

City Council Public Hearing
June 20, 2018 @ 6:45 pm
Cordova Center Community Rooms A & B
Minutes

A. Call to order

Mayor Clay Koplín called the Council public hearing to order at 7:00 pm on June 20, 2018, in the Cordova Center Community Rooms.

B. Roll call

Present for roll call were *Mayor Clay Koplín* and Council members *Jeff Guard*, *Anne Schaefer*, *David Allison* and *James Wiese*. Council members *James Burton*, *Ken Jones* and *Melina Meyer* were absent. Also present were City Manager *Alan Lanning* and City Clerk *Susan Bourgeois*.

C. Public hearing

1. Ordinance 1162 An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, repealing and reenacting Cordova Municipal Code Chapter 8.40 “marijuana regulation” removing the expired temporary prohibition against marijuana establishments within the City of Cordova, adopting regulations for such establishments, repealing and reenacting Cordova Municipal Code Chapter 18.60 “conditional use permits” to include commercial marijuana facilities as a conditional use within the city and clarifying the conditional use process applicable to such facilities

2. Ordinance 1170 An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, amending Cordova Municipal Code 5.40.010 to adopt a one-half (1/2) percent increase to the sales tax levied by the City of Cordova

Mayor Koplín opened the hearing up for public testimony on Ordinances 1162 and 1170.

Roseanne Curran of 110 Sawmill Avenue, quoted some studies and statistics on marijuana use. She was of the opinion and asked Council to increase the distance that a marijuana establishment council be from school grounds. She also opined that the taxation on marijuana should be higher.

Dean Curran of 110 Sawmill Avenue expressed concerns about commercial grow sites: wastewater, smell and air pollution. He also opined that the taxation should be like a bed tax, an additional 6%, he’d like to see alcohol and tobacco at that higher taxation rate too.

William Deaton of 524 Second Street said since he is a student, his voice was not heard in the election. He said he thinks that legalization of marijuana is justification. He encouraged Council to vote against the marijuana ordinance tonight because he said it’s the right thing to do.

Annette Deaton of 524 Second Street, as a mother and a citizen she humbly asked Council not to go ahead with the marijuana ordinance. She also asked Council not to increase the sales tax.

Mary Gonzalez of 402 Adams said that the marijuana issue could be a concern as far as its effect on business owners and safety in the workplace. She said with random testing still in place in some industries this could lead to the decreased possibilities of finding good employees. She said the ordinance is also making council the local regulatory authority, what does that mean and can that be done if it is a City Council member who has such a license.

D. Adjournment

M/Allison S/Guard to adjourn the public hearing.

Mayor Koplín adjourned the public hearing at 7:21 pm, with no objection.

Approved: August 15, 2018

Attest:


Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk

