

**Minutes of Special Newaygo City Planning Commission  
May 22, 2017**

This joint meeting of the City Council, Planning Commission, TIFA Board and NEDO Board called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance by Mayor Fedell at Loomis Lodge.

Planning Commission members present: Chmn. Chambers, Williams, Westcott, Faulkner, Wight, Black and Day. City Manager Schneider and City Clerk Biegalle also present.

Absent: Kroll and Fetterley.

Motion made and seconded to excuse the absent members. AIF/MC

Motion made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. AIF/MC

Public comments: None

The joint meeting was called to receive and discuss information regarding the Michigan Medical Marijuana Law, Medical Marijuana Facilities Law, Natural Wellness and the Wholesale Medical Cannabis Business.

Mr. James Barr of Strata Business Services discussed the growing and medical manufacturing side of the equation and his company's possible interest in establishing a growing and medical marijuana manufacturing facility in Newaygo. Lieutenant Joel Abendroth of the Central Michigan Enforcement Team headed by the Michigan State Police discussed the law enforcement aspects for the State, County and City police departments. Newaygo Police Chief Andres also spoke to the local enforcement aspects as well as the increase of complaints in Colorado since that state passed manufacturing and recreational marijuana use laws.

All of the board members present spoke to their interest/non-interest of the possibility of such an establishment in the City of Newaygo. Items such as strong odors, effect on city sewer plant, security of such a facility, effects on police department and "do we want this" in Newaygo were mentioned. Would this lead to commercial sales establishments? (also included in the new laws), and financial impact from jobs, and taxes was also mentioned.

It was stated that "Legal recreational use" is coming whether we want it or not. A petition has just been approved for a group to gather signatures for the "legal recreational use" question to be put on the 2018 election ballot. There is apparently growing support for this.

No action taken.

Public comments: None

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. AIF/MC

Respectfully submitted,

C. Douglas Day  
Secretary.