

ORDINANCE 2023-117

IMPOSING A MORATORIUM FOR A PERIOD OF 360 DAYS ON THE GRANTING OF ANY PERMIT ALLOWING ADULT USE CANNABIS OPERATORS WITHIN THE CITY OF MASON, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the City of Mason, Ohio desires to coordinate regulations regarding the location and operation of businesses within the City, including adult use cannabis operators; and

WHEREAS, for the purposes of this Ordinance, “adult use cannabis operators” shall have the same meaning as defined in newly enacted chapter 3780 of the Ohio Revised Code; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio recently enacted laws concerning adult use cannabis; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Revised Code section 3780.25 allows municipalities to prohibit and/or limit the number of adult use cannabis operators within corporate limits; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended that the City Administration review and make recommendations on the issue to conform to the City’s goal of providing adequate regulations to ensure the public peace, health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, a moratorium on the granting of permits to adult use cannabis operators within the City of Mason will allow the City time to accomplish these goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Council of the City of Mason, Ohio, seven members elected thereto concurring:

Section 1. That Mason City Council seeks a moratorium on permits for the establishment of adult use cannabis operators to preserve the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Mason, Ohio.

Section 2. That Mason City Council seeks to limit the duration of the moratorium and to request immediate investigation and review of proposed comprehensive regulations or the establishment of adult use cannabis operators within the 360-day period of the moratorium.

Section 3. That Mason City Council hereby imposes a moratorium on permits for the establishment of adult use cannabis operators for a period of 360 days from the effective date of this Ordinance and directs that no permits shall be issued for adult use cannabis operators during the 360-day period of the moratorium.

Section 4. That Mason City Council further finds that a moratorium for 360 days is reasonable and will allow a reasonable time to study the issue for comprehensive regulations.

Section 5. That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Mason and shall be effective immediately upon adoption. The reason for said declaration of emergency is the need to impose a moratorium at the earliest possible date.

Passed this 11th day of December, 2023

Mayor

Attest:

Clerk of Council