

SPECIAL MEETING of the Ordinance Subcommittee of the Town Council held Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. in the American Legion Hall, 103 Harrisville Main Street, Harrisville, RI 02830.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilors Stephen N. Rawson, David Houle and Raymond J. Trinke

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

I. Minutes:

VOTED to accept the minutes of the January 3, 2023 meeting and dispense with the reading of said minutes.

Motion by Councilor Raymond J. Trinke. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Business

1. Consider and act on a recommendation from the Planning Board to amend Chapter 30 Zoning of the Burrillville Ordinances in response to the recently enacted Rhode Island Cannabis Act; or take any other action thereon.

Discussion: Col. Stephen J. Lynch, Burrillville Police Chief, expressed his concern with allowing cannabis retail establishments in certain areas. He's against allowing them across the street from the skate park on Chapel Street. James Langlois, Chair of the Redevelopment Agency, stated that the Redevelopment Agency objects to three areas within the general commercial zone on Pascoag Main Street, Hill Road and Chapel Street (across from the skate park) as noted in their letter. The letter from the Redevelopment Agency is on file with the record of this meeting.

Councilor Stephen N. Rawson said he would rather the cannabis retail establishments be eliminated from the general commercial zone altogether rather than "spot" zone.

Raymond Goff, Town Planner, agreed that this could be done. That would change cannabis retailer and hybrid cannabis retailer in Sec. 30-71 *Zoning district uses* to a "no" in the GC zone; and remove "general commercial zone" from Sec. 30-165(b)(1) in the Planning Board's recommendation.

VOTED to recommend adoption with the removal of general commercial zone from the Planning Board's recommendation.

Motion by Councilor Raymond J. Trinke. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Consider and act on recommendations from the Planning Board in response to legislation passed relative to planning, zoning and affordable housing; or take any other action thereon.

Discussion: Raymond Goff, Town Planner, stated that these are house-cleaning changes in response to new state laws.

VOTED to refer these amendments to the Town Council as recommended by the Planning Board.

Motion by Councilor David Houle. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED
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3. Consider and act on a recommendation from the Planning Board to amend Chapter 30 Zoning relative to accessory dwelling units (ADUs); or take any other action thereon.

Discussion: Raymond Goff, Town Planner, these are also in response to changes in the state law. The Planning Board paid special attention to controlling the size of accessory dwelling units.

VOTED to send to the Town Council as presented.

Motion by Councilor Raymond J. Trinique. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Consider and act on a proposal from Vicki Martin, Town Clerk, to add consent agenda to §2-26 *Conduct of town council meetings* of the Burrillville ordinances; or take any other action thereon.

Discussion: Councilor Stephen N. Rawson noted that this is a great idea that will move a Council meeting along by not being bogged down with having to read each item that doesn't require discussion. He stated that he would like to add that an item can be removed from consent agenda only by a motion and second from a Council member.

The last sentence of Sec. 2-26(6)(h) would be changed to "There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen so requests in which event a motion and second will be made and the item will then be withdrawn from the consent agenda and place in the normal sequence on the agenda."

VOTED to send to the Town Council with the amendment.

Motion by Councilor Raymond J. Trinique. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Consider and act on amending the schedule for the 2023 Ordinance Subcommittee meetings.

VOTED to change the schedule of meetings for 2023 to the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm.

Motion by Councilor Raymond J. Trinique. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Other business None

IV. Adjournment

VOTED to adjourn at 7:02 p.m.

Motion by Councilor David Houle. The motion carried unanimously.


Vicki T. Martin, Town Clerk