

Minutes
Special Meeting of the Easton Agricultural Commission
Tuesday, July 27, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Held Virtually Via Zoom Video Conference

In attendance Jean Stetz-Puchalski, Denise Hebner, Victor Alfandre
Absent: Irv Silverman, Sage Rega, Matt Oricchio, Lori Cochran Dougall
Public: Attorney Doug Lomonte for the Town of Easton; Attorney Jackie Kaufman for Hemp growing applicant Easton Grows, LLC; principals for Easton Grows LLC -- Jeff Becker, Griff Conti, and Dwight Senior

I: Call to Order – 7:05 p.m.

II: Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting – Jean Stetz-Puchalski made the motion. Victor Alfandre 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

III: Public Comment – None

IV: Facilitated review of the Hemp Farming Lease by Ag Com members, Town Attorney, and Attorney for Hemp Farming applicant Easton Grows, LLC for the purpose of referring the lease to the Board of Selectman.

1. Jean Stetz Puchalski reported working with Town attorney Doug Lomonte and Easton Grows LLC attorney Jackie Kaufman to review and include lease recommendations AG Com presented at the regular meeting of the Board of Selectman by Denise Hebner on 6/17/21. Jackie was to come to this meeting with a revised lease incorporating the changes.
2. Ag Com facilitated a formal review of the edits to the Hemp Farming Lease. Specific attention was given to ensuring edits to this final version of the lease included agreement as to the exact location of 1- acre plot, language addressing applicant compliance with state and federal laws governing the growing of the specialty crop hemp, town oversight, and a communication clause requiring all written and oral communication about the Hemp farming project be approved by the Town.

Ag Com deployed an open Q & A format inviting attorney Jackie Kaufman, attorney for applicants Easton Grows LCC, to present the final version of the Hemp Farming Proposal to the commission with Town attorney Doug Lomonte present to participate. Easton Grows Applicants Jeff Becker, Griff Conti, and Dwight Senior were present to comment and respond to questions put forth by the Commission and agreed to the edits.

Victor Alfandre moved to accept the lease with the concessions and refer the lease to the Board of selectman given that the final lease be reviewed by the Town attorney to ensure the edits discussed and agreed to have been made. Jean Stetz-Puchalski 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

V: Adjournment Jean Stetz-Puchalski moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 PM. Denise Hebner 2nd. Motion passed.

Minutes submitted by Denise C. Hebner, Recording Secretary.

Denise C Hebner