

Village of Beecher
625 Dixie Highway
PO Box 1154
Beecher, Illinois 60401
Phone: 708-946-2261
Fax: 708-946-3764
www.villageofbeecher.org



President
Greg Szymanski
Clerk
Janett Conner
Administrator
Robert O. Barber

Trustees
Scott Wehling
Jonathon Kypuros
Marcy Meyer
Frank Basile
Stacy Mazurek
Todd Kraus

**MEETING OF THE BEECHER PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
(THE PZC)**

**Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
Washington Township Center
30200 Town Center Road
Beecher, Illinois**

***** PLEASE NOTE THE LOCATION AND THE DATE
OF THE MEETING !!!! *****

I. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

II. ROLL CALL

III. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 17, 2019 MEETING.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING: CONSIDER AN AMENDMENT TO BEECHER ZONING ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO THE SALE, DISTRIBUTION, TRANSPORTATION AND CULTIVATION OF RECREATIONAL CANNABIS. A motion is needed to open and close the public hearing. The Village Board has referred the issue of recreational cannabis to the PZC to come up with the proper way to zone and regulate such establishments if one is proposed for Beecher. Municipalities have been given until January 1, 2020 to either prohibit, regulate or ignore the sale of cannabis. To ignore the issue means the community is unregulated pertaining to sales. The Village CANNOT prohibit the possession or use of cannabis; this is a right granted under state law. Medical cannabis facilities are also permitted by state law without local control. The only regulation we can enforce is the recreational sale of the product; similar to liquor laws.

Enclosed is a draft zoning ordinance amendment first drafted by the Illinois Municipal League and then tweaked by the Village Attorney to fit our current ordinance. We treat these types of uses as special uses, similar to a beer garden where the Village can place additional stipulations on the permit to fit the needs of the specific site. The Village Attorney also plans to attend the public hearing to answer any legal questions that may arise from the public.

If we decide to permit recreational sale, staff suggests ***we prohibit the consumption of cannabis on premise.*** This will prevent the creation of "cannabis cafe's" similar to a tavern. There is currently a provision in the proposed ordinance to allow this, but this may be something we want to discourage. Please refer to Section 12.11(12)(e)(5) on page 5. ***Staff recommends that on site consumption be prohibited.***

The hearing will begin with Pete Iouse making a presentation and explaining the maps showing the buffer zones. Then the public can ask questions and make comments. A motion is then

needed to close the public hearing.

V. CONSIDER A MOTION OF RECOMMENDATION TO THE VILLAGE BOARD ON AN AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO RECREATIONAL CANNABIS. Following the hearing the PZC should craft a recommendation to the Village Board. If the sale of rec cannabis is going to be recommended as a special use, ***staff recommends that the consumption of recreational cannabis be prohibited in any dispensing facility or public space.*** This will require amendment to Section 12.11(12)(e)(5) on page 5.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. ADJOURNMENT - NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR
THURSDAY, JANUARY 23RD, 2020 AT THE BEECHER VILLAGE HALL