

October 28, 2019

Public Hearing: Amendment to the Cooperative Development Agreement with Eaton Rapids Township

A Public Hearing for an Amendment to the Cooperative Development Agreement between the City of Eaton Rapids and Eaton Rapids Township was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main Street, on October 28, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Malewski opened the Public Hearing at 7:12 p.m.

Property owner Ruth Gooch, 330 Dexter, explained that it was the property owners desire to sell the property to the developers and that they should have the right to do so.

Jan Dudas, Smith Road, requested more information about the property transfer. She had questions about the notice to property owners and requested that the amendment be tabled.

Joy Ketchum, 2580 Smith Road, advised that the Church Representative was not aware of the public hearing.

Debra Harrison, 2204 Smith Road, had questions about the use of property by the potential new owners.

Joy Ketchum, 2580 Smith Road, asked questions about the noticing of the public hearing.

Steve Ketchum, 2580 Smith Road, asked questions about the intended development of the property

City Manager Desentz advised that the developers have reported that their intent is to build senior housing. He advised that the developers are under no obligation at this time to submit plans for development. He advised of the process for an Amendment to the Cooperative Development Agreement. He further explained that Eaton Rapids Township would also hold a public hearing.

Larry Harrison, 2204 Smith Road, spoke out against the annexation of the property.

Debra Harrison, 2204 Smith Road, asked questions about the tax-exempt status of the Church and the effect on tax revenue.

City Attorney Harkness explained the annexation process and clarified the tax-exempt requirements.

Steve Ketchum, 2580 Smith Road, asked that the City table the amendment process.

Ruth Gooch, 330 Dexter, advised that she has received positive feedback from City residents about the potential development.

Councilwoman Colestock reported that the annexation is the beginning stage of the process. She advised that there would be additional opportunities for public input as the process continues.

Councilman Harri advised that there is a process that must be followed for annexation.

County Commissioner Barb Rogers explained the revenue sharing that is involved in a 425 agreement. Mayor Malewski explained that the City Council is responsible for approving the amendment to the 425 Agreement on the behalf of the City of Eaton Rapids and that the Eaton Rapids Township Board is responsible for representing Township residents. He advised that Council is not privy to the buy-sell agreement between the property owners and the developer. He further advised that property owners have the right to sell their property to whomever they wish.

There were no additional comments.

Mayor Malewski closed the Public Hearing at 7:53.

Paul O. Malewski

Laura Boomer