

Boonsboro Mayor and Council
Public Hearing Minutes
Ordinance 2025-02; Adopt Restrictions on Establishments Selling Cannabis
Monday, June 9, 2025

The Mayor and Council of Boonsboro held a Public Hearing, as duly advertised, on Monday, June 9, 2025 in the Town Annex Meeting Chambers. In attendance were Mayor Howard Long, Assistant Mayor Tony Nally, Council Members Eric Kitchen, Ray Hanson, Marilee Kerns, Terri Hollingshead, and Ricky Weaver. Also present were Town Manager Rachel Souders and Office Manager Kimberly Miller.

Mayor Long opened the Public Hearing at 6:30pm for the purpose of receiving public input, either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Ordinance 2025-02; *Adopt Restrictions on Establishments Selling Cannabis in the Town of Boonsboro.*

Town Manager Souders stated that Senate Bill 215 titled “Cannabis Reform – Revisions,” which determines where you can put a cannabis dispensary and where you can use cannabis is getting closer to passing, noting if a Municipality does not have a current Cannabis Ordinance by July 1, 2025 they will fall under the current requirements. She further stated that she reached out to the Maryland Municipal League and the Town can only include two items in the Ordinance that can be implemented:

“Whereas the Governor of the State of Maryland has approved Senate Bill 215, officially titled “Senate Bill 215, officially titled “Cannabis Reform – Revisions,” and in it allowed political subdivisions to impose certain limitations on the operations of establishments selling cannabis, and by extension, products containing cannabis; and

I. On-site consumption establishments are expressly prohibited from operating within the town limits of the Town of Boonsboro.

a. “On-site consumption establishments” refers to entities licensed under §36-401(c)(4) of Senate Bill 215 to distribute cannabis or cannabis products for on-site consumption other than consumption by smoking indoors.

i. “Cannabis products” refers to products that are composed of cannabis, cannabis concentrate, cannabis extract, or other ingredients and are intended for use or consumption, including cannabinoid beverages, edible products, oils, and tinctures.

II. Licensed cannabis dispensaries may not be located within one-half mile of each other.

III. Licensed cannabis dispensaries may only operate within the General Commercial District (GC) zones of the Town of Boonsboro.”

Town Manager Souders stated that Ordinance 2025-02 would limit cannabis dispensary locations to the General Commercial Districts on the south and north ends of Town which includes the Easterday Property and the area where Branded Chophouse and Il Forno Vanish is located.

The floor was opened for public comment. No comments were received.

Motion by Council Member Hanson, second by Assistant Mayor Nally to close the Public Hearing at 6:36pm. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Miller, Office Manager