

**COUNCIL MINUTES OF
March 9, 2023**

COUNCIL PRESENT: Andrew Bermudez, Charles Ellms, Adam Briggs, Peter Haskell, Marcia Delaware, Levi Ladd, and Heidi Kinney

I. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Ordinance C2023-3 Change to Dexter Town Code Chapter 7; Section 7-57 Marijuana Licensing; Section 3. Allowed Marijuana Businesses
NO COMMENTS

II. MINUTES

1. Approve/Amend Council Minutes of February 9, 2023
Motion to approve: **Marcia Delaware**
Second: **Charles Ellms**
Vote: 5-1 (Ladd abstains), motion passes

III. NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS, & ELECTIONS

NONE

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Manager's Report

Trampas King thanked the Public Works Department as we had 3 storms last week alone. He warned that the dirt roads are already starting to soften so be prepared although they have done a great job building up most of the dirt roads. **Mr. King** thanked the Police Department and stated that **Corporal Dana Gatcomb** has given his notice and will be done on the 18th of March. We would love to have him stay but he feels he needs a change of venue. It is hard to get new officers as other Towns have better pay and better insurance benefits. Mr. King reported that the High School finished up winter carnival with the seniors winning the snow sculpture contest and also winning overall.

2. Departmental Reports

Andrew Bermudez commented on **Juli Kimballs'** report about residents losing some of their food benefits. He stated that with the decrease in help and the increase in food cost the local non-profit food banks will see an increase in need as well.

3. Ordinance C2023-3 Change to Dexter Town Code Chapter 7; Section 7-57 Marijuana Licensing; Section 3. Allowed Marijuana Businesses

BE IT ORDAINED, that the Dexter Town Council hereby amends the Town Code Chapter 7- Licenses, Permits, and Regulations Article 2, Licenses; Section 7-57 Section 3. Allowed Marijuana businesses by changing the following:

Section 3. Allowed Marijuana Businesses

- A. The following Marijuana Businesses are allowed in the Town of Dexter, provided all necessary state and local authorizations and permits are obtained:
 - 1. Medical Marijuana Manufacturing Facility. ~~limited to marijuana extraction only.~~

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2. Adult Use Marijuana Products Manufacturing Facility. ~~limited to marijuana extraction only.~~
3. Medical Marijuana Retail Store

B. All other Marijuana Businesses are prohibited in the Town of Dexter.

Filed March 9, 2023
LEVI LADD

Second: **Marcia Delaware**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Order A2023-09 Renewal of Medical Marijuana License for Puffers Place

BE IT ORDERED that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the Medical Marijuana License renewal for Puffers Place, 50 Johnson Road.

Filed March 9, 2023
ADAM BRIGGS

Second: **Peter Haskell**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

2. Order A2023-10 Sale of Tax Acquired Property

There is only one property left and they have until the 13th to pay the taxes. There will be no tax sale at this point.

3. Order A2023-11 Approve Renewal of Liquor License for Brewster Inn

Marcia Delaware made a motion to add Order A2023-11

Second: **Heidi Kinney**

BE IT ORDERED, that the Dexter Town Council hereby approves the Spirituous, Vinous, and Malt Liquor License for Mark Stephens doing business as The Brewster Inn, 37 Zions Hill Road.

Filed March 9, 2023
HEIDI KINNEY

Second: **Marcia Delaware**

Vote: Unanimous in favor, motion passes

3. Approve/Sign Quit Claim Deed for Ricki Abbott & Darrell Longstreet

Marcia Delaware made a motion to approve/sign.

Second: **Charles Ellms**

4. Discussion on Ordinance Change to Town Code Chapter 7; Section 7-57 Marijuana Licensing; Section 4. Licensing Required for Marijuana Businesses

Trampas King explained that this would be a wording change in section 4 Letter B that would change it from: The Municipal Officers shall issue no more than two (2) Marijuana Business licenses to: The Municipal Officers shall license not more than two (2) Marijuana Businesses. We currently were issuing three licenses to the two businesses. This will help both Delta Solutions and Puffers Place by allowing them to do more. They will still have to follow State

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Law and have the proper licensing from them. **Heidi Kinney** asked if this is still only medical licenses. The answer was yes.

VI. PUBLIC FORUM

Peter Haskell asked where we are at with the request from the ATV club about opening Zions Hill for them. **Trampas King** stated that he hadn't heard back from them and he is hoping that they found an alternative route. He stated that he attended their meeting and told them he didn't believe that we would approve it. **Chuck Ellms** stated that he had talked to someone in the club, and they were looking at alternative routes in Ripley and Cambridge.

Mr. King informed the Council that **Dave Iverson**, owner of Storyteller Guitars, would like to have 2-3 Cruise Ins on Grove Street over the summer on Saturdays. He would like to be able to close off the street from the bottom of Highland Avenue to the stop sign by the P.D. He will have food and music as well.

Mr. King stated that the Red Hotdog Committee has been meeting and they are in need of volunteers. The next meeting will be on March 27th if anyone is interested in attending.

Andrew Bermudez stated that **Tim Breen** had reached out to him about issues at Lakeshore Restaurant. He was on his way to the meeting but was running late. He lives on the Crockett Road and is concerned about the lines of people that extend out into the road while they are waiting to order. He is also concerned about cars parking on the opposite side of the road. **Mr. King** stated that he did put no parking signs up on that side of the road last year and he will do that again this year. He will also talk to **Robbie McAllister**, the owner, about putting lines down for people to stand. **Levi Ladd** asked if the Town maintains the gravel lot at the beach and wondered about using it for parking. **Chuck Ellms** stated that the road used to be a lot wider but when the State redid the road, they cut a lot of it off. **Levi Ladd** also asked about the grassy areas by the gazebo and if the Town owns that. **Mr. King** stated that we did but that is also where the leach fields are located. He asked if we could add parking there if we needed to.

Adam Briggs asked for an update on the permit for the geese. **Mr. King** stated that he needs to call them and see if we were approved. He already has two men that have volunteered to do it. There is a short window in the Spring when it needs to be done.

Chris Cabral, owner of Delta Solutions, addressed the Council stating that he was asking for permission to be able to open a storefront at his current location. Things have changed and he is losing business to other labs. This is out of necessity not choice. **Mr. King** stated that the ordinance change that they just discussed as a proposal for next month would allow them to do that and that is one of the reasons why we proposed it. **Jonathan Hanson**, owner of Puffers Place, asked if it meant that he could do testing at his place if he wanted to. He stated that he saw it as a conflict of interest. There was some exchange of words between **Mr. Cabral** and **Mr. Hanson** which was shut down by the Council chair.

Tim Breen showed up and voiced his concerns. He stated that he lives ¼ mile up on the Crockett Road and that for the past several years Lakeshore Restaurant hasn't been run in safe way and he has a few suggestions that could be made to the owner. The employee parking is in the prime spots for customers which makes customers park on the opposite side of the road which makes traffic bad. There are also lines of people spilling out into the road that are waiting to order or to get food. He thinks they should cordon off some spaces for specifically for people that are ordering. **Mr. King** stated that he would talk to the Highway Department about adding parking somewhere else. **Chuck Ellms** mentioned adding it on the side on the way to the bathhouse.

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Levi Ladd mentioned putting a wooden footbridge across the wet area to encourage people to park out there. **Mr. King** stated he will talk to Robbie and figure something out.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Confidential Records per MRSA, Section 405 (6) (F)
See attached minutes as submitted by **Trampas King**

Respectfully submitted,

Susan E. Page, Town Clerk