

**Birmingham City Commission  
Special Meeting Minutes - Workshop  
Monday, February 13, 2023  
6:30 p.m.**

**Vimeo Link: <https://vimeo.com/797542695>**

**Workshop Session**

**This will be considered a workshop session of the City Commission. No formal actions will be taken. The purpose of this workshop is to participate in a discussion regarding Marijuana Ordinances.**

**I. Call to Order**

Therese Longe, Mayor

**II. Roll Call**

City Clerk Bingham called the roll.

Present: Mayor Longe  
Mayor Pro Tem McLain  
Commissioner Baller  
Commissioner Haig  
Commissioner Host  
Commissioner Schafer

Absent: Commissioner Boutros

Staff: City Manager Markus; City Clerk Bingham, Assistant City Manager Ecker, City Attorney Kucharek

**III. Presentation & Discussion**

CA Kucharek and CM Markus presented the topic.

In reply to Commission inquiry, CA Kucharek explained:

- Marijuana could not be sold in non-marijuana businesses because of regulations;
- The exterior design would be regulated according to Birmingham's zoning ordinances;
- It would be inadvisable to require a certain dollar amount of investment in the community, but the City could ask business applicants to describe how much they would be willing to invest in the community. The City could also regulate those commitments like a SLUP to ensure adherence;
- The City could enact ordinances that allow for reasonable control over the time, manner, and place of the business;
- The City could likely require a landlord to sign off on a tenant's business;
- She would have to consider whether the City could require an investment of a certain percentage of the City's annual budget as of the year of the application;
- If the City had an opt-in ordinance, it would require a referendum petition to change it;

- Campaigns to allow marijuana businesses in municipalities are often very persuasive;
- The City would be allowed to charge \$5,000 per year per applicant to maintain compliance; and,
- The City could possibly limit its ordinance to certain types of marijuana-related businesses, such as security or transportation.

Commissioner Baller said it would be helpful if Staff provided the Commission with the regulations that govern marijuana business. He also asked whether Engage Birmingham might be a useful way of engaging the community on the topic.

Commissioner Host thanked Staff for preparing this workshop, noting the benefits of being proactive on this and other matters.

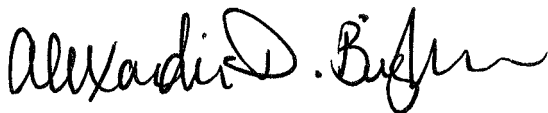
**IV. Public Comment**

Pam Voss Paige, owner of commercial property at 112-118 S. Old Woodward, asked the Commission to avoid marijuana businesses in the City as much as possible and shared her concerns about youth marijuana use.

CM Markus reiterated that while the City has opted-out, a business owner could still attempt to open a store in the City. The options available to the Commission include limiting the areas where it could be located.

**V. Adjourn**

Mayor Longe adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.



Alexandria Bingham, City Clerk



Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist