



Cannabis Control Commission

Remote and In-Person Meeting

Monday October 03, 2022, at 6 PM

- Attend online: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84364849328>
- Attend by phone: 1 646 558 8656
- Webinar ID: 843 6484 9328
- Attend in-person: Winooski City Hall ([27 West Allen Street](#))

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Regular Items

- a. Discussion/Approval: Request for local retail license – Native East LLC. d/b/a Winooski Organics
- b. Discussion/Approval: Discussion on future application review process

IV. Adjourn

Minutes

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Deputy Mayor Duncan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present:

Mayor Kristine Lott

Deputy Mayor James Duncan

Councilors: Bryn Oakleaf, Aurora Hurd, Thomas Renner

Officers Present:

Elaine Wang, City Manager; Janet Brouard, Sr Asst City Clerk; Angela Aldieri, Finance Director; Ray Coffey, Community Services Director; Jon Rauscher, Public Works Director; Eric Vorwald, Planning/Zoning Manager; Jenny Willingham, City Clerk

Others Present:

Kevin Harms, Meghan O'Rourke, Jordan Mitchell, Town Meeting TV; Michele Morris, Beth Parents, Chittenden Solid Waste District; Ted Brady, Vermont League of Cities and Towns; Jeremy Collins, Connor Daley, Rachel, Bill, Marielle M, Parker Silver. Ed Furci, Dylan Lovell, Native East LLC.

III. Regular Items

a. Discussion/Approval: Request for local retail license – Native East LLC. d/b/a/Winooski Organics

Mr. Vorwald said that the City Council established a local Cannabis Control Commission back in February of this year. The purpose is to provide local licensing for applications to operate cannabis within the City of Winooski. Tonight, is the first meeting of such commission. Mr. Vorwald stated that we received an application in September from Native East, LLC d/b/a Winooski Organics to operate a retail cannabis establishment at 165 East Allen Street. Mr. Vorwald confirmed that the property is located within the Gateway zoning district which permits retail use. We have set conditions for approval which need to be met before issuing a Certificate of Fitness. Fire Marshal Bruce Palmer has inspected the premises and is ready to issue a temporary license. Lt. Huizenga of the Winooski Police Department did a walk-through last Saturday and is satisfied with the buildings access and security measures. We have not officially received confirmation that the State will grant the license, but the applicants have expressed confidence that it will be approved. Mr. Vorwald stated that the two owners are present and invited them to introduce themselves. Ed Furci and Dylan Lovell said they bought the property a couple of years ago, made some renovations to the property and have been selling CBD and herbal products since May. They have not encountered any issues or nor heard any negative comments from the neighbors. Mayor Lott said she toured the property and was pleased to see all the safety precautions put in place. The Mayor thanked the two for coming tonight. Mr. Vorwald wanted to reiterate that there will be **no** onsite public consumption. Sales must be for private use only.

MOTION by Councilor Duncan seconded by Councilor Renner to approve the Request for local retail license - Native East, LLC d/b/a/ Winooski Organics as presented. Voted and passed 4-0.

b. Discussion/Approval: Discussion on future application review process.

Mr. Vorwald said with the newly formed Cannabis Control Commission there will be a need to have a process in place for reviewing Cannabis License Applications going forward. The primary oversight and review process is through the Vermont Cannabis Control Board; however, the City will have limited authority to regulate local cannabis operations through the powers granted by statutory zoning authority. Once a complete application is received and reviewed by the state, they will then notify the City. The City will receive the name and principals of the establishment only, location information may be privileged and not subject to public records request, thus remaining private until the license has been issued by the Vermont CCB. Mr. Vorwald said given these limitations, staff recommends that going forward, we accept and process applications, regardless of type, but only after approval from the state has been received by the City. This will ensure that all the state's requirements have been met. This will not impact applying for local land use permits necessary to make improvements to properties or confirm consistency with Zoning.

MOTION by Councilor Oakleaf seconded Councilor Renner to approve the application review process as presented. Voted and passed 4-0.

IV. Adjourn

MOTION by Councilor Duncan seconded Councilor Oakleaf to adjourn the Cannabis Control Commission meeting at 6:20 pm. Voted and passed 4-0.

ATTEST: _____
Sr Asst City Clerk