

**Village of Cold Spring
Board of Trustees Public Hearing
July 15, 2021**

The Village of Cold Spring Board of Trustees held a Public Hearing at the Cold Spring Firehouse on Thursday July 15, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Present were Mayor Dave Merandy, Trustees Marie Early, Kathleen E. Foley, Frances Murphy and Tweeps Phillips Woods.

Mayor Merandy made a motion at 7:00 to open the Public Hearing for adding Chapter 73 – Opting Out of Licensing On-Site Cannabis Consumption Establishments and Chapter 74 – Opting out of Licensing and Establishing Retail Cannabis Dispensaries. Trustee Foley seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 5-0-0-0.

Mayor Merandy provided background and explained why the Village was proposing two laws. He then opened the floor to public comment.

Eliza Starbuck, 173 Mian Street, asked two questions:

- Can the Village impose controls on where dispensaries could be located if they were allowed within the Village? Mayor Merandy responded that the Zoning Code limits where businesses can operate. In addition, State regulations could potentially impose further limitations.
- What is the tax benefit to municipalities? Trustee Foley responded that the law provides for a 4% sales tax that is returned to local municipalities. Of that 4%, ¼ goes to the county and the balance to the local municipality.

Tara Vamos, 6 Rock Street, spoke out against the local laws. She is in favor dispensaries and believes they will be a benefit to the Village and its residents. Her experience has been that allowing dispensaries has not negatively impacted the surrounding community.

Mayor Merandy read into record two written comments:

- Evan Hudson, 19 High Street, supports the proposed laws prohibiting dispensaries and on-site consumption of cannabis.
- Danielle Pack-McCarthy, Executive Director Philipstown Behavioral Health Hub, noted that opting out gives the Village a chance to see how things shake out in other municipalities. She added that the message to youth if the Village opts in would be one of permissive marijuana use.

Mayor Merandy made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Trustee Early seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 5-0-0-0.

Adjournment

Mayor Merandy made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Early seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 5-0-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

Submitted by: J. Vidakovich

Mayor Merandy

Date