

Borough of Franklin, County of Sussex

Resolution #2023-45

RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF FRANKLIN IN CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE LOCATION AND OPERATION OF AN ADULT-USE CANNABIS CULTIVATION AND MANUFACTURING FACILITY BY ASCEND NEW JERSEY, LLC

WHEREAS, both the medical and adult use of cannabis is authorized in the State of New Jersey (“State”) under the Jake Honig Compassionate Use Medical Cannabis Act, N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1, et seq. (“Jake Honig Law”), as well as for adult use sales pursuant to the recent passage of the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory, Enforcement Assistance, and Marketplace Modernization Act (“CREAMMA”) (the Jake Honig Law and CREAMMA collectively referred to as the “New Jersey Cannabis Laws”).

WHEREAS, the Borough adopted Resolution #2022-31, identifying its support of the location and operation of an adult-use cannabis cultivation and manufacturing facility by Ascend New Jersey, LLC (“Ascend”).

WHEREAS, Ascend subsequently applied for and received permission from the Cannabis Regulatory Commission (“CRC”) to operate as an Expanded ATC at 12 and 24 Munsonhurst Road (the “Premises”) in the Borough.

WHEREAS, Ascend thereafter commenced Expanded ATC operations for both medical and adult-use uses within the Borough in accordance with its Class 1 Cultivation and Class 2 Manufacturing licenses.

WHEREAS, the CRC has identified to Ascend that the renewal of Ascend’s Class 1 Cultivation and Class 2 Manufacturing licenses for the Premises requires, among other things, that Ascend, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:30-9.4(m)(3)(ii), “[s]ubmit a new written approval from the municipality in which the expanded ATC is located, approving the continued operations as a cannabis business.”

WHEREAS, the Borough recognizes the ultimate decision to renew cannabis licenses is guided by the standards identified within the New Jersey Cannabis Laws and vested to the discretion of the CRC.

WHEREAS, Cannabis Laws recognize the necessity of ensuring that licensees have the continuing support of the local community as evidenced by a resolution adopted by said municipality’s governing body indicating that the location is appropriate or otherwise suitable for the activities related to the cultivation and manufacturing of cannabis, cannabis products, and related to supplies as will be conducted at the Premises.


WHEREAS, Franklin continues to recognize the benefits of the Ascend business, including job creation and tax revenues associated with hosting a cultivation and/or manufacturing facility.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Franklin, Sussex County, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Borough Council recognizes that the applicable provisions of the Borough Code, Chapter 161, entitled Zoning, and the various land use approvals obtained continue to permit the operation of a Class 1 Cultivator and Class 2 Manufacturer License at 12 and/or 24 Munsonhurst Road in the Borough.
2. Franklin continues to recognize the suitability of the operation of a cultivator and manufacturing license at the Premises, but also as to the jobs and tax benefits that Ascend has and will continue to produce.
3. This Resolution confirms the continued support of Ascend’s renewal application, and an indication that the Premises is appropriately located or otherwise suitable for the activities related to the cultivation and manufacturing of cannabis, cannabis products, and related supplies.
4. Franklin continues to support the continued operations of Ascend’s Class 1 and Class 2 Licenses at the Premises.

CERTIFICATION

I, Darlene J. Tremont, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Franklin, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Borough of Franklin, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey at a meeting of said Governing Body held on March 14, 2023.


 Darlene J. Tremont, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES				
COUNCIL MEMBER	AYES	NAYES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CONCETTO FORMICA	X			
RACHEL HEATH	X			
JOSEPH LIMON	X			
JOHN POSTAS	X			
STEPHEN SKELLENGER	X			
GILBERT SNYDER	X			
MAYOR SOWDEN (Tie Only)				