits. Mr. Lees stated they are open to discussions. Ms. Regis stated she would like to contact Town Counsel and see if they have a template for a host agreement. She stated she would also like to see if they have an industry standard for the amount of money Towns have agreed to in host agreements. She stated the Town needs to know what it wants in a host agreement. Chairman Bourque stated the Board needed additional time to get the information from Town Counsel. He stated the Board will meet again on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss this issue again.

Adjournment

Motion: made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Dowgiewicz to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Vote: **Selectman Starzec - yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.**

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney M. Friedland
Executive Secretary