

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP OF THE CITY OF REDMOND WAS HELD MAY 16, 2023, IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Clifford Evelyn – Ed Fitch – John Nielsen – Kathryn Osborne – Shannon Wedding – Cat Zwicker

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Keith Witcosky – City Attorney Keith Leitz – Police Captain Aaron Wells – Interim Public Works Director Jon Skidmore – City Recorder Kelly Morse – Deputy City Manager John Roberts – IT Network Technician Tyler Roppe – Deputy City Manager/Chief Financial Officer Jason Neff – Accounting Manager James Wood – Communications Director Heather Cassaro – City Engineer Jessica MacClanahan

MEDIA PRESENT: None

Mayor Fitch called the workshop to order at 6:00 pm.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Marijuana Dispensary Worksession and Public Comment

A panel consisting of Deschutes County District Attorney Steve Gunnels, Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission's (OLCC) Deschutes County Regional Office Manager Lori Sharp, OLCC Marijuana Inspector Larry Brown, Deschutes County Community Justice Director Deevy Holcomb, Bend Police Chief Mike Krantz, and City of Bend Chief Financial Officer Sharon Wojda provided the Council with information on the effects marijuana and dispensaries have had on their respective fields since its legalization in Oregon. The panel addressed questions from the Council regarding selling to minors, regulations and citations, licensing, comparison in the number of Minor in Possession charges seen in Bend and Redmond, calls for service comparisons for liquor stores and dispensaries, and financial impact.

After a short break, Mayor Fitch reconvened the meeting at 7:15 pm and opened the floor for public comment.

Redmond residents Jay Patrick, Judy Dow, Tony Oliver, Bill Stacy, Elaine Watkinson, Mike Kinsey, Ben Wolfe, Eric Lea, Kevan Pratt, Brian Burns, and Redmond School District Board Chair Michael Summers expressed opposition for marijuana dispensaries.

Redmond resident Trevor Johnson, and dispensary owners Ivan Grerer, Hunter Neubauer, and Kevin Hogan expressed support for marijuana dispensaries.

Mayor Fitch stated the Council has a great deal of information to consider and will not take any action tonight. Further information and letters are included in the meeting packet. The Council will take everything into consideration and address the matter at a future Council meeting with notice well in advance.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Prepared by ABC Transcription Services
Reviewed by Kelly Morse, City Recorder

APPROVED by the City Council and SIGNED by the Mayor this 8th day of August 2023.

/s/ Ed Fitch
Ed Fitch, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Kelly Morse
Kelly Morse, City Recorder