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## Millbury approves marijuana host agreement

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MILLBURY - Selectmen Tuesday approved unanimously a host community agreement with Nature's Remedy of Massachusetts for a medical marijuana dispensary proposed to be located at 266 North Main St.

The Boston-based company, which also has an agreement with Grafton for a combined cultivation and retail medical marijuana dispensary, would only dispense marijuana according to state Department of Public Health regulations at the 2,500-square-foot Millbury site.

Under the agreement, Nature's Remedy would not sell, distribute or cultivate recreational marijuana at the site without receiving approval from the Board of Selectmen and complying with any other local bylaws.

Nature's Remedy agreed to pay Millbury the greater of \$25,000 or 1.25 percent of gross sales the first year; \$50,000 or 1.25 percent of gross sales the second year; and \$75,000 or 1.25 percent of gross sales for the third and subsequent years. Annual payments to the town will be capped at \$250,000.

The company, a non-profit corporation, will pay real estate taxes or an equivalent assessment based on fair market value each year to the town.

Nature's Remedy also agreed to hire local residents as a priority and to coordinate security plans with the Police Department.

In other business, selectmen supported by a 4-1 vote, with Selectman Scott Despres opposed, Town Manager David J. Marciello's appointment of Laurie A. Connors as director of planning and development. Ms. Connors, a Millbury resident, served in that role in Millbury from 2004 to March 2016, when she left for a position as land use director/town planner in Groton.

Ms. Connors plans to start in the \$80,000 a year job on March 13.

"I am very excited to pick up where I left off a year ago with the master plan, the LED streetlight project and Town Center improvements, as well as pursue new initiatives that will benefit the community," Ms. Connors wrote in statement. "Millbury truly is a wonderful community with a bright future and I am grateful for the opportunity to work with the new town manager, rekindle relationships with my former colleagues and help Millbury achieve its vision for tomorrow."