

TOWN OF SHARON 15 School Street Sharon, VT 05065

Selectboard Meeting August 27th, 2024 FINAL Minutes

In-Person Attendees: Kevin Gish, Selectboard Chair; Scott Henkels, Selectboard Vice Chair; Ted Austin, Selectboard Clerk; Nicola Shipman, Selectboard Assistant; Catherine Sartor, Town Clerk

Remote Attendees: Nic Antal, White River Valley Herald; John Lippman, Valley News

1. Call Meeting to Order

Kevin Gish called the meeting to order at 8:00AM.

2. Review/Approve Agenda

Ted Austin made a motion to approve the agenda. Scott Henkels seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

3. Public Comment:

No public comment

4. Voter Petition - Cannabis Retail Opt-In

Kevin Gish initiated the discussion regarding a petition received from voters requesting a special vote to consider the question of whether to allow cannabis retail in the Town of Sharon.

Cathy Sartor reported that the petition received on August 20th, 2024 conforms to the standards required.

Nicola Shipman reported that the Town's legal counsel has reviewed the petition, and the Selectboard will need to proceed with the special vote as outlined by statute.

The Selectboard members, with insight from the Town Clerk, discussed procedures for the special vote. The Town Clerk Cathy Sartor provided additional information regarding the coordination required due to various ballots going out in the mail, including General Elections and School Bond votes.

There was further discussion regarding the timeline for the vote, which must take place by Australian Ballot as per State Statute.

The Selectboard agreed to host an informational hearing to ensure voters have a chance for discussion and to ask questions.



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The Selectboard anticipates an Australian Ballot vote on this topic on Tuesday, October 15th, 2024 and an Informational Hearing on Monday, October 7th, 2024 starting at 6:00PM.

5. Upcoming Meeting Dates/Topics

The next regular meeting is canceled due to Labor Day. A special meeting will be warned for Tuesday, September 3rd at 6:30PM.

6. <u>Adjourn</u>

Ted Austin made a motion to adjourn at 8:34AM. Scott Henkels seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Nicola Shipman