Ordinance No. 2022.03

An Ordinance Regarding Extending a Moratorium on Certain Activities Related to Adult-Use Cannabis

WHEREAS, the Connecticut General Assembly passed legislation that legalizes adult use of cannabis in the State of Connecticut, which legislation was approved as Senate Bill No. 1201, June Special Session, Public Act No. 21-1, An Act Concerning Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis (hereinafter “the Act”), and;

WHEREAS, the Act contains provisions allowing municipalities to prohibit or place reasonable restrictions on cannabis establishments and activities, and;

WHEREAS, the Town Council, in consultation with the East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission, determined that careful and planful consideration of appropriate prohibitions or regulations related to Adult-Use Cannabis required more time than is available under the Act before State of Connecticut licenses or permits could be issued for the various retail, growing, processing and consumption activities addressed in the Act, and;

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission is in the process of developing and finalizing appropriate regulations related to Adult Use Cannabis and said regulations will not be effective prior to the planned expiration of the moratorium, and;

WHEREAS, the Town Council established a moratorium on certain adult-use cannabis activities on October 12, 2021, which moratorium was set to expire on October 1, 2022, and which the Town Council has determined shall be extended.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Section 2.4 of the Town of East Hampton Charter, the Town Council of the Town of East Hampton does hereby ordain as follows:

Section 1: Section 155-1 of the Code of the Town of East Hampton regarding Moratorium Established is hereby amended to indicate that the moratorium shall expire on December 31, 2022 or upon the effective date of regulations established by the Planning and Zoning Commission, whichever occurs earliest, as follows.

Chapter 155
Adult-Use Cannabis

§ 155-1 Moratorium Established.

For the purpose of providing sufficient time for review and consideration of appropriate prohibitions or regulations related to Cannabis Establishments as that term is used and defined in Connecticut Public Act No. 21-1, An Act Concerning Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis, a moratorium is hereby established and all
said Cannabis Establishments shall be prohibited. During said moratorium, the Town will not accept or consider applications or requests related to establishing a Cannabis Establishment. Said moratorium shall expire on December 31, 2022, or upon the effective date of regulations established by the Planning and Zoning Commission, whichever occurs earliest.

Section 2: This ordinance is effective immediately upon its adoption and publication in accordance with Section 2.5 of the Town of East Hampton Charter.

Approved this ____ day of _____________, 2022.

TOWN COUNCIL ATTEST

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Mark Philhower, Chairperson Kelly Bilodeau, Town Clerk