BRECK DEBATE

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citizens, and I think they will help us solve this."

"If the majority votes no, the council just leaves everything alone and BCC will have to be out of their Main Street location by Feb. 2, 2015," said town attorney Tim Berry. "But if they vote yes, the council will still have to finalize the ordinance."

Brian Rogers, general manager at Breckenridge Cannabis Clubs, had previously supported taking the issue to the voters. But that was if the vote had been held during the general election in November, when turnout would be higher. He had an issue with the date of the proposed special election in early to mid-December.

"My only problem is with the date of the special election," Rogers said. "All I'm asking is if you're going to go to the people it's best to do it during the general election when you get higher voter turnout."

At the Sept. 23 meeting, council expects to vote on taking the issue to the public in the form of an advisory referendum.

THE RIGHT TO RECUSE

At the Aug. 26 meeting, Councilwoman Wendy Wolfe recused herself from discussing the marijuana-on-Main issue.

She cited a possible conflict of interest. Her husband, Jack Wolfe, a commercial real estate broker in Breckenridge, was



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Brian Rogers, general manager at Breckenridge Cannabis Clubs — the yellow building in the photo above had previously supported taking the issue to the voters. But that was if the vote had been held during the general election in November, when turnout would be higher.

approached in mid-August by a current Breckenridge marijuana license holder interested in moving to a downtown location.

According to Berry, if a council member or his or her immediate family stands to make financial gains directly from council action, it's a conflict of interest. And according to the town ethics policy, it's up to the other council members to determine whether a conflict is real.

But on Tuesday, in order to re-enter the discussion, Jack Wolfe submitted a written statement saying he would refrain from any real estate transactions involving the marijuana industry downtown until after the issue has been settled by the council.

"This is one of the most important issues Wendy will work on this term," Jack Wolfe told the council. "We talked about this as a family, and I'm doing this so she can be part of this important conversation."

Still, even after the agreement by Jack Wolfe, the council was divided on what Wendy Wolfe would and would not be allowed to discuss on the issue.

"I have mixed feelings," Lawrence said. "This is a very muddy situation. And the irony of all this

We've floundered. When leadership flounders, the community flounders.

Councilman Mark Burke

is that Wendy is the most opposed to (marijuana on Main), yet she stands to gain the most financially if it is passed."

After much discussion, the council and town attorney decided which topics Wendy Wolfe could and couldn't participate in regarding the marijuana ordinance.

"There are two different issues," said Kim Dykstra-DiLallo, director of communications for the town of Breckenridge. "If the discussion is very general, such as yes or no, she's allowed to be part of the conversation.

"But when it gets down to specific provisions of the ordinance, such as how many feet the businesses must be apart, the number per block, then she will recuse herself."

Still, Dykstra-DiLallo noted, it's up to the council to determine on an individual basis the conversations from which Wendy Wolfe must recuse herself because of a possible conflict.

Council applauded the Wolfes for their transparency on the

"I think you are doing a really stand-up thing," Gallagher said. "I think it is commendable."



STEP UP

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