

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MIDDLESEX, ss

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT  
OF THE TRIAL COURT

\_\_\_\_\_  
THEORY WELLNESS, INC.,  
COMMUNITY GROWTH PARTNERS GREAT  
BARRINGTON OPERATIONS, LLC  
d/b/a REBELLE and HIGHMINDED, LLC  
d/b/a FARNSWORTH FINE CANNABIS,

Plaintiffs,

v.

THE TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON,

Defendant.  
\_\_\_\_\_

2481CV000693

3/14/2024

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RECEIVED

Civil Action No.

2481CV 693

**COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND**

**i. Introduction**

1. By and through this action, the Plaintiffs seek the return of millions of dollars tendered to the Town of Great Barrington in unlawful Community Impact Fees, legal fees and additional costs, payments and reimbursements.<sup>1</sup> As discussed below in detail, each of the Plaintiffs operates a marijuana retail establishment in the Town of Great Barrington.

2. Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 94G requires that, before applying for a state retail cannabis license, every marijuana establishment first execute a Host Community Agreement ("HCA") with its local municipality. The law also permits municipalities to impose a

<sup>1</sup> The Plaintiffs do not seek through this action to unwind various charitable contributions each has made as required by their respective Host Community Agreement.

limited “Community Impact Fee” upon the marijuana establishment under the HCA to offset the actual costs incurred by the municipality from hosting the cannabis business. The Community Impact Fee must be, by statute, “reasonably related to the costs imposed upon the municipality by the operation of the marijuana establishment.”

3. Here, it is undisputed that the Town of Great Barrington has incurred no costs associated with its hosting of the three Plaintiff businesses within its town. Indeed, the Town of Great Barrington has regularly and routinely acknowledged in writing that it has incurred no costs whatsoever associated with the Plaintiffs’ operation of marijuana establishments. Nonetheless, year after year, the Town of Great Barrington has insisted that it be paid the transparently unlawful Community Impact Fees (and other costs).

4. Making matters worse, at least as it relates to Theory Wellness, Inc. and Community Growth Partners Great Barrington Operations, LLC d/b/a Rebelle (“Rebelle”), the Town of Great Barrington has refused to enter into new, lawfully compliant HCAs unless and until these Plaintiffs pay additional illegal fees.

5. The Town of Great Barrington’s position in this regard is advanced in bad faith as is its refusal to return to the Plaintiffs the millions of dollars in illegal fees it has collected and retained. By and through this action, the Plaintiffs seek a judicial declaration that (a) the Town of Great Barrington has not incurred and will not incur any anticipated or actual costs resulting from Plaintiffs’ business operations; (b) the Community Impact Fees were improperly assessed against the Plaintiffs, (c) the Town of Great Barrington is not entitled to any payments from the Plaintiffs for Community Impact Fees; (d) the funds paid by the Plaintiffs to the Town of Great Barrington as Community Impact Fees are to be returned with interest; (e) the law prohibits the Town of Great Barrington from assessing against Plaintiffs any Community Impact Fee that is

not reasonably related to actual costs imposed on the Town of Great Barrington as a result of any of the Plaintiffs' operations; (f) the Town of Great Barrington is legally obligated to tender to each Plaintiff forthwith a lawfully compliant HCA; and (g) the Plaintiffs are entitled to recover their costs and attorneys' fees as expressly permitted by statute.

**ii. Parties**

6. Theory Wellness, Inc. ("Theory Wellness") is a Massachusetts corporation with a principal place of business located at 38 Montvale Avenue #210, Stoneham, MA 02180. Theory Wellness is licensed to operate an adult-use recreational and medical cannabis dispensary from 394 Stockbridge Road, Great Barrington, MA 01230.

7. Community Growth Partners Great Barrington Operations LLC d/b/a Rebelle ("Rebelle") is a Massachusetts limited liability company with a principal place of business located at 783 S. Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230. Rebelle is licensed to operate an adult-use recreational cannabis dispensary from 783 S. Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230.

8. Highminded, LLC d/b/a Farnsworth Fine Cannabis ("Highminded") a Massachusetts limited liability company with a principal place of business located at 126 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230. Highminded is licensed to operate an adult-use recreational cannabis dispensary from 126 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230 and does so under the name Farnsworth Fine Cannabis.

9. The Town of Great Barrington is a Massachusetts municipal corporation with a principal address of 334 Main Street, Great Barrington, Massachusetts 01230.

**iii. Jurisdiction & Venue**

10. Jurisdiction is proper in this Court pursuant to M.G.L. c. 212 § 4.

11. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to M.G.L. c. 223 § 1.

**iv. Facts**

**The Statutory and Regulatory Framework Under G.L. ch. 94G**

12. Medical marijuana has been legal in Massachusetts since 2012, when sixty-three percent of Massachusetts voters approved Question 3, the Massachusetts Medical Marijuana Initiative, which allowed patients with certain qualifying medical conditions to use medical cannabis. The initiative also provided for a licensing regime for registered cultivators, manufacturers, laboratories, and distributors to supply patients with medical cannabis.

13. In November 2016, Massachusetts voters approved Question 4, the Massachusetts Legalization, Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Initiative, authorizing cannabis use for adults 21 and older. The new law, codified at G. L. ch. 94G, §§ 1 et seq. and amended the following year by St. 2017, ch. 55, provides for the licensing of the sale and production of marijuana in Massachusetts.

14. Among other licensing requirements, Chapter 94G required that every marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center to execute a Host Community Agreement with its local municipality. The original version of Chapter 94G § 3, titled Local Control, set forth the requirements for an HCA:

(d) A marijuana establishment or a medical marijuana treatment center seeking to operate or continue to operate in a municipality which permits such operation shall execute an agreement with the host community setting forth the conditions to have a marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center located within the host community which shall include, but not be limited to, all stipulations of responsibilities between the host community and the marijuana establishment or a medical marijuana treatment center. An agreement between a marijuana establishment or a medical marijuana treatment center and a host community may include a community impact fee for the host community; **provided, however, that the community impact fee shall be reasonably related to the**

**costs imposed upon the municipality by the operation of the marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center and shall not amount to more than 3 per cent of the gross sales of the marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center or be effective for longer than 5 years. Any cost to a city or town imposed by the operation of a marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center shall be documented and considered a public record as defined by clause Twenty-sixth of section 7 of chapter 4.**

(Emphasis added).

15. The version of Chapter 94G § 3(d) in effect prior to 2022 expressly limited the sums a municipality could assess against a marijuana establishment or a medical marijuana treatment center. The limitations include:

- The fee cannot amount to more than three percent of the gross annual sales of the marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center; and
- The fee must be “reasonably related to the costs imposed upon the municipality by the operation of the marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center,” which costs must be documented in a public record.

16. According to the Cannabis Control Commission (“CCC”), the regulatory body tasked with issuing marijuana licenses and overseeing the cannabis industry, a municipality cannot impose a Community Impact Fee without justification. See CCC Guidance on Host Community Agreements, Revised by the Commission: January 16, 2020, at 4 (emphasis supplied).

17. The CCC has warned that the fee must bear some relation to actual municipal services costs a town has incurred while hosting the marijuana establishment, including for reasons such as public safety personnel overtime or traffic inspection design studies. Id. at 6. Additionally, the fee must be proportional to the claimed impact cost.

18. Finally, Community Impact Fees must separately comply with other legal limitations on municipalities' regulatory power. Id. at 7. Municipalities do not have independent power of taxation under the Massachusetts Constitution; instead, they may only impose regulatory fees on businesses or activities within their borders. Silva v. City of Fall River, 59 Mass. App. Ct. 798, 800 (2003).

19. In order to constitute a permissible regulatory fee rather than an illegal tax, a fee must (1) be charged in exchange for a governmental service that benefits the party paying the fee in a manner not shared by other members of society; (2) be paid by choice, in that the fee payer has the option of not utilizing the governmental service and thereby avoiding the charge; and (3) be collected not to raise revenues but to compensate the governmental entity providing the service. Silva, 5 Mass. App. Ct. at 800.

20. In or about November, 2022, and in order to curb the ongoing abuses of licensed cannabis operators by municipalities through the Commonwealth via the imposition of unlawful and unjustified fees, the Massachusetts legislature amended Chapter 94G, §3.

21. The language of amended G.L. c. 94G § 3 was clear in providing:

(2)(i) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, a host community agreement may include a community impact fee for the host community; provided, however, that **no host community agreement shall include a community impact fee after the eighth year of operation of a marijuana establishment** or a medical marijuana treatment center. **The community impact fee shall: (A) be reasonably related to the costs imposed upon the municipality by the operation of the marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center, as documented pursuant to subparagraph (iii); (B) amount to not more than 3 per cent of the gross sales of the marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center; (C) not be effective after the marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center's eighth year of operation; (D) commence on the date the marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center is granted a final license by the commission; and (E) not mandate a certain percentage of total or gross sales as the community impact fee.**

(ii) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, **the community impact fee shall encompass all payments and obligations between the host community and the marijuana establishment or a medical marijuana treatment center.** The community impact fee **shall not include any additional payments or obligations, including, but not limited to, monetary payments, in-kind contributions and charitable contributions by the marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center to the host community or any other organization.** Payment of the community impact fee shall be due annually to the host community, with the first payment occurring not sooner than upon the first annual renewal by the commission of a final license to operate the marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center. **Any other contractual financial obligation that is explicitly or implicitly a factor considered in, or is a condition of a host community agreement, shall not be enforceable.** Nothing in this section shall preclude a marijuana establishment or a medical marijuana treatment center from voluntarily providing organizations with monetary payments, in-kind contributions and charitable contributions after the execution of the host community agreement; provided, however, **that a host community agreement shall not include a promise to make a future monetary payment, in-kind contribution or charitable contribution.**

(iii) Any cost imposed upon a host community by the operation of a marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center shall be documented by the host community and transmitted to the licensee not later than 1 month after the date of the annual renewal of a final license to operate the marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center and shall be a public record as defined by clause Twenty-sixth of section 7 of chapter 4 and chapter 66. If a licensee believes the information documented and transmitted by a host community is not reasonably related to the actual costs imposed upon the host community in the preceding year by the operation of the marijuana establishment or medical marijuana treatment center, the licensee **may bring a breach of contract action against the host community and recover damages, attorneys' fees and other costs encompassed in the community impact fee that are not reasonably related to the actual costs imposed upon the city or town.**

(emphasis supplied).

### **Theory Wellness**

22. Theory Wellness entered into two separate HCAs with the Town of Great Barrington. Its first, dated October 17, 2016 concerned Theory Wellness' operation of a registered marijuana medical dispensary. A copy of the October 17, 2016 HCA is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

23. Theory Wellness and the Town of Great Barrington entered into a second HCA, this one concerning Theory Wellness' Adult Use Marijuana Retail establishment, on June 18, 2018. See Exhibit B.

24. The HCAs required Theory Wellness to pay a series of fees and costs expressly prohibited by Massachusetts law. With regard to Community Impact Fee, the parties' June 18, 2018 HCA provided as follows:

A. Community Impact Fee

The Company anticipates that the Town will incur additional expenses and impacts on the Town's road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts on the Town. Accordingly, in order to mitigate the financial impact on the Town and use of Town resources, the Company agrees to pay an annual community impact fee to the Town, in the amount and under the terms provided herein (the "Annual Community Impact Fee").

1. Company shall annually pay an Annual Community Impact Fee in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of gross revenue from marijuana and marijuana product sales at the Establishment.
2. The Annual Community Impact Fee shall be made quarterly per the Town's fiscal year (July 1-June 30) and is payable no later than the twentieth (20th) day following the end of a quarter. The Annual Community Impact Fee for the Company's first quarter of operation shall be prorated if the Company is open for a portion of that quarter. The Annual Community Impact Fee payment shall continue for a period of five (5) years. At the conclusion of each of the respective five (5) year terms, the parties shall negotiate a new Annual Community Impact Fee; provided however, that the Annual Community Impact Fee shall not be reduced below the amount set forth above; provided further however, that if the law is amended to allow a community impact fee greater than three percent (3%) of gross revenue, the parties shall negotiate a new Annual Community Impact Fee prior to the respective five (5) year term.
3. The Town shall use the above referenced payments in its sole discretion, but shall make a good faith effort to allocate said payments to off-set costs related to road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, public health and addiction services and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts upon the Town.
4. The term "gross revenue" referenced above shall mean the total of all sales transactions of the Facility without limitation, whether wholesale or retail, and shall include but not be limited to all sales occurring at the Facility, including the sale of marijuana, marijuana infused products, paraphernalia, and any other products sold by the Facility.

Id.



25. Over the term of the two HCAs, Theory Wellness has been compelled to tender to the Town of Great Barrington the sum of **\$5,182,769.67** in unlawful Community Impact Fees (and other fees and assessments).

26. The Community Impact Fees paid by Theory Wellness were illegally collected and retained in direct contravention of Chapter 94D. The Town of Great Barrington has repeatedly acknowledged this fact, in writing, by confirming that it incurred “no significant costs ... related to [Theory Wellness’] operation.”

27. By way of example only, on August 12, 2020, the Town of Great Barrington wrote to Theory Wellness and confirmed as follows:

The Town of Great Barrington has reviewed their records covering the period of January 2019 to present date, and have concluded that no significant costs have been imposed on the Town related to the operation of your establishment, Theory Wellness.

If you should need further information, or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (413)528-1619 ext 6 or [scarnel@townofgb.org](mailto:scarnel@townofgb.org).

See Exhibit C.

28. A year later, on September 2, 2021, the Town of Great Barrington again confirmed to Theory Wellness in writing:

The Town of Great Barrington has reviewed their records covering the period of August 12, 2020 to present date, and have concluded that no significant costs have been imposed on the Town related to the operation of your establishment, Theory Wellness. At this time, we do not foresee or anticipate any expenses resulting from this operation.

See Exhibit D.

29. For a third year, on August 5, 2022, the Town of Great Barrington again confirmed in clear and unambiguous language that it again had incurred no costs associated with Theory Wellness’ business operations. The Town wrote:

The Town of Great Barrington has reviewed their records covering the period of September 2, 2021 to present date, and have concluded that no significant costs have been imposed on the Town related to the operation of your establishment, Theory Wellness. At this time, we do not foresee or anticipate any expenses resulting from this operation.

See Exhibit E.

30. Despite the Town of Great Barrington's repeated admissions that it has incurred no costs arising from Theory Wellness' business, the Town of Great Barrington has failed and refused to return or refund those Community Impact Payments tendered to it by Theory Wellness.

**Rebelle**

31. Rebelle entered into a HCA with the Town of Great Barrington on March 20, 2019. See Exhibit F.

32. Rebelle's HCA required that it pay fees and costs expressly prohibited by Massachusetts law. With regard to Community Impact Fees, the parties' March 20, 2019 HCA provided as follows:

**A. Community Impact Fee**

The Company anticipates that the Town will incur additional expenses and impacts on the Town's road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts on the Town. Accordingly, in order to mitigate the financial impact on the Town and use of Town resources, the Company agrees to pay an annual community impact fee to the Town, in the amount and under the terms provided herein (the "Annual Community Impact Fee").

1. Company shall annually pay an Annual Community Impact Fee in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of gross sales from marijuana and marijuana-related product sales at the Facility. The term "gross sales" shall mean the total of all sales transactions of the Facility without limitation, whether wholesale or retail, and shall include but not be limited to all sales occurring at the Facility, including the sale of marijuana, marijuana infused products, paraphernalia, and any other products sold by the Facility.
2. The Annual Community Impact Fee shall be made quarterly per the Town's fiscal year (July 1- June 30) and is payable no later than the twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) day following the end of the quarter. The Annual Community Impact Fee for the company's first quarter of operation shall be prorated if the company is open for a portion of that quarter. The Annual Community Impact Fee payment shall continue for a period of five (5) years. At the conclusion of each of the respective five (5) year terms, the parties shall negotiate a new Annual Community Impact Fee; provided however, that the Annual Community Impact Fee shall not be reduced below the amount set forth above; provided further however, that if the law is amended to allow a community impact fee greater than three percent (3%) of gross revenue, the parties shall negotiate a new Annual Community Impact Fee prior to the respective five (5) year term.

3. The Town shall use the above referenced payments in its sole discretion, but shall make a good faith effort to allocate said payments for road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, public

health and addiction services and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts upon the Town.

Id.

33. Over the term of the HCA, Rebelle has been forced to tender to the Town of Great Barrington the sum of **\$526,380** in Community Impact Fees.

34. The Community Impact Fees collected by the Town of Great Barrington were patently illegal and retained in direct contravention of Chapter 94D. Indeed, the Town of Great Barrington has acknowledged, repeatedly and in writing, that it incurred “no significant costs ... related to [Rebelle’s] operation.”

35. By way of example only, on December 21, 2020, the Town of Great Barrington confirmed over email to Rebelle that “we are not aware of any extra expense due to your operation.” See Exhibit G.

36. The Town of Great Barrington reconfirmed in writing its position on November 9, 2021 when it wrote:

The Town of Great Barrington has reviewed their records covering the period of September 2020 to present date, and have concluded that no significant costs have been imposed on the Town related to the operation of your establishment, Community Growth Partners Great Barrington Operations LLC (dba Rebelle). At this time, we do not foresee or anticipate any expenses resulting from this operation.

See Exhibit H.

37. A year later, on November 7, 2022, the Town of Great Barrington again repeated the fact that it had incurred no costs relating to the operation of Rebelle’s business:

The Town of Great Barrington has reviewed our records covering the period of November 2021 to the present date, and we have concluded that no significant direct costs have been incurred by the Town related to the operation of your establishment, Community Growth Partners Great Barrington Operations LLC, d/b/a Rebelle, at 783 Main Street.

See Exhibit I.

38. Given the Town of Great Barrington's admission that it incurred no costs arising from Rebelle's business, Rebelle has repeatedly complained, including in writing, concerning the Town of Great Barrington's imposition of illegal Community Impact Fees. The Town of Great Barrington has persisted in its assessment of illegal fees and has failed and refused to return those fees tendered to it to Rebelle.

**Highminded, LLC**

39. Highminded entered into a HCA with the Town of Great Barrington on July 25, 2018. See Exhibit J.

40. Highminded's HCA required that it pay fees and costs expressly prohibited by Massachusetts law. With regard to Community Impact Fees, the parties' July 25, 2018 HCA provided as follows:

**A. Community Impact Fee**

The Company anticipates that the Town will incur additional expenses and impacts on the Town's road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts on the Town. Accordingly, in order to mitigate the financial impact on the Town and use of Town resources, the Company agrees to pay an annual community impact fee to the Town, in the amount and under the terms provided herein (the "Annual Community Impact Fee").

1. Company shall annually pay an Annual Community Impact Fee in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of gross revenue from marijuana and marijuana product sales at the Establishment. The term "gross revenue" shall mean the total of all sales transactions of the Facility without limitation, whether wholesale or retail, and shall include but not be limited to all sales occurring at the Facility, including the sale of marijuana, marijuana infused products, paraphernalia, and any other products sold by the Facility.

2. The Annual Community Impact Fee shall be made quarterly per the Town's fiscal year (July 1- June 30) and is payable no later than the twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) day following the end of the quarter. The Annual Community Impact Fee for the company's first quarter of operation shall be prorated if the company is open for a portion of that quarter. The Annual Community Impact Fee payment shall continue for a period of five (5) years. At the conclusion of each of the respective five (5) year terms, the parties shall negotiate a new Annual Community Impact Fee; provided however, that the Annual Community Impact Fee shall not be reduced below the amount set forth above; provided further however, that if the law is amended to allow a community impact fee greater than three percent (3%) of gross revenue, the parties shall negotiate a new Annual Community Impact Fee prior to the respective five (5) year term.
3. The Town shall use the above referenced payments in its sole discretion, but shall make a good faith effort to allocate said payments for road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, public health and addiction services and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts upon the Town.

Id.

41. Over the term of the HCA, Highminded has been forced to tender to the Town of Great Barrington the sum of **\$235,529.33** in Community Impact Fees.

42. The Community Impact Fees collected from Highminded were illegally collected and retained in direct contravention of Chapter 94D. Just as with Theory Wellness and REBELLE, the Town of Great Barrington has acknowledged, repeatedly and in writing, that it incurred no "significant costs ... related to the operation of" Highminded's business.

43. In this regard, the Town of Great Barrington has explicitly confirmed in writing that it "has not identified any significant, direct costs relating to the operation of [Farnsworth Fine Cannabis]" and that "the Town has not identified any anticipated significant direct costs related to a future operation of the establishment." See Exhibit K (February 13, 2024 letter).

44. Given the Town of Great Barrington's admission that it incurred no costs arising from Highminded's business, Highminded has repeatedly complained, including in writing, concerning the Town of Great Barrington's imposition of illegal Community Impact Fees. Nonetheless, the Town of Great Barrington has persisted in its assessment of illegal fees and has failed and refused to return those fees tendered to it to Highminded.

**The Town of Great Barrington's Scheme Continues**

45. The Town of Great Barrington understands that its collection and retention of unlawful Community Impact Fees from the Plaintiffs over the years is patently illegal. In recognition that it does not possess the legal right to charge these fees, the Town of Great Barrington has segregated and not utilized large portions of the fees it has received from Plaintiffs. In further recognition that the wrongfully collected Community Impact Fees had nothing to do with its costs incurred, the Town of Great Barrington then formed a committee to attempt to manufacture, after the fact, uses for the collected funds.

46. Nonetheless, despite multiple written demand from Theory Wellness and Rebelle, the Town of Great Barrington has failed and refused to return the illegally collected and retained Community Impact Fees.

47. The Town of Great Barrington has likewise refused to tender to Theory Wellness and/or Rebelle new, legally compliant HCAs. By way of example only, after months of negotiations between the Town and Theory Wellness, an approved, legal draft HCA was circulated by the Town of Great Barrington to Theory Wellness in June, 2023.

48. Despite Theory Wellness' acknowledgment that it would sign the approved draft, the Town of Great Barrington refused to formally execute the HCA instead contending that it would only do so upon Theory Wellness' payment of additional, unlawful Community Impact Fees.

49. Similar demands were made by Rebelle. Rebelle's counsel wrote to the Town of Great Barrington's counsel on June 13, 2023 and confirmed Rebelle's position that no Host Community payments were due and owing under the existing HCA as the payments called for thereunder were transparently illegal. The Town of Great Barrington failed to relent, continued

to demand illegal payments and has, to date, failed and refused to supply to Rebelle a lawfully compliant HCA.

50. Even if a good faith dispute over amounts due under the parties' existing HCAs was legitimate, and there can be no credible argument advanced in this regard, the Town of Great Barrington has acted unlawfully in withholding its execution of approved and lawfully compliant HCAs in order to coerce the Plaintiffs into paying highly disputed, illegal sums.

51. The Town of Great Barrington's tact of holding the new, legally compliant HCAs "hostage" in order to extract an undeserved and illegal benefit expressly violates the CCC's newly enacted regulations applicable to adult use cannabis. 935 CMR 500.180(2)(K)(5) expressly provides:

**5. No License Applicant, Marijuana Establishment, or Host Community will use Inducements to negotiate or execute an HCA. No municipality or Host Community shall negotiate or renegotiate an HCA through the use of undue influence, duress, coercion, intimidation, threats, or any strong-arm tactics including by threat of dissolution of the HCA.**

52. In recognition of the pervasive illegal practice of collecting and retaining Community Impact Fees without having a lawful basis to do so, other municipalities who, like the Town of Great Barrington, engaged in similar unlawful practices have voluntarily returned fees wrongfully obtained from cannabis establishments, including the City of Boston and the Town of Uxbridge.

### **COUNT I** **Declaratory Judgment**

53. Plaintiffs allege and incorporate herein by reference the preceding allegations as if fully set forth herein.

54. An actual case and controversy exists between Plaintiffs and the Town of Great Barrington concerning the limitation upon those fees which can be assessed by Chapter 94G § 3

and whether the Community Impact Fees which were tendered by the Plaintiffs to the Town of Great Barrington should be returned and refunded.

55. Plaintiffs seek declaratory relief pursuant to G. L. c. 231A.

56. For the reasons set forth above, Plaintiffs accordingly seeks a declaratory judgment that that (a) the Town of Great Barrington has not incurred and will not incur any anticipated or actual costs resulting from Plaintiffs' business operations; (b) the Community Impact Fees were improperly assessed against the Plaintiffs; (c) the Town of Great Barrington is not entitled to any payments from the Plaintiffs for Community Impact Fees; (d) the funds paid by the Plaintiffs to the Town of Great Barrington as Community Impact Fees are to be returned with interest; (e) the law prohibits the Town of Great Barrington from assessing against Plaintiffs any Community Impact Fee that is not reasonably related to actual costs imposed on the Town of Great Barrington as a result of any of the Plaintiffs' business operations; (f) the Town of Great Barrington is legally obligated to tender to each Plaintiff forthwith a lawfully compliant Host Community Agreement; and (g) the Plaintiffs are entitled to recover their costs and attorneys' fees as permitted by statute.

**COUNT II**  
**Breach of Contract**

57. Plaintiffs allege and incorporate herein by reference the preceding allegations as if fully set forth herein.

58. Each of the Plaintiffs are party to HCAs with the Town of Great Barrington.

59. The final WHEREAS provision of each adult-use HCA confirms that "the parties intend by this Agreement to satisfy the provisions of G.L. c. 94G, Section 3(d), applicable to the operation of the Establishment, such activities to be only done in accordance with the applicable state and local laws and regulations in Town."



60. Paragraph 1 of each HCA confirms that the WHEREAS provision quotes in Paragraph 59 above is “true and accurate and that they are incorporated herein and made a part hereof.”

61. The Town of Great Barrington breached the HCA by collecting and retaining Community Impact Fees which failed to comply with or satisfy the provisions of G.L. c. 94G, Section 3(d).

62. The Town of Great Barrington’s breaches of the HCA have caused the Plaintiffs to suffer significant money damages.

**COUNT III**  
**Breach of The Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing**

63. Plaintiffs allege and incorporate herein by reference the preceding allegations as if fully set forth herein.

64. Each of the Plaintiffs are party to HCAs with the Town of Great Barrington.

65. Each HCA contains a covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

66. The Town of Great Barrington has breached the covenant of good faith and fair dealing in the manner described above. Specifically, the Town of Great Barrington has breached the covenant of good faith and fair dealing by improperly assessing and retaining Community Impact Fees from the Plaintiffs that were not reasonably related to any actual costs imposed on the Town of Great Barrington as a result of any of the Plaintiffs’ business operations.

67. As a result of the Town of Great Barrington’s breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing, the Plaintiffs have suffered significant damages.

**COUNT IV**  
**Unjust Enrichment**

68. Plaintiffs allege and incorporate herein by reference the preceding allegations as if fully set forth herein.

69. The Town of Great Barrington has assessed against the Plaintiffs and retained Community Impact Fees in violation of Massachusetts law.

70. By improperly assessing and retaining Community Impact Fees from the Plaintiffs that were not reasonably related to any actual costs imposed on the Town of Great Barrington as a result of any of the Plaintiffs' business operations, the Town of Great Barrington has been unjustly enriched at the Plaintiffs' expense.

71. The Plaintiffs have suffered damages as a result of the Town of Great Barrington's unjust enrichment.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs Theory Wellness, Inc., Community Growth Partners Great Barrington Operations, LLC d/b/a Rebelle and Highminded, LLC d/b/a Farnsworth Fine Cannabis respectfully requests that the Court the following relief:

- (i) Enter judgment in favor of Plaintiffs and against the Defendant on Count One of the Complaint asserted herein;
- (ii) Enter a Judicial Declaration that that (a) the Town of Great Barrington has not incurred and will not incur any anticipated or actual costs resulting from Plaintiffs' business operations; (b) the Community Impact Fees were improperly assessed against the Plaintiffs; (c) the Town of Great Barrington is not entitled to any payments from the Plaintiffs for Community Impact Fees; (d) the funds paid by the Plaintiffs to the Town

of Great Barrington as Community Impact Fees are to be returned with interest; (e) the law prohibits the Town of Great Barrington from assessing against Plaintiffs any Community Impact Fee that is not reasonably related to actual costs imposed on the Town of Great Barrington as a result of any of the Plaintiffs' business operations; (f) the Town of Great Barrington is legally obligated to tender to each Plaintiff forthwith a lawfully compliant Host Community Agreement; and (g) the Plaintiffs are entitled to recover their costs and attorneys' fees as permitted by statute;

- (iii) Enter judgment in the Plaintiffs favor and against the Defendant on Counts Two through Four and award damages as so assessed by the jury;
- (iv) Award the Plaintiffs their attorneys' fees as permitted by statute;
- (v) Award the Plaintiffs statutory interest on the amounts which have been unlawfully withheld from them; and
- (vi) Grant Plaintiffs such other and further relief as is just and warranted.

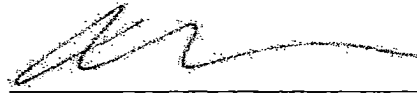
**JURY DEMAND**

**THEORY WELLNESS, INC., COMMUNITY GROWTH PARTNERS GREAT  
BARRINGTON OPERATIONS, LLC d/b/a REBELLE and HIGHMINDED, LLC d/b/a  
FARNSWORTH FINE CANNABIS DEMAND A JURY ON ALL CLAIMS SO TRIABLE**

Respectfully submitted,

THEORY WELLNESS, INC., COMMUNITY  
GROWTH PARTNERS GREAT BARRINGTON  
OPERATIONS, LLC d/b/a REBELLE and  
HIGHMINDED, LLC d/b/a FARNSWORTH FINE  
CANNABIS

By their attorneys,



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Todd & Weld LLP  
1 Federal Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02110  
(617) 720-2626  
(617) 227-5777 (fax)  
[drich@toddweld.com](mailto:drich@toddweld.com)

Dated: March 14, 2023

# **EXHIBIT A**

## COMMUNITY HOST BENEFIT AGREEMENT

This Agreement entered into as of October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 by and between the Town of Great Barrington, a municipal corporation within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with offices located at 334 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230, by and through its Town Manager as the Chief Administrative Officer (hereinafter the "Town"), and Theory Wellness, Inc., a Massachusetts not for profit corporation, with a principal address of 38 Montvale Avenue Suite #210, Stoneham, MA 02180 (hereinafter "TWI").

WHEREAS, Massachusetts voters approved the legal cultivation, processing, distribution, sale and use of marijuana for medical purposes through Chapter 369 of the Acts of 2012, An Act for the Humanitarian Medical Use of Marijuana; and

WHEREAS, nothing in that Act or its implementing regulations at 105 CMR 725 supersedes Massachusetts law prohibiting the possession, cultivation, transportation, distribution or sale of marijuana for nonmedical purposes; and

WHEREAS, TWI plans to operate a Registered Marijuana Dispensary ("RMD") in the Town of Great Barrington in accordance with the laws of the Town and those of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, TWI, intending to act as a good neighbor and contributing member of the business community of the Town, in the event the contingencies noted below are met, agrees to provide certain benefits to the Town over and above the increased employment base and other typical economic development benefits attributable to similar new healthcare organizations locating in the Town, and to cooperate with the Town in the operation of the RMD; and

WHEREAS, TWI intends to assure the Town that it will pay real estate or personal property taxes attributable to the property and/or space on and within which the RMD is located, regardless of the final determination of the Commonwealth with regard to the treatment of any related entity and assuming all contingencies noted below are met; and

NOW THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and for the mutual promises set forth below, the parties agree as follows:

1. In the event that TWI obtains a certificate of registration for the operation of a RMD in the Town by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Health ("DPH") and receives any and all necessary and required permits and licenses of the Town, which said permits and/or licenses allow TWI to locate, occupy and operate the RMD in the Town, then TWI agrees to make a donation to the Town in the amounts and under the terms in this Agreement.

NF

2. Term: The term of this Agreement shall begin on the date TWI commences retail sales at the RMD ("Commencement Date"). TWI shall notify the Town in writing when it commences retail sales, and shall provide the Town with copies of any sales and revenue records that is publicly available information. TWI at no time shall provide the Town with any information that contains confidential patient information. The term shall terminate if the DPH certificate of registration or other license, permit or authorization necessary for TWI to operate an RMD is revoked, rescinded, or expires without renewal.
3. TWI shall donate to the Town the following:
  - a. The sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00), annually, in two (2) installments of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500.00). The first payment ("First Payment Date") will occur on the one year anniversary of the Commencement Date, and the second payment will occur on or before December 31 of the same year in which the first payment is made. Thereafter, payments will be made on May 1 and November 1 of each year.
  - b. These annual donations will increase at a rate of 6% per year, with increases effective on the anniversary of the First Payment Date.
  - c. If TWI enters into a community benefit or host agreement with another municipality in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for a retail only RMD, the parties shall reopen this Agreement and make commercially best efforts to negotiate an amendment resulting in financial benefits to the Town equivalent or superior to those provided to the other municipality, calculated and adjusted for the Town on a Per Capita Basis and maintaining the fixed donation structure (with yearly increases) of this agreement. A Per Capita Basis is calculated by dividing the yearly minimum donation provided by TWI by the number of residents in a host municipality. During an amendment negotiation period, the then current agreement will remain in full effect.
4. TWI agrees that the value of the real estate property on which the RMD is located and the personal property of the RMD will be treated as taxable by the Town and TWI shall not challenge the taxability of said property, but reserves any rights it might have under the laws of the Commonwealth as to the valuation of said property. TWI shall not request any tax credits or subsidy from the Town for the development of land or facilities, including but not limited to any request for a real estate tax exemption or abatement as a non-profit corporation. In addition, TWI agrees not to assert or seek exemption from the requirements of the Town's Zoning Bylaw as an agricultural use under the provisions of G.L. c. 40A, §3.
5. TWI commits to support local charities that align with TWI's mission through future donations to such entities. TWI agrees that it will not produce or sell items that have a reasonable resemblance to any product available for consumption as a commercially available candy.

6. TWI will make best efforts to work collaboratively and cooperatively with its neighboring businesses to assist in mitigating any concerns or issues that may arise through its operation of an RMD. TWI agrees to cooperate with the Great Barrington Police Department in its operation of the RMD, including but not limited to periodic meetings to review operational concerns, security, delivery schedule and procedures, departmental investigations, and communications with the Department as to any suspicious activity at or in the immediate vicinity of the RMD, and with regard to any procedures for prevention of diversion of marijuana.
7. TWI acknowledges and agrees that the Town is under no obligation to use the donation payments made hereunder in any particular manner, and that the payments shall constitute donations in accordance with G.L. c. 44, §53A.
8. It is expressly understood and agreed by and between the Town and TWI that by accepting such donations noted above, the Town makes no representation or promise that it will act on any license or permit request in any particular way other than by the Town's normal and regular course of conduct and in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations and any statutory guidelines governing such requests.
9. This Agreement shall take effect on the day above written, subject to the contingencies noted herein. This Agreement shall continue in effect for so long as TWI operates a non-profit RMD authorized and registered by the DPH within the Town. TWI shall comply with all state and local laws and regulations applicable to its operations, and shall be responsible for obtaining all necessary licenses, permits and approvals required for the conduct of its operations.
10. This Agreement shall be governed in accordance with the Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, without regard to conflict of laws principles, and any dispute hereunder shall be submitted to any of its appropriate courts for adjudication. By mutual consent, the parties may agree to submit a dispute to mediation or other dispute resolution procedure.
11. Amendments, or any modification of the terms, conditions, covenants, duties or obligations contained in this Agreement may be made only by written amendment executed by all signatories to the original Agreement, prior to the effective date of the amendment.
12. If any term or condition of this Agreement or any application thereof shall to any extent be held invalid, illegal or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction or by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, such term or condition shall be deemed stricken and, to the extent the purposes of this Agreement may still be achieved, the remainder of the Agreement shall remain in effect. If such purposes may not still be



achieved, this Agreement shall terminate and the parties shall negotiate in good faith to achieve and enter into a new agreement for such purposes.

13. This Agreement is binding upon the parties hereto, their successors, assigns and legal representatives (and where not corporate, the heirs and estate of each). Neither the Town nor TWI shall assign or transfer any interest in the Agreement without the written consent of the other.
14. If, during the term of this Agreement, it becomes permissible under Massachusetts law for TWI to sell or distribute marijuana at the RMD facility for purposes other than those initially authorized by the DPH certificate of registration, TWI agrees that it shall first obtain the approval of the Town, by its Selectboard, to engage in such additional sales or distribution, and further, the parties shall renegotiate the terms of this Agreement, including (but not limited to) increasing the amount of the donation payments to be made to the Town, in recognition that the additional purposes of the RMD facility may have greater impacts and effects on the Town. In no case shall the annual payments be reduced from the amounts specified in this Agreement.
15. Any notices required or permitted under this Agreement must be made in writing, and must be delivered by hand, overnight delivery service, or certified mail, postage pre-paid (return receipt requested), and will be effective upon receipt for hand or overnight delivery and three days after mailing, to the other Party at the addresses stated above.
16. The Town may terminate this Agreement at any time by providing written notice to TWI.

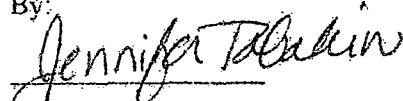
*Signature Page Follows*

**Signature Page of Community Host Benefit Agreement**

In witness whereof, the parties have hereafter set forth their hands as of the date first above written.

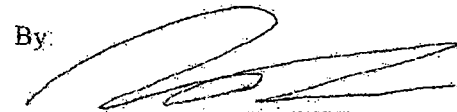
Town of Great Barrington

By:

  
Jennifer Tabakin  
Town Manager

Theory Wellness, Inc.

By:

  
Nicholas Friedman  
President

# **EXHIBIT B**

**GREAT BARRINGTON AND  
THEORY WELLNESS, INC.**

**HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENT**

THIS HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENT ("AGREEMENT") is entered into this 15th day of June, 2018 by and between Theory Wellness, Inc., a Massachusetts corporation, and any successor in interest, with a principal office address of 38 Montvale Avenue Suite #210, Stoneham, Massachusetts 02180 (the "Company"), and the Town of Great Barrington, acting by and through its Town Manager as the Chief Administrative Officer, in reliance upon all of the representations made herein, a Massachusetts municipal corporation with a principal address of 334 Main Street, Great Barrington, Massachusetts 01230 (the "Town").

WHEREAS, the Company wishes to locate an Adult-Use Marijuana Retail Establishment (the "Establishment") for the retail sale of adult-use marijuana and marijuana products at a facility with two thousand four hundred (2,400) square feet of operation, located at 394 Stockbridge Road, Great Barrington, Massachusetts 01230, as shown as Assessors Map 9 (the "Facility"), in accordance with and pursuant to applicable state laws and regulations, including, but not limited to 935 CMR 500.00 and such approvals as may be issued by the Town in accordance with its Zoning Bylaws and other applicable local regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Company intends to provide certain benefits to the Town in the event that it receives the requisite licenses from the Cannabis Control Commission (the "CCC") or such other state licensing or monitoring authority, as the case may be, to operate an Establishment in Town and receives all required local permits and approvals from the Town;

WHEREAS, the parties intend by this Agreement to satisfy the provisions of G.L. c.94G, Section 3(d), applicable to the operation of an Establishment, such activities to be only done in accordance with the applicable state and local laws and regulations in the Town;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants set forth herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Company and the Town agree as follows:

**1. Recitals**

The Parties agree that the above Recitals are true and accurate and that they are incorporated herein and made a part hereof.

**2. Annual Payments**

In the event that the Company obtains the requisite licenses and/or approvals as may be required for the operation of an Establishment, and receives any and all necessary and required permits and licenses of the Town, and at the expiration of any final appeal period related thereto, said matter not being appealed further, which permits and/or licenses allow the Company to locate,

occupy and operate the Facility in the Town, then the Company agrees to provide the following Annual Payments.

A. Community Impact Fee

The Company anticipates that the Town will incur additional expenses and impacts on the Town's road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts on the Town. Accordingly, in order to mitigate the financial impact on the Town and use of Town resources, the Company agrees to pay an annual community impact fee to the Town, in the amount and under the terms provided herein (the "Annual Community Impact Fee").

1. Company shall annually pay an Annual Community Impact Fee in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of gross revenue from marijuana and marijuana product sales at the Establishment.
2. The Annual Community Impact Fee shall be made quarterly per the Town's fiscal year (July 1- June 30) and is payable no later than the twentieth (20th) day following the end of a quarter. The Annual Community Impact Fee for the Company's first quarter of operation shall be prorated if the Company is open for a portion of that quarter. The Annual Community Impact Fee payment shall continue for a period of five (5) years. At the conclusion of each of the respective five (5) year terms, the parties shall negotiate a new Annual Community Impact Fee; provided however, that the Annual Community Impact Fee shall not be reduced below the amount set forth above; provided further however, that if the law is amended to allow a community impact fee greater than three percent (3%) of gross revenue, the parties shall negotiate a new Annual Community Impact Fee prior to the respective five (5) year term.
3. The Town shall use the above referenced payments in its sole discretion, but shall make a good faith effort to allocate said payments to off-set costs related to road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, public health and addiction services and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts upon the Town.
4. The term "gross revenue" referenced above shall mean the total of all sales transactions of the Facility without limitation, whether wholesale or retail, and shall include but not be limited to all sales occurring at the Facility, including the sale of marijuana, marijuana infused products, paraphernalia, and any other products sold by the Facility.

B. Legal Fees

The Company understands it is under no legal obligation to pay the Town's fees or costs in connection with the legal fees associated with the drafting and negotiating of this Agreement, however, understanding that the Town is incurring legal expenses associated with this

Agreement, as a part of the Company's desire to foster a good relationship with the Town and its residents, as well as to independently affirm its status as a good corporate citizen and neighbor, the Company elects, in addition to the Annual Community Impact Fee, to deposit an initial amount of \$5,000, to be deposited into a gift escrow account in accordance with G.L c.44, §53A for purposes of covering legal expenses associated with this Agreement, with any unpaid balance to be paid by the Company, or unused funds to be returned to the Company.

C. Additional Costs, Payments and Reimbursements

1. Permit and Connection Fees: The Company hereby acknowledges and accepts, and waives all rights to challenge, contest or appeal, the Town's building permit and other permit application fees, sewer and water connection fees, and all other local charges and fees generally applicable to other commercial developments in the Town.
2. Facility Consulting Fees and Costs: The Company shall reimburse the Town for any and all reasonable consulting costs and fees related to any land use applications concerning the Facility, negotiation of this and any other related agreements, and any review concerning the Facility, including planning, engineering, legal and/or environmental professional consultants and any related reasonable disbursements at standard rates charged by the above-referenced consultants in relation to the Facility.
3. Other Costs: The Company shall reimburse the Town for the actual costs incurred by the Town in connection with holding public meetings and forums substantially devoted to discussing the Facility and/or reviewing the Facility and for any and all reasonable consulting costs and fees related to the monitoring and enforcement of the terms of this Agreement, including, but not limited to independent financial auditors and legal fees.
4. Late Payment Penalty: The Company acknowledges that time is of the essence with respect to their timely payment of all funds required under Section 2 of this Agreement. In the event that any such payments are not fully made with ten (10) days of the date they are due, the Company shall be required to pay the Town a late payment penalty equal to five percent (5%) of such required payments.

D. Annual Charitable/Non-Profit Contributions

The Company, in addition to any funds specified herein, shall annually contribute to public local charities/non-profit organizations for health, wellness, and/or substance abuse education programs in the Town an amount no less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), said charities/non-profit organizations to be determined by the Company in its reasonable discretion (the "Annual Charitable/Non-Profit Contribution"). The Annual Charitable/Non-Profit Contribution shall be made annually beginning on the first anniversary following the commencement of operations, and shall continue for the term of this Agreement.

**E. Annual Reporting for Host Community Impact Fees**

The Company shall submit annual financial statements to the Town within thirty (30) days after June 30 of each year, the close of the Town's fiscal year, with a certification of its annual sales. The Company shall maintain books, financial records, and other compilations of data pertaining to the requirements of this Agreement in accordance with standard accounting practices and any applicable regulations or guidelines of the CCC. All records shall be kept for a period of at least seven (7) years. Upon request by the Town, the Company shall provide the Town with the same access to its financial records (to be treated as confidential, to the extent allowed by law) as it is required by the CCC and Department of Revenue for purposes of obtaining and maintaining a license for the Facility

During the term of this Agreement and for three years following the termination of this Agreement the Company shall agree, upon request of the Town to have its financial records examined, copied and audited by an Independent Financial Auditor, the expense of which shall be borne by the Company. The Independent Financial Auditor shall review the Company's financial records for purposes of determining that the Annual Payments are in compliance with the terms of this Agreement. Such examination shall be made not less than thirty (30) days following written notice from the Town and shall occur only during normal business hours and at such place where said books, financial records and accounts are maintained. The Independent Financial Audit shall include those parts of the Company's books and financial records which relate to the payment, and shall include a certification of itemized gross sales for the previous calendar year, and all other information required to ascertain compliance with the terms of this Agreement. The independent audit of such records shall be conducted in such a manner as not to interfere with the Company's normal business activities.

**3. Local Vendors and Employment**

To the extent such practice and its implementation are consistent with federal, state, and municipal laws and regulations, the Company shall make every effort in a legal and non-discriminatory manner to give priority to local businesses, suppliers, contractors, builders and vendors in the provision of goods and services called for in the construction, maintenance and continued operation of the Facility when such contractors and suppliers are properly qualified and price competitive and shall use good faith efforts to hire Town residents.

**4. Local Taxes**

At all times during the Term of this Agreement, property, both real and personal, owned or operated by the Company shall be treated as taxable, and all applicable real estate and personal property taxes for that property shall be paid either directly by the Company or by its landlord, neither the Company nor its landlord shall object or otherwise challenge the taxability of such property and shall not seek a non-profit or agricultural exemption or reduction with respect to such taxes. Notwithstanding the foregoing, (i) if real or personal property owned, leased or operated by the Company is determined to be non-taxable or partially non-taxable, or (ii) if the

value of such property is abated with the effect of reducing or eliminating the tax which would otherwise be paid if assessed at fair cash value as defined in G.L. c. 59, §38, or (iii) if the Company is determined to be entitled or subject to exemption with the effect of reducing or eliminating the tax which would otherwise be due if not so exempted, then the Company shall pay to the Town an amount which when added to the taxes, if any, paid on such property, shall be equal to the taxes which would have been payable on such property at fair cash value and at the otherwise applicable tax rate, if there had been no abatement or exemption; this payment shall be in addition to the payment made by the Company under Section 2 of this Agreement.

#### **5. Security**

To the extent requested by the Town's Police Department, and subject to the security and architectural review requirements of the CCC, or such other state licensing or monitoring authority, as the case may be, the Company shall work with the Town's Police Department in determining the placement of exterior security cameras.

The Company agrees to cooperate with the Police Department, including but not limited to periodic meetings to review operational concerns, security, delivery schedule and procedures, cooperation in investigations, and communications with the Police Department of any suspicious activities at or in the immediate vicinity of the Facility, and with regard to any anti-diversion procedures.

To the extent requested by the Town's Police Department, the Company shall work with the Police Department to implement a comprehensive diversion prevention plan to prevent diversion, such plan to be in place prior to the commencement of operations at the Facility.

#### **6. Community Impact Hearing Concerns**

The Company agrees to employ its best efforts to work collaboratively and cooperatively with its neighboring businesses and residents to establish written policies and procedures to address mitigation of any concerns or issues that may arise through its operation of the Facility, including, but not limited to any and all concerns or issues raised that the community impact hearing in Town relative to the operation of the Facility; said written policies and procedures, as may be amended from time to time, shall be reviewed and approved by the Town and shall be incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Agreement, the same as if each were fully set forth herein.

#### **7. Required Signage**

The Company agrees to post clear and visible signage inside the Facility which establishes that adult-use marijuana is not legal in all states and that it may be illegal to transport marijuana or cannabis infused products outside of Massachusetts.



## **8. Additional Obligations**

The obligations of the Company and the Town recited herein are specifically contingent upon the Company obtaining a license for operation of the Facility in the Town, and the Company's receipt of any and all necessary local approvals to locate, occupy, and operate the Facility in the Town.

This agreement does not affect, limit, or control the authority of Town boards, commissions, and departments to carry out their respective powers and duties to decide upon and to issue, or deny, applicable permits and other approvals under the statutes and regulations of the Commonwealth, the General and Zoning Bylaws of the Town, or applicable regulations of those boards, commissions, and departments or to enforce said statutes, bylaws, and regulations. The Town, by entering into this Agreement, is not thereby required or obligated to issue such permits and approvals as may be necessary for an Establishment to operate in the Town, or to refrain from enforcement action against the Company and/or its Facility for violation of the terms of said permits and approvals or said statutes, bylaws, and regulations.

## **9. Re-Opener/Review**

The Company or any "controlling person" in the Company, as defined in 935 CMR 500.02, shall be required to provide to the Town notice and a copy of any other Host Community Agreement entered into for any Establishment in which the Company, or any controlling person in the Company, has any interest and which is licensed by the CCC as the same type of establishment as the entity governed by this agreement.

In the event the Company or any controlling person enters into a Host Community Agreement for an Establishment with another municipality in the Commonwealth that contains financial terms resulting in payments of a Community Impact Fee totaling a higher percentage of gross sales for the same type of establishment than the Company agrees to provide the Town pursuant to this Agreement, then the parties shall reopen this Agreement and negotiate an amendment resulting in financial benefits to the Town equivalent or superior to those provided to the other municipality.

## **10. Support**

The Town agrees to submit to the CCC, or such other state licensing or monitoring authority, as the case may be, the required certifications relating to the Company's application for a license to operate the Facility where such compliance has been properly met, but makes no representation or promise that it will act on any other license or permit request, including, but not limited to any zoning application submitted for the Facility, in any particular way other than by the Town normal and regular course of conduct and in accordance with its rules and regulations and any statutory guidelines governing them.

### **11. Term**

Except as expressly provided herein, this Agreement shall take effect on the date set forth above, and shall be applicable for as long as the Company operates the Facility in the Town.

### **12. Successors/Assigns**

The Company shall not assign, sublet, or otherwise transfer its rights nor delegate its obligations under this Agreement, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent from the Town, and shall not assign any of the monies payable under this Agreement, except by and with the written consent of the Town and shall not assign or obligate any of the monies payable under this Agreement, except by and with the written consent of the Town. This Agreement is binding upon the parties hereto, their successors, assigns and legal representatives. Neither the Town nor the Company shall assign, sublet, or otherwise transfer any interest in the Agreement without the written consent of the other.

Events deemed an assignment include, without limitation: (i) Company's final and adjudicated bankruptcy whether voluntary or involuntary; (ii) the Company's takeover or merger by or with any other entity; (iii) the Company's outright sale of assets and equity, majority stock sale to another organization or entity for which the Company does not maintain a controlling equity interest; (iv) or any other change in ownership or status of the Company; (v) any assignment for the benefit of creditors; and/or (vi) any other assignment not approved in advance in writing by the Town.

### **13. Notices**

Any and all notices, consents, demands, requests, approvals or other communications required or permitted under this Agreement, shall be in writing and delivered by hand or mailed postage prepaid, return receipt requested, by registered or certified mail or by other reputable delivery service, and shall be deemed given when so delivered by hand, if so mailed, when deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, or, if sent by private overnight or other delivery service, when deposited with such delivery service.

To Town: Town Manager  
334 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

To Licensee: Theory Wellness Inc.  
38 Montvale Avenue #210  
Stoneham, MA 02180

### **14. Severability**

If any term of condition of this Agreement or any application thereof shall to any extent be held invalid, illegal or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity, legality, and enforceability of the remaining terms and conditions of this Agreement shall not be deemed

affected thereby unless the Town would be substantially or materially prejudiced. Further, the Company agrees that it will not challenge, in any jurisdiction, the enforceability of any provision included in this Agreement; and to the extent the validity of this Agreement is challenged by the Company in a court of competent jurisdiction, the Company shall pay for all reasonable fees and costs incurred by the Town in enforcing this Agreement.

**15. Governing Law**

This Agreement shall be governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the Company submits to the jurisdiction of any of its appropriate courts for the adjudication of disputes arising out of this Agreement.

**16. Entire Agreement**

This Agreement, including all documents incorporated herein by reference, constitutes the entire integrated agreement between the Company and the Town with respect to the matters described herein. This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements, negotiations and representations, either written or oral, and it shall not be modified or amended except by a written document executed by the parties hereto.

**17. Amendments/Waiver**

Amendments, or waivers of any term, condition, covenant, duty or obligation contained in this Agreement may be made only by written amendment executed by all signatories to the original Agreement, prior to the effective date of the amendment.

**18. Headings:**

The article, section, and/or paragraph headings in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only, and shall in no way affect, modify, define or be used in interpreting the text of this Agreement.

**19. Counterparts**

This Agreement may be signed in any number of counterparts all of which taken together, each of which is an original, and all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument, and any party hereto may execute this Agreement by signing one or more counterparts.

**20. Signatures.**

Facsimile signatures affixed to this Agreement shall have the same weight and authority as an original signature.

**21. No Joint Venture:**

The Parties hereto agree that nothing contained in this Agreement or any other documents executed in connection herewith is intended or shall be construed to establish the Town, or the Town and any other successor, affiliate or corporate entity as joint ventures or partners.

**22. Nullity**

This Agreement shall be null and void in the event that the Company does not locate an Establishment in the Town or relocates the Facility out of the Town. Further, in the case of any relocation out of the Town, the Company agrees that an adjustment of any and all annual payments due to the Town hereunder shall be calculated based upon the period of occupation of the Facility within the Town, but in no event shall the Town be responsible for the return of any funds provided to it by the Company.

**23. Indemnification**


The Company shall indemnify, defend, and hold the Town harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, liabilities, actions, causes of actions, defenses, proceedings and/or costs and expenses, including attorney's fees, brought against the Town, their agents, departments, officials, employees, insurers and/or successors, by any third party arising from or relating to the development of the Property and/or Facility. Such indemnification shall include, but shall not be limited to, all reasonable fees and reasonable costs of attorneys and other reasonable consultant fees and all fees and costs (including but not limited to attorneys and consultant fees and costs) shall be at charged at regular and customary municipal rates, of the Town's choosing incurred in defending such claims, actions, proceedings or demands. The Company agrees, within thirty (30) days of written notice by the Town, to reimburse the Town for any and all costs and fees incurred in defending itself with respect to any such claim, action, proceeding or demand.

**24. Third-Parties**


Nothing contained in this agreement shall create a contractual relationship with or a cause of action in favor of a third party against either the Town or the Company.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the day and year first written above.

TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON

  
Stephen Bannon  
Chair, Selectboard,  
On behalf of the  
Town of Great Barrington

THEORY WELLNESS, INC.

  
Nicholas Friedman, Treasurer  
On behalf of Theory Wellness, Inc.

635804v2/GRBA/0083

# **EXHIBIT C**

Susan M. Carmel  
Finance Director/Town Accountant

E-mail: [scarmel@townofgb.org](mailto:scarmel@townofgb.org)  
[www.townofgb.org](http://www.townofgb.org)



Town Hall, 334 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Telephone: (413) 528-1619  
Fax: (413) 528-2290

## TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

### OFFICE OF FINANCE DIRECTOR

August 12, 2020

Brandon Pollock  
Chief Executive Officer  
Theory Wellness  
394 Stockbridge Road  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

RE: Costs Imposed to the Town of Great Barrington

Mr. Pollock:

The Town of Great Barrington has reviewed their records covering the period of January 2019 to present date, and have concluded that no significant costs have been imposed on the Town related to the operation of your establishment, Theory Wellness.

If you should need further information, or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (413)528-1619 ext 6 or [scarmel@townofgb.org](mailto:scarmel@townofgb.org).

Best Regards,

Susan M. Carmel  
Finance Director

# **EXHIBIT D**



Susan M. Carmel  
Finance Director/Town Accountant

E-mail: [scarmel@townofgb.org](mailto:scarmel@townofgb.org)  
[www.townofgb.org](http://www.townofgb.org)



Town Hall, 334 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Telephone: (413) 528-1619  
Fax: (413) 528-2290

## TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

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### OFFICE OF FINANCE DIRECTOR

September 2, 2021

Brandon Pollock  
Chief Executive Officer  
Theory Wellness  
394 Stockbridge Road  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

RE: Costs Imposed to the Town of Great Barrington

Mr. Pollock:

The Town of Great Barrington has reviewed their records covering the period of August 12, 2020 to present date, and have concluded that no significant costs have been imposed on the Town related to the operation of your establishment, Theory Wellness. At this time, we do not foresee or anticipate any expenses resulting from this operation.

If you should need further information, or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (413)528-1619 ext. 2502 or [scarmel@townofgb.org](mailto:scarmel@townofgb.org).

Best Regards,

*Susan M. Carmel*

Susan M. Carmel  
Finance Director

# **EXHIBIT E**

Susan M. Carmel  
Town Accountant

E-mail: [scarmel@townofgb.org](mailto:scarmel@townofgb.org)  
[www.townofgb.org](http://www.townofgb.org)



Town Hall, 334 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Telephone: (413) 528-1619  
Fax: (413) 528-2290

## TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

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### OFFICE OF TOWN ACCOUNTANT

August 5, 2022

Brandon Pollock  
Chief Executive Officer  
Theory Wellness  
394 Stockbridge Road  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

RE: Costs Imposed to the Town of Great Barrington

Mr. Pollock:

The Town of Great Barrington has reviewed their records covering the period of September 2, 2021 to present date, and have concluded that no significant costs have been imposed on the Town related to the operation of your establishment, Theory Wellness. At this time, we do not foresee or anticipate any expenses resulting from this operation.

If you should need further information, or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (413)528-1619 ext. 2502 or [scarmel@townofgb.org](mailto:scarmel@townofgb.org).

Best Regards,

*Susan M. Carmel*

Susan M. Carmel  
Town Accountant

# **EXHIBIT F**

**GREAT BARRINGTON  
AND  
COMMUNITY GROWTH PARTNERS GREAT BARRINGTON OPERATIONS LLC**

**HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENT  
FOR MARIJUANA RETAIL SALES**

THIS HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENT ("AGREEMENT") is entered into this 20<sup>TH</sup> day of March, 2019 by and between Community Growth Partners Great Barrington Operations LLC, a Massachusetts limited liability company and, any successor in interest, with a principal office address of 470 Atlantic Avenue 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boston MA 02210 (the "Company"), and the Town of Great Barrington, acting by and through its Selectboard, in reliance upon all of the representations made herein, a Massachusetts municipal corporation with a principal address of 334 Main Street, Great Barrington, Massachusetts 01230 (the "Town").

WHEREAS, the Company wishes to locate an Adult-Use Marijuana Retail Establishment (the "Establishment") for the retail sale of adult-use marijuana and marijuana products at a facility with 1762 square feet, located at 783 South Main Street, Great Barrington, as shown as Assessor's Map/Parcel 113/025.0-0000-0010.0 (the "Facility"), in accordance with and pursuant to applicable state laws and regulations, including, but not limited to 935 CMR 500.00 and such approvals as may be issued by the Town in accordance with its Zoning Bylaws and other applicable local regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Company intends to provide certain benefits to the Town in the event that it receives the requisite licenses from the Cannabis Control Commission (the "CCC") or such other state licensing or monitoring authority, as the case may be, to operate an Establishment in Town and receives all required local permits and approvals from the Town;

WHEREAS, the parties intend by this Agreement to satisfy the provisions of G.L. c.94G, Section 3(d), applicable to the operation of an Establishment, such activities to be only done in accordance with the applicable state and local laws and regulations in the Town;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants set forth herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Company and the Town agree as follows:

**1. Recitals**

The Parties agree that the above Recitals are true and accurate and that they are incorporated herein and made a part hereof.

## **2. Annual Payments**

In the event that the Company obtains the requisite licenses and/or approvals as may be required for the operation of an Establishment, and receives any and all necessary and required permits and licenses of the Town, and at the expiration of any final appeal period related thereto, said matter not being appealed further, which permits and/or licenses allow the Company to locate, occupy and operate the Facility in the Town, then the Company agrees to provide the following Annual Payments.

### **A. Community Impact Fee**

The Company anticipates that the Town will incur additional expenses and impacts on the Town's road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts on the Town. Accordingly, in order to mitigate the financial impact on the Town and use of Town resources, the Company agrees to pay an annual community impact fee to the Town, in the amount and under the terms provided herein (the "Annual Community Impact Fee").

1. Company shall annually pay an Annual Community Impact Fee in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of gross sales from marijuana and marijuana-related product sales at the Facility. The term "gross sales" shall mean the total of all sales transactions of the Facility without limitation, whether wholesale or retail, and shall include but not be limited to all sales occurring at the Facility, including the sale of marijuana, marijuana infused products, paraphernalia, and any other products sold by the Facility.
2. The Annual Community Impact Fee shall be made quarterly per the Town's fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) and is payable no later than the twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) day following the end of the quarter. The Annual Community Impact Fee for the company's first quarter of operation shall be prorated if the company is open for a portion of that quarter. The Annual Community Impact Fee payment shall continue for a period of five (5) years. At the conclusion of each of the respective five (5) year terms, the parties shall negotiate a new Annual Community Impact Fee; provided however, that the Annual Community Impact Fee shall not be reduced below the amount set forth above; provided further however, that if the law is amended to allow a community impact fee greater than three percent (3%) of gross revenue, the parties shall negotiate a new Annual Community Impact Fee prior to the respective five (5) year term.
3. The Town shall use the above referenced payments in its sole discretion, but shall make a good faith effort to allocate said payments for road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, public

health and addiction services and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts upon the Town.

**B. Legal Fees**

The Company understands it is under no legal obligation to pay the Town's fees or costs in connection with the legal fees associated with the drafting and negotiating of this Agreement, however, understanding that the Town is incurring legal expenses associated with this Agreement, as a part of the Company's desire to foster a good relationship with the Town and its residents, as well as to independently affirm its status as a good corporate citizen and neighbor, the Company elects, in addition to the Annual Community Impact Fee, to reimburse the Town for legal expenses associated with the negotiation and execution of this Agreement.

**C. Additional Costs, Payments and Reimbursements**

1. Permit and Connection Fees: The Company hereby acknowledges and accepts, and waives all rights to challenge, contest or appeal, the Town's building permit and other permit application fees, sewer and water connection fees, and all other local charges and fees generally applicable to other commercial developments in the Town.
2. Facility Consulting Fees and Costs: The Company shall reimburse the Town for any and all reasonable consulting costs and fees related to any land use applications concerning the Facility, negotiation of this and any other related agreements, and any review concerning the Facility, including planning, engineering, legal and/or environmental professional consultants and any related reasonable disbursements at standard rates charged by the above-referenced consultants in relation to the Facility.
3. Other Costs: The Company shall reimburse the Town for the actual costs incurred by the Town in connection with holding public meetings and forums substantially devoted to discussing the Facility and/or reviewing the Facility and for any and all reasonable consulting costs and fees related to the monitoring and enforcement of the terms of this Agreement, including, but not limited to independent financial auditors and legal fees.
4. Late Payment Penalty: The Company acknowledges that time is of the essence with respect to their timely payment of all funds required under Section 2 of this Agreement. In the event that any such payments are not fully made with ten (10) days of the date they are due, the Company shall be required to pay the Town a late payment penalty equal to five percent (5%) of such required payments.

**D. Annual Charitable/Non-Profit Contributions**

The Company, in addition to any funds specified herein, shall annually contribute to public local charities/non-profit organizations for health, wellness, and/or substance abuse education programs in the Town an amount no less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), said charities/non-profit organizations to be determined by the Company in its reasonable discretion (the "Annual Charitable/Non-Profit Contribution"). The Annual Charitable/Non-Profit Contribution shall be made annually beginning on the first anniversary following the commencement of operations, and shall continue for the term of this Agreement.

**E. Annual Reporting for Host Community Impact Fees**

The Company shall submit annual financial statements to the Town within thirty (30) days after June 30 of each year, the close of the Town's fiscal year, with a certification of its annual sales. The Company shall maintain books, financial records, and other compilations of data pertaining to the requirements of this Agreement in accordance with standard accounting practices and any applicable regulations or guidelines of the CCC. All records shall be kept for a period of at least seven (7) years. Upon request by the Town, the Company shall provide the Town with the same access to its financial records (to be treated as confidential, to the extent allowed by law) as it is required by the CCC and Department of Revenue for purposes of obtaining and maintaining a license for the Facility

During the term of this Agreement and for three years following the termination of this Agreement the Company shall agree, upon request of the Town to have its financial records examined, copied and audited by an Independent Financial Auditor, the expense of which shall be borne by the Company. The Independent Financial Auditor shall review the Company's financial records for purposes of determining that the Annual Payments are in compliance with the terms of this Agreement. Such examination shall be made not less than thirty (30) days following written notice from the Town and shall occur only during normal business hours and at such place where said books, financial records and accounts are maintained. The Independent Financial Audit shall include those parts of the Company's books and financial records which relate to the payment, and shall include a certification of itemized gross sales for the previous calendar year, and all other information required to ascertain compliance with the terms of this Agreement. The independent audit of such records shall be conducted in such a manner as not to interfere with the Company's normal business activities.

**3. Local Vendors and Employment**

To the extent such practice and its implementation are consistent with federal, state, and municipal laws and regulations, the Company shall make every effort in a legal and non-discriminatory manner to give priority to local businesses, suppliers, contractors, builders and vendors in the provision of goods and services called for in the construction, maintenance and continued



operation of the Facility when such contractors and suppliers are properly qualified and price competitive and shall use good faith efforts to hire Town residents.

#### 4. Local Taxes

At all times during the Term of this Agreement, property, both real and personal, owned or operated by the Company shall be treated as taxable, and all applicable real estate and personal property taxes for that property shall be paid either directly by the Company or by its landlord, neither the Company nor its landlord shall object or otherwise challenge the taxability of such property and shall not seek a non-profit or agricultural exemption or reduction with respect to such taxes. Notwithstanding the foregoing, (i) if real or personal property owned, leased or operated by the Company is determined to be non-taxable or partially non-taxable, or (ii) if the value of such property is abated with the effect of reducing or eliminating the tax which would otherwise be paid if assessed at fair cash value as defined in G.L. c. 59, §38, or (iii) if the Company is determined to be entitled or subject to exemption with the effect of reducing or eliminating the tax which would otherwise be due if not so exempted, then the Company shall pay to the Town an amount which when added to the taxes, if any, paid on such property, shall be equal to the taxes which would have been payable on such property at fair cash value and at the otherwise applicable tax rate, if there had been no abatement or exemption; this payment shall be in addition to the payment made by the Company under Section 2 (Annual Payments) of this Agreement.

#### 5. Security

To the extent requested by the Town's Police Department, and subject to the security and architectural review requirements of the CCC, or such other state licensing or monitoring authority, as the case may be, the Company shall work with the Town's Police Department in determining the placement of exterior security cameras.

The Company agrees to cooperate with the Police Department, including but not limited to periodic meetings to review operational concerns, security, delivery schedule and procedures, cooperation in investigations, and communications with the Police Department of any suspicious activities at or in the immediate vicinity of the Facility, and with regard to any anti-diversion procedures.

To the extent requested by the Town's Police Department, the Company shall work with the Police Department to implement a comprehensive diversion prevention plan to prevent diversion, such plan to be in place prior to the commencement of operations at the Facility.

The Company shall promptly report the discovery of the following to Town Police within 24 hours of the Company becoming aware of such event: diversion of marijuana; unusual discrepancies identified during inventory; theft; loss and any criminal action; unusual discrepancy in weight or inventory during transportation; any vehicle accidents, diversions, losses, or other reportable incidents that occur during transport; any suspicious act involving the sale, cultivation, distribution, processing, or production of marijuana by any person; unauthorized destruction of

marijuana; any loss or unauthorized alteration of records related to marijuana, registered qualifying patients, personal caregivers, or dispensary agents; an alarm activation or other event that requires response by public safety personnel; failure of any security alarm system due to a loss of electrical power or mechanical malfunction that is expected to last longer than eight hours; and any other breach of security.

**6. Community Impact Hearing Concerns**

The Company agrees to employ its best efforts to work collaboratively and cooperatively with its neighboring businesses and residents to establish written policies and procedures to address mitigation of any concerns or issues that may arise through its operation of the Facility, including, but not limited to any and all concerns or issues raised at the community impact hearing in Town relative to the operation of the Facility; said written policies and procedures, as may be amended from time to time, shall be reviewed and approved by the Town and shall be incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Agreement, the same as if each were fully set forth herein.

**7. Required Signage**

The Company agrees to post clear and visible signage inside the Facility which establishes that adult-use marijuana is not legal in all states and that it may be illegal to transport marijuana or cannabis infused products outside of Massachusetts.

**8. Additional Obligations**

The obligations of the Company and the Town recited herein are specifically contingent upon the Company obtaining a license for operation of the Facility in the Town, and the Company's receipt of any and all necessary local approvals to locate, occupy, and operate the Facility in the Town.

This agreement does not affect, limit, or control the authority of Town boards, commissions, and departments to carry out their respective powers and duties to decide upon and to issue, or deny, applicable permits and other approvals under the statutes and regulations of the Commonwealth, the General and Zoning Bylaws of the Town, or applicable regulations of those boards, commissions, and departments or to enforce said statutes, bylaws, and regulations. The Town, by entering into this Agreement, is not thereby required or obligated to issue such permits and approvals as may be necessary for an Establishment to operate in the Town, or to refrain from enforcement action against the Company and/or its Facility for violation of the terms of said permits and approvals or said statutes, bylaws, and regulations.

**9. Re-Opener/Review**

The Company or any "controlling person" in the Company, as defined in 935 CMR 500.02, shall be required to provide to the Town notice and a copy of any other Host Community Agreement entered into for any Establishment in which the Company, or any controlling person in the

Company, has any interest and which is licensed by the CCC as the same type of establishment as the entity governed by this agreement.

In the event the Company or any controlling person enters into a Host Community Agreement for an Establishment with another municipality in the Commonwealth that contains financial terms resulting in payments of a Community Impact Fee totaling a higher percentage of gross sales for the same type of establishment than the Company agrees to provide the Town pursuant to this Agreement, then the parties shall reopen this Agreement and negotiate an amendment resulting in financial benefits to the Town equivalent or superior to those provided to the other municipality.

#### **10. Support**

The Town agrees to submit to the CCC, or such other state licensing or monitoring authority, as the case may be, the required certifications relating to the Company's application for a license to operate the Facility where such compliance has been properly met, but makes no representation or promise that it will act on any other license or permit request, including, but not limited to any zoning application submitted for the Facility, in any particular way other than by the Town normal and regular course of conduct and in accordance with its rules and regulations and any statutory guidelines governing them.

#### **11. Term**

Except as expressly provided herein, this Agreement shall take effect on the date set forth above, and shall be applicable for as long as the Company operates the Facility in the Town.

#### **12. Successors/Assigns**

The Company shall not assign, sublet, or otherwise transfer its rights nor delegate its obligations under this Agreement, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent from the Town, and shall not assign any of the monies payable under this Agreement, except by and with the written consent of the Town and shall not assign or obligate any of the monies payable under this Agreement, except by and with the written consent of the Town. This Agreement is binding upon the parties hereto, their successors, assigns and legal representatives. Neither the Town nor the Company shall assign, sublet, or otherwise transfer any interest in the Agreement without the written consent of the other.

Events deemed an assignment include, without limitation: (i) Company's final and adjudicated bankruptcy whether voluntary or involuntary; (ii) the Company's takeover or merger by or with any other entity; (iii) the Company's outright sale of assets and equity, majority stock sale to another organization or entity for which the Company does not maintain a controlling equity interest; (iv) or any other change in ownership or status of the Company; (v) any assignment for



written or oral, and it shall not be modified or amended except by a written document executed by the parties hereto.

**17. Amendments/Waiver**

Amendments, or waivers of any term, condition, covenant, duty or obligation contained in this Agreement may be made only by written amendment executed by all signatories to the original Agreement, prior to the effective date of the amendment.

**18. Headings**

The article, section, and/or paragraph headings in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only, and shall in no way affect, modify, define or be used in interpreting the text of this Agreement.

**19. Counterparts**

This Agreement may be signed in any number of counterparts all of which taken together, each of which is an original, and all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument, and any party hereto may execute this Agreement by signing one or more counterparts.

**20. Signatures**

Facsimile signatures affixed to this Agreement shall have the same weight and authority as an original signature.

**21. No Joint Venture**

The Parties hereto agree that nothing contained in this Agreement or any other documents executed in connection herewith is intended or shall be construed to establish the Town, or the Town and any other successor, affiliate or corporate entity as joint ventures or partners.

**22. Nullity**

This Agreement shall be null and void in the event that the Company does not locate an Establishment in the Town or relocates the Facility out of the Town. Further, in the case of any relocation out of the Town, the Company agrees that an adjustment of any and all annual payments due to the Town hereunder shall be calculated based upon the period of occupation of the Facility

within the Town, but in no event shall the Town be responsible for the return of any funds provided to it by the Company.

### **23. Indemnification**

The Company shall indemnify, defend, and hold the Town harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, liabilities, actions, causes of actions, defenses, proceedings and/or costs and expenses, including attorney's fees, brought against the Town, their agents, departments, officials, employees, insurers and/or successors, by any third party arising from or relating to the development of the Property and/or Facility. Such indemnification shall include, but shall not be limited to, all reasonable fees and reasonable costs of attorneys and other reasonable consultant fees and all fees and costs (including but not limited to attorneys and consultant fees and costs) shall be at charged at regular and customary municipal rates, of the Town's choosing incurred in defending such claims, actions, proceedings or demands. The Company agrees, within thirty (30) days of written notice by the Town, to reimburse the Town for any and all costs and fees incurred in defending itself with respect to any such claim, action, proceeding or demand.

### **24. Third-Parties**

Nothing contained in this agreement shall create a contractual relationship with or a cause of action in favor of a third party against either the Town or the Company.

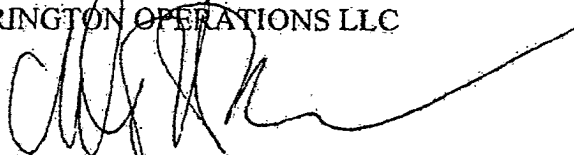
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the day and year first written above.

TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON



Stephen Bannon  
Chair, Selectboard,  
On behalf of the  
Town of Great Barrington

COMMUNITY GROWTH PARTNERS GREAT  
BARRINGTON OPERATIONS LLC



Charlotte Hanna  
Managing Member  
On behalf of  
Community Growth Partners Great  
Barrington Operations LLC

# **EXHIBIT G**

**From:** Chris Rembold crembold@Townofgb.org  
**Subject:** RE: License Renewal Question  
**Date:** December 21, 2020 at 9:05 AM  
**To:** Charlotte Hanna charlotte@communitygrowthpartners.com  
**Cc:** Taylor Haas taylor@communitygrowthpartners.com



Hi Charlotte, staff has looked at this and we are not aware of any extra expense due to your operation.



**Christopher Rembold, AICP**

Assistant Town Manager  
Director of Planning and  
Community Development  
413-528-1619 ext. 108  
crembold@townofgb.org

Town of Great Barrington  
334 Main Street  
Great Barrington MA 01230



The Secretary of State's office has determined that most e-mails to and from municipal offices and officials are public records. Consequently, confidentiality should not be expected.

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**From:** Charlotte Hanna <charlotte@communitygrowthpartners.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:30 PM  
**To:** Chris Rembold <crembold@Townofgb.org>  
**Cc:** Taylor Haas <taylor@communitygrowthpartners.com>  
**Subject:** License Renewal Question

Hi Chris. I hope this email finds you well. I can't believe I'm already applying to renew our cannabis license with the CCC - we only opened 3 months ago but yes it's true. I'm assuming there hasn't been any additional expense to the town related to the opening of our store. But please if you would confirm that for me by replying to this email, we'd appreciate it and will include your informal email reply in our renewal application. I'm happy we have such a good relationship with fire, police and buildings so far. Thanks, Charlotte

PS - our tree options this fall were very limited. We plan to plant in the spring when there are more varieties to choose from. Local company Penelope and Lloyd has been doing all of our landscaping and is on it. I hope the town has enjoyed the beautiful building we redeveloped on the south end of town. The feedback from customers has been wonderful.

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

*Municipal Cost Documentation \**

*Please upload documentation demonstrating that the licensee requested from the host community records of any cost to the city or town reasonably related to the operation of the establishment.*



*The host community costs can include actual and anticipated costs associated with the operation of the establishment. Additionally, please include the host community's response, or if no response was provided, a letter from the licensee attesting that they did not receive a response.*

*Licensees are strongly encouraged to review the Commission's Guidance on Licensure for information on how to comply with this requirement.*

Sent from my iPhone

# **EXHIBIT H**

Susan M. Carmel  
Town Accountant

E-mail: [scarmel@townofgb.org](mailto:scarmel@townofgb.org)  
[www.townofgb.org](http://www.townofgb.org)



Town Hall, 334 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Telephone: (413) 528-1619  
Fax: (413) 528-2290

## TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

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### OFFICE OF TOWN ACCOUNTANT

November 9, 2021

Taylor Haas  
Community Growth Partners Great Barrington Operations LLC  
dba Rebelle  
783 South Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

RE: Costs Imposed to the Town of Great Barrington

Mr. Haas:

The Town of Great Barrington has reviewed their records covering the period of September 2020 to present date, and have concluded that no significant costs have been imposed on the Town related to the operation of your establishment, Community Growth Partners Great Barrington Operations LLC (dba Rebelle). At this time, we do not foresee or anticipate any expenses resulting from this operation.

If you should need further information, or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (413)528-1619 ext. 6 or [scarmel@townofgb.org](mailto:scarmel@townofgb.org).

Best Regards,

*Susan M. Carmel*

Susan M. Carmel  
Town Accountant

# **EXHIBIT I**

Mark Pruhenski  
Town Manager

E-mail: [mpruhenski@townofgb.org](mailto:mpruhenski@townofgb.org)  
[www.townofgb.org](http://www.townofgb.org)



Town Hall, 334 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Telephone: (413) 528-1619 x2  
Fax: (413) 528-2290

## TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

November 7, 2022

Taylor Haas  
Community Growth Partners Great Barrington Operations LLC  
d/b/a Rebelle  
783 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

RE: Municipal Costs Incurred Related to CGP Operations, d/b/a Rebelle

Dear Mr. Haas:

The Town of Great Barrington has reviewed our records covering the period of November 2021 to the present date, and we have concluded that no significant direct costs have been incurred by the Town related to the operation of your establishment, Community Growth Partners Great Barrington Operations LLC, d/b/a Rebelle, at 783 Main Street.

Sincerely,

Mark Pruhenski  
Town Manager

cc: Town Accountant

# **EXHIBIT J**

**GREAT BARRINGTON AND  
Highminded LLC**

**HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENT**

THIS HOST COMMUNITY AGREEMENT ("AGREEMENT") is entered into this 25th day of July, 2018 by and between Highminded, LLC, a Massachusetts limited liability corporation and, any successor in interest, with a principal office address of 370 Main Road, Monterey, Massachusetts 01245 (the "Company"), and the Town of Great Barrington, acting by and through its Selectboard, in reliance upon all of the representations made herein, a Massachusetts municipal corporation with a principal address of 334 Main Street, Great Barrington, Massachusetts 01230 (the "Town").

WHEREAS, the Company wishes to locate an Adult-Use Marijuana Retail Establishment (the "Establishment") for the retail sale of adult-use marijuana and marijuana products at a facility with one thousand two hundred fifty-four (1,254) square feet of operation, located at 198 Main Street, Great Barrington, as shown as Assessor's Map 14 Lot 190 (the "Facility"), in accordance with and pursuant to applicable state laws and regulations, including, but not limited to 935 CMR 500.00 and such approvals as may be issued by the Town in accordance with its Zoning Bylaws and other applicable local regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Company intends to provide certain benefits to the Town in the event that it receives the requisite licenses from the Cannabis Control Commission (the "CCC") or such other state licensing or monitoring authority, as the case may be, to operate an Establishment in Town and receives all required local permits and approvals from the Town;

WHEREAS, the parties intend by this Agreement to satisfy the provisions of G.L. c.94G, Section 3(d), applicable to the operation of an Establishment, such activities to be only done in accordance with the applicable state and local laws and regulations in the Town;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants set forth herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Company and the Town agree as follows:

**1. Recitals**

The Parties agree that the above Recitals are true and accurate and that they are incorporated herein and made a part hereof.

**2. Annual Payments**

In the event that the Company obtains the requisite licenses and/or approvals as may be required for the operation of an Establishment, and receives any and all necessary and required permits and licenses of the Town, and at the expiration of any final appeal period related thereto, said matter not being appealed further, which permits and/or licenses allow the Company to locate,

occupy and operate the Facility in the Town, then the Company agrees to provide the following Annual Payments.

A. Community Impact Fee

The Company anticipates that the Town will incur additional expenses and impacts on the Town's road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts on the Town. Accordingly, in order to mitigate the financial impact on the Town and use of Town resources, the Company agrees to pay an annual community impact fee to the Town, in the amount and under the terms provided herein (the "Annual Community Impact Fee").

1. Company shall annually pay an Annual Community Impact Fee in an amount equal to three percent (3%) of gross revenue from marijuana and marijuana product sales at the Establishment. The term "gross revenue" shall mean the total of all sales transactions of the Facility without limitation, whether wholesale or retail, and shall include but not be limited to all sales occurring at the Facility, including the sale of marijuana, marijuana infused products, paraphernalia, and any other products sold by the Facility.
2. The Annual Community Impact Fee shall be made quarterly per the Town's fiscal year (July 1- June 30) and is payable no later than the twentieth (20<sup>th</sup>) day following the end of the quarter. The Annual Community Impact Fee for the company's first quarter of operation shall be prorated if the company is open for a portion of that quarter. The Annual Community Impact Fee payment shall continue for a period of five (5) years. At the conclusion of each of the respective five (5) year terms, the parties shall negotiate a new Annual Community Impact Fee; provided however, that the Annual Community Impact Fee shall not be reduced below the amount set forth above; provided further however, that if the law is amended to allow a community impact fee greater than three percent (3%) of gross revenue, the parties shall negotiate a new Annual Community Impact Fee prior to the respective five (5) year term.
3. The Town shall use the above referenced payments in its sole discretion, but shall make a good faith effort to allocate said payments for road and other infrastructure systems, law enforcement, fire protection services, inspectional services, public health and addiction services and permitting and consulting services, as well as unforeseen impacts upon the Town.



B. Legal Fees

The Company understands it is under no legal obligation to pay the Town's fees or costs in connection with the legal fees associated with the drafting and negotiating of this Agreement, however, understanding that the Town is incurring legal expenses associated with this Agreement, as a part of the Company's desire to foster a good relationship with the Town and its residents, as well as to independently affirm its status as a good corporate citizen and neighbor, the Company elects, in addition to the Annual Community Impact Fee, to deposit an initial amount of \$5,000, to be deposited into an escrow account for purposes of covering legal expenses associated with this Agreement, with any unpaid balance to be paid by the Company, or unused funds to be returned to the Company.

C. Additional Costs, Payments and Reimbursements

1. Permit and Connection Fees: The Company hereby acknowledges and accepts, and waives all rights to challenge, contest or appeal, the Town's building permit and other permit application fees, sewer and water connection fees, and all other local charges and fees generally applicable to other commercial developments in the Town.
2. Facility Consulting Fees and Costs: The Company shall reimburse the Town for any and all reasonable consulting costs and fees related to any land use applications concerning the Facility, negotiation of this and any other related agreements, and any review concerning the Facility, including planning, engineering, legal and/or environmental professional consultants and any related reasonable disbursements at standard rates charged by the above-referenced consultants in relation to the Facility.
3. Other Costs: The Company shall reimburse the Town for the actual costs incurred by the Town in connection with holding public meetings and forums substantially devoted to discussing the Facility and/or reviewing the Facility and for any and all reasonable consulting costs and fees related to the monitoring and enforcement of the terms of this Agreement, including, but not limited to independent financial auditors and legal fees.
4. Late Payment Penalty: The Company acknowledges that time is of the essence with respect to their timely payment of all funds required under Section 2 of this Agreement. In the event that any such payments are not fully made with ten (10) days of the date they are due, the Company shall be required to pay the Town a late payment penalty equal to five percent (5%) of such required payments.

**D. Annual Charitable/Non-Profit Contributions**

The Company, in addition to any funds specified herein, shall annually contribute to public local charities/non-profit organizations for health, wellness, and/or substance abuse education programs in the Town an amount no less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), said charities/non-profit organizations to be determined by the Company in its reasonable discretion (the "Annual Charitable/Non-Profit Contribution"). The Annual Charitable/Non-Profit Contribution shall be made annually beginning on the first anniversary following the commencement of operations, and shall continue for the term of this Agreement.

**E. Annual Reporting for Host Community Impact Fees**

The Company shall submit annual financial statements to the Town within thirty (30) days after June 30 of each year, the close of the Town's fiscal year, with a certification of its annual sales. The Company shall maintain books, financial records, and other compilations of data pertaining to the requirements of this Agreement in accordance with standard accounting practices and any applicable regulations or guidelines of the CCC. All records shall be kept for a period of at least seven (7) years. Upon request by the Town, the Company shall provide the Town with the same access to its financial records (to be treated as confidential, to the extent allowed by law) as it is required by the CCC and Department of Revenue for purposes of obtaining and maintaining a license for the Facility

During the term of this Agreement and for three years following the termination of this Agreement the Company shall agree, upon request of the Town to have its financial records examined, copied and audited by an Independent Financial Auditor, the expense of which shall be borne by the Company. The Independent Financial Auditor shall review the Company's financial records for purposes of determining that the Annual Payments are in compliance with the terms of this Agreement. Such examination shall be made not less than thirty (30) days following written notice from the Town and shall occur only during normal business hours and at such place where said books, financial records and accounts are maintained. The Independent Financial Audit shall include those parts of the Company's books and financial records which relate to the payment, and shall include a certification of itemized gross sales for the previous calendar year, and all other information required to ascertain compliance with the terms of this Agreement. The independent audit of such records shall be conducted in such a manner as not to interfere with the Company's normal business activities.

**3. Local Vendors and Employment**

To the extent such practice and its implementation are consistent with federal, state, and municipal laws and regulations, the Company shall make every effort in a legal and non-discriminatory manner to give priority to local businesses, suppliers, contractors, builders and vendors in the provision of goods and services called for in the construction, maintenance and continued operation of the Facility when such contractors and suppliers are properly qualified and price competitive and shall use good faith efforts to hire Town residents.

#### **4. Local Taxes**

At all times during the Term of this Agreement, property, both real and personal, owned or operated by the Company shall be treated as taxable, and all applicable real estate and personal property taxes for that property shall be paid either directly by the Company or by its landlord, neither the Company nor its landlord shall object or otherwise challenge the taxability of such property and shall not seek a non-profit or agricultural exemption or reduction with respect to such taxes. Notwithstanding the foregoing, (i) if real or personal property owned, leased or operated by the Company is determined to be non-taxable or partially non-taxable, or (ii) if the value of such property is abated with the effect of reducing or eliminating the tax which would otherwise be paid if assessed at fair cash value as defined in G.L. c. 59, §38, or (iii) if the Company is determined to be entitled or subject to exemption with the effect of reducing or eliminating the tax which would otherwise be due if not so exempted, then the Company shall pay to the Town an amount which when added to the taxes, if any, paid on such property, shall be equal to the taxes which would have been payable on such property at fair cash value and at the otherwise applicable tax rate, if there had been no abatement or exemption; this payment shall be in addition to the payment made by the Company under Section 2 of this Agreement.

#### **5. Security**

To the extent requested by the Town's Police Department, and subject to the security and architectural review requirements of the CCC, or such other state licensing or monitoring authority, as the case may be, the Company shall work with the Town's Police Department in determining the placement of exterior security cameras.

The Company agrees to cooperate with the Police Department, including but not limited to periodic meetings to review operational concerns, security, delivery schedule and procedures, cooperation in investigations, and communications with the Police Department of any suspicious activities at or in the immediate vicinity of the Facility, and with regard to any anti-diversion procedures.

To the extent requested by the Town's Police Department, the Company shall work with the Police Department to implement a comprehensive diversion prevention plan to prevent diversion, such plan to be in place prior to the commencement of operations at the Facility.

#### **6. Community Impact Hearing Concerns**

The Company agrees to employ its best efforts to work collaboratively and cooperatively with its neighboring businesses and residents to establish written policies and procedures to address mitigation of any concerns or issues that may arise through its operation of the Facility, including, but not limited to any and all concerns or issues raised at the community impact hearing in Town relative to the operation of the Facility; said written policies and procedures, as may be amended from time to time, shall be reviewed and approved by the Town and shall be incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this Agreement, the same as if each were fully set forth herein.

**7. Required Signage**

The Company agrees to post clear and visible signage inside the Facility which establishes that adult-use marijuana is not legal in all states and that it may be illegal to transport marijuana or cannabis infused products outside of Massachusetts.

**8. Additional Obligations**

The obligations of the Company and the Town recited herein are specifically contingent upon the Company obtaining a license for operation of the Facility in the Town, and the Company's receipt of any and all necessary local approvals to locate, occupy, and operate the Facility in the Town.

This agreement does not affect, limit, or control the authority of Town boards, commissions, and departments to carry out their respective powers and duties to decide upon and to issue, or deny, applicable permits and other approvals under the statutes and regulations of the Commonwealth, the General and Zoning Bylaws of the Town, or applicable regulations of those boards, commissions, and departments or to enforce said statutes, bylaws, and regulations. The Town, by entering into this Agreement, is not thereby required or obligated to issue such permits and approvals as may be necessary for an Establishment to operate in the Town, or to refrain from enforcement action against the Company and/or its Facility for violation of the terms of said permits and approvals or said statutes, bylaws, and regulations.

**9. Re-Opener/Review**

The Company or any "controlling person" in the Company, as defined in 935 CMR 500.02, shall be required to provide to the Town notice and a copy of any other Host Community Agreement entered into for any Establishment in which the Company, or any controlling person in the Company, has any interest and which is licensed by the CCC as the same type of establishment as the entity governed by this agreement.

In the event the Company or any controlling person enters into a Host Community Agreement for an Establishment with another municipality in the Commonwealth that contains financial terms resulting in payments of a Community Impact Fee totaling a higher percentage of gross sales for the same type of establishment than the Company agrees to provide the Town pursuant to this Agreement, then the parties shall reopen this Agreement and negotiate an amendment resulting in financial benefits to the Town equivalent or superior to those provided to the other municipality.

10. **Support**

The Town agrees to submit to the CCC, or such other state licensing or monitoring authority, as the case may be, the required certifications relating to the Company's application for a license to operate the Facility where such compliance has been properly met, but makes no representation or promise that it will act on any other license or permit request, including, but not limited to any zoning application submitted for the Facility, in any particular way other than by the Town normal and regular course of conduct and in accordance with its rules and regulations and any statutory guidelines governing them.

11. **Term**

Except as expressly provided herein, this Agreement shall take effect on the date set forth above, and shall be applicable for as long as the Company operates the Facility in the Town.

12. **Successors/Assigns**

The Company shall not assign, sublet, or otherwise transfer its rights nor delegate its obligations under this Agreement, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent from the Town, and shall not assign any of the monies payable under this Agreement, except by and with the written consent of the Town and shall not assign or obligate any of the monies payable under this Agreement, except by and with the written consent of the Town. This Agreement is binding upon the parties hereto, their successors, assigns and legal representatives. Neither the Town nor the Company shall assign, sublet, or otherwise transfer any interest in the Agreement without the written consent of the other.

Events deemed an assignment include, without limitation: (i) Company's final and adjudicated bankruptcy whether voluntary or involuntary; (ii) the Company's takeover or merger by or with any other entity; (iii) the Company's outright sale of assets and equity, majority stock sale to another organization or entity for which the Company does not maintain a controlling equity interest; (iv) or any other change in ownership or status of the Company; (v) any assignment for the benefit of creditors; and/or (vi) any other assignment not approved in advance in writing by the Town.

### 13. Notices

Any and all notices, consents, demands, requests, approvals or other communications required or permitted under this Agreement, shall be in writing and delivered by hand or mailed postage prepaid, return receipt requested, by registered or certified mail or by other reputable delivery service, and shall be deemed given when so delivered by hand, if so mailed, when deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, or, if sent by private overnight or other delivery service, when deposited with such delivery service.

To Town: Town Manager  
334 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

To Licensee: Highminded LLC      With a copy to: McCormick, Murtagh & Marcus  
370 Main Road      390 Main Street Suite 2  
Monterey MA 01245      Great Barrington, MA 01230

#### **14. Severability**

If any term of condition of this Agreement or any application thereof shall to any extent be held invalid, illegal or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity, legality, and enforceability of the remaining terms and conditions of this Agreement shall not be deemed affected thereby unless the Town would be substantially or materially prejudiced. Further, the Company agrees that it will not challenge, in any jurisdiction, the enforceability of any provision included in this Agreement; and to the extent the validity of this Agreement is challenged by the Company in a court of competent jurisdiction, the Company shall pay for all reasonable fees and costs incurred by the Town in enforcing this Agreement.

## 15. Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the Company submits to the jurisdiction of any of its appropriate courts for the adjudication of disputes arising out of this Agreement.

## **16. Entire Agreement**

This Agreement, including all documents incorporated herein by reference, constitutes the entire integrated agreement between the Company and the Town with respect to the matters described herein. This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements, negotiations and representations, either written or oral, and it shall not be modified or amended except by a written document executed by the parties hereto.

**17. Amendments/Waiver**

Amendments, or waivers of any term, condition, covenant, duty or obligation contained in this Agreement may be made only by written amendment executed by all signatories to the original Agreement, prior to the effective date of the amendment.

**18. Headings**

The article, section, and/or paragraph headings in this Agreement are for convenience of reference only, and shall in no way affect, modify, define or be used in interpreting the text of this Agreement.

**19. Counterparts**

This Agreement may be signed in any number of counterparts all of which taken together, each of which is an original, and all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument, and any party hereto may execute this Agreement by signing one or more counterparts.

**20. Signatures**

Facsimile signatures affixed to this Agreement shall have the same weight and authority as an original signature.

**21. No Joint Venture**

The Parties hereto agree that nothing contained in this Agreement or any other documents executed in connection herewith is intended or shall be construed to establish the Town, or the Town and any other successor, affiliate or corporate entity as joint ventures or partners.

**22. Nullity**

This Agreement shall be null and void in the event that the Company does not locate an Establishment in the Town or relocates the Facility out of the Town. Further, in the case of any relocation out of the Town, the Company agrees that an adjustment of any and all annual payments due to the Town hereunder shall be calculated based upon the period of occupation of the Facility within the Town, but in no event shall the Town be responsible for the return of any funds provided to it by the Company.

**23. Indemnification**

The Company shall indemnify, defend, and hold the Town harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, liabilities, actions, causes of actions, defenses, proceedings and/or costs and expenses, including attorney's fees, brought against the Town, their agents, departments, officials, employees, insurers and/or successors, by any third party arising from or relating to the development of the Property and/or Facility. Such indemnification shall include, but shall not be limited to, all reasonable fees and reasonable costs of attorneys and other reasonable consultant fees and all fees and costs (including but not limited to attorneys and consultant fees and costs) shall be at charged at regular and customary municipal rates, of the Town's choosing incurred in defending such claims, actions, proceedings or demands. The Company agrees, within thirty (30) days of written notice by the Town, to reimburse the Town for any and all costs and fees incurred in defending itself with respect to any such claim, action, proceeding or demand.

**24. Third-Parties**

Nothing contained in this agreement shall create a contractual relationship with or a cause of action in favor of a third party against either the Town or the Company.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the day and year first written above.

TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON

HIGHMINDED LLC

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Stephen Bannon  
Chair, Selectboard,  
On behalf of the  
Town of Great Barrington

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Alexander Farnsworth  
Manager  
On behalf of Highminded LLC

638535v2/GRBA/0084



# **EXHIBIT K**

Mark Pruhenski  
Town Manager

E-mail: [mpruhenski@townofgb.org](mailto:mpruhenski@townofgb.org)  
[www.townofgb.org](http://www.townofgb.org)



Town Hall, 334 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

Telephone: (413) 528-1619 x2  
Fax: (413) 528-2290

## TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

February 13, 2024

Alexander Farnsworth  
Highminded, LLC  
d/b/a Farnsworth Fine Cannabis Company  
126 Main Street  
Great Barrington, MA 01230

### Re: Costs Imposed to the Town of Great Barrington

Dear Mr. Farnsworth:

The Town of Great Barrington has reviewed its records covering the period of February 1, 2023 to the present date for the purpose of determining costs imposed upon the Town by the operation of your marijuana establishment, Farnsworth Fine Cannabis Company. The Town has not identified any significant, direct costs related to the operation of the establishment during that time period. At this time, the Town has not identified any anticipated significant direct costs related to future operation of the establishment.

If you should need further information, or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (413) 528-1619 ext. 2900 or [mpruhenski@townofgb.org](mailto:mpruhenski@townofgb.org).

Respectfully,

Mark Pruhenski  
Town Manager

cc: Allie Crespo/Financial Coordinator  
Alicia Dulin/Treasurer-Collector