

Town of Edgcomb
Public Hearing
April 13, 2017

Jack French, Chairman of the Planning Board, opened the public hearing at 6:30 p.m. Present were Selectmen Jack Sarmanian and Ted Hugger, Planning Board and ORC members Barry Hathorne, Jack French, Barb Gibson, David Boucher and Gretchen Burleigh-Johnson.

Revisions to the Shoreland Section of the Edgcomb Land Use Ordinance

The amended Article VI, Shoreland Overlay District, had been drafted by the Ordinance Review Committee in order to comply with the revised State Shoreland Statute. There were no questions or comments.

Coastal Waters Ordinance

French said the Coastal Waters Ordinance, although never enacted, had been used by the Harbormaster for a number of years and was on the warrant for a formal approval. There were no questions or comments.

Marijuana Moratorium Ordinance

French said the moratorium would prevent the town accepting applications for marijuana-related issues for six months until the town passes an ordinance dealing with those issues. The moratorium may be extended by the selectmen for an additional six months. The Ordinance Review Committee will be working on an ordinance.

In response to Bill Pearson's question, French said the Town would need its own ordinance.

Darrel Goodrow from Boothbay Harbor said Boothbay had accepted his application before the State moratorium was in place. Boothbay now is not accepting applications, using the State moratorium. Goodrow said that the Edgcomb moratorium would run out before the State moratorium and if the Edgcomb moratorium were extended, it would run out after the State moratorium and all the licenses would have been given out. So by passing and extending a moratorium, Goodrow said Edgcomb was effectively shutting down the ability to have that kind of business.

Goodrow said if he gets the licensing, he plans a \$3-\$5 million plant in the industrial park. Boothbay is working on ordinances now so that they can be adopted at the next town meeting. If Boothbay waited for a moratorium, all licenses would have been given out and the plant in the industrial park would not happen.

French said he hoped the Ordinance Review Committee would incorporate any ordinance relating to marijuana into the Land Use Ordinance.

Goodrow said that if Edgcomb did not pass a moratorium, it could work under the State moratorium and only enact a moratorium if its ordinance was not ready by the time the State moratorium ran out but by then all the grow licenses would have been given out. He said applications for grow licenses would not be along Route 1, but on arterial roads not in the public view; the storefront would be on

Route 1 or 27 if Edgecomb allows it. He also advised that social clubs should be located where one would not have to drive to them, maybe in hotels.

French said changes would have to be made to the Land Use Ordinance to comply with the State. Ted Hugger said there would be time before Town Meeting to discuss the issue.

Bobby Carleton said it appeared there were three issues: growing (agricultural), selling (commercial) and social clubs. Goodrow said growing was considered manufacturing and a separate license would be needed for sales. He said a meeting would be held at the Boothbay YMCA on May 6 to discuss creating an ordinance.

French said the ORC would begin working on an ordinance. Its meetings are held the first and third Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. and are open to the public.

The public hearing adjourned at 7 p.m.