



Town of Johnstown

TOWN COUNCIL WORKSESSION COMMUNICATIONS

AGENDA DATE: November 8, 2021

SUBJECT: Home Rule Charter Amendment

ACTION PROPOSED: Work Session Discussion Only

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposed Home Rule Charter Amendment
2. Initiative Petition 2022
3. Marijuana Excise Tax Information

PRESENTED BY: Matt LeCerf, Town Manager
Avi Rocklin, Town Attorney

WORK SESSION DESCRIPTION:

Recently the Town was presented with an Initiative Petition which may appear on the ballot in April 2022 during our regularly scheduled election depending on when it is returned to the Town, whether the petitioners acquire the appropriate number of signatures and whether, if the signatures are appropriate, Town Council desires to adopt it. The initiative seeks to permit medical and retail marijuana business establishments within the Town of Johnstown and implement regulations related thereto, including, but not limited to, the creation of a licensing authority, the requirements to obtain a license and pay a license fee and guidelines regarding the location of business establishments, signage and advertising. For your information, an initiative petition is permitted to seek legislative, not administrative, action. A copy of this petition for initiative is included in with this work session and memo. This petition for initiative was presented to the Town Clerk by individuals who are not residents of the Town of Johnstown.

Based on this petition, it was requested that Staff draft a Home Rule Charter Amendment to require that the proponents of an initiative and referendum petitions be represented by three registered electors of the Town of Johnstown. Enclosed is a draft copy of an ordinance that could be presented to Town Council for consideration to facilitate including this on the ballot in April 2022.

Considering the petition initiative regarding marijuana is already being circulated and provided the appropriate signatures are received meriting placement of this question on the ballot, Town Council may want to consider asking the community to support an excise tax on the sale of marijuana in April 2022. In addition, if the petition representatives would be willing to withdraw the petition, the Town Council may

The Community That Cares

www.TownofJohnstown.com

P: 970.587.4664 | 450 S. Parish Ave, Johnstown CO | F: 970.587.0141

want to consider referring a ballot question to the voters asking whether the citizens desire to allow the sale of marijuana in the Town. In that manner, if the voters desire to permit the sale of marijuana, the Town Council could thereafter adopt an implementing ordinance. Enclosed is information and limits other communities have placed on the sale of retail/recreational marijuana.

Staff will be available to answer any questions related to this topic or gather and investigate these items more thoroughly as directed by Town Council.

Reviewed and Approved for Presentation,



Town Manager

The Community That Cares

www.TownofJohnstown.com

P: 970.587.4664 | 450 S. Parish Ave, Johnstown CO | F: 970.587.0141