**Public Hearing Local Law 3 of 2021 with Special Meeting**

**Catskill Town Hall**

**December 29, 2021 6:00 pm**

ATTENDANCE: Dale Finch, Supervisor

Jared Giordiano, Councilman

Patrick McCulloch, Councilman

VIA TELECONFERENCE: Paul Vosburgh, Councilman

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Supervisor Finch opened the public hearing on motion of Councilman McCulloch seconded by himself. Councilman Vosburgh was via teleconference. He welcomed all in attendance. He have a brief recap and stated the town passed a resolution at the last meeting in support of cannabis dispensaries. Tonight is to address cafes. He asked the clerk to read the notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

OF CATSKILL TOWN BOARD

Please take notice that the Catskill Town Board, Catskill, NY will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 29, 2021 at Catskill Town Hall, 439 Main St., Catskill, NY at 6:00 PM. The purpose of the public hearing will be to review proposed Local Law 3 of 2021 opting-out of on-site cannabis consumption establishments. The proposed local law is subject to a permissive referendum. The Board will welcome public comment at that time and in writing. The proposed Local Law is available for review on the Town website [www.townofcatskillny.gov](http://www.townofcatskillny.gov) and at the Town Clerk’s Office, 439 Main St., Catskill, NY 12414. By Order of the Catskill Town Board, Elizabeth Izzo, Town Clerk

Supervisor Finch asked if anyone had any comment. Elliott Matos expressed this thoughts and urged the board to stand by businesses after being hit by the pandemic. Sarah stated businesses are struggling and cafes will help. This is an opportunity the town cannot miss. Tom Kershaw stated the risk of opting-out is much greater than opting-in. James VanAlstyne stated just say yes to cannabis. Peter stated there are hurdles to jump before getting a lounge but if an entrepreneur wishes to proceed, do not let the town be one of those hurdles. Neva Wartel asked the board to share their opposition. Councilman McCulloch stated it is a lack of guidance on the state’s behalf. Supervisor Finch stated we want to do our due diligence and make the right choice for Catskill. We can opt in at a later date but we would never be able to opt out if we don’t do it now. Councilman Giordiano is on board for both dispensaries and lounges and disagreed on waiting as businesses will go to the community who opts in first.

The board heard further comments from the public in support and against. An audience member urged the board to listen to the majority of the people. Supervisor Finch stated he values every residents’ opinion. With no further discussion a motion to end the public hearing was made by Councilman McCulloch second by Councilman Vosburgh. Public hearing ended 7:07 pm.

The special meeting reconvened.

Motion by Supervisor Finch second by Councilman Vosburgh to adopt Local Law 3 of 2021 opting out of allowing on-site cannabis consumption establishments as authorized under New York State Cannabis Law Article 4. Adopted Vote: 3 Ayes 1 Nay (Giordiano) Motion carried.

Councilman Giordiano stated opting out is a mistake. Councilman McCulloch stated to do our due diligence and establish a committee so in time we are ready to go.

With no further business a motion to end the special meeting was made by Supervisor Finch second by Councilman Giordiano. Meeting ended 7:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Izzo

Town Clerk