



19 13th Avenue North
Waite Park, MN 56387

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION AGENDA

Lower Level Conference Room at Waite Park City Hall

5:00 PM

1. 5:00 P.M. **Public Safety Staffing Discussion**

Staff would like to discuss the staffing needs in both the police and fire departments. In the fire department, staff will provide an update on the fire study and also some recommendations to address the staffing challenges the fire department has had. In the police department, staff would like to discuss staffing plans along and the challenges staff has had recruiting new officers, along with some recommendations on moving forward.

2. 5:30 P.M. **Cannabis Discussion**

The adult-use cannabis bill was passed by the House and Senate and signed into law by Gov. Tim Walz. This new law legalizes and decriminalizes adult-use cannabis, expunges prior convictions, and establishes a statewide regulatory framework for the new industry. The new law will go into effect on Aug. 1 for decriminalization, possession, and home growth.

Staff would like to discuss with the City Council the new laws and the impacts this will have on Waite Park. Cities will be responsible for registering certain cannabis businesses once they receive a license from the state. These businesses include cannabis retailers, cannabis microbusinesses, and mezzobusinesses with retail operations endorsements, medical cannabis retailers and medical cannabis combination businesses, and lower-potency hemp edible retailers. Cities may impose an initial retail registration fee of \$500 and a renewal registration fee of \$1,000, or up to half the amount of the applicable initial license fee for each business, whichever is less.

The law:

- Provides that a local unit of government shall issue a registration if the applicant meets various requirements, including being current on all property taxes and assessments at the retail location.
- Requires that a local unit of government conduct compliance checks of every cannabis business with a retail registration and authorizes the local unit of government to suspend or revoke a license if the local unit of government

determines that a registered cannabis business is not operating in compliance.

3. 6:00 P.M. **Public Works Update**

Staff would like to provide a number of updates on things going on in public works including work on PFAS and the next steps, drought concerns with the lack of rain this summer, and the updated bonding request for The Ledge along with an update on the operations at The Ledge.