Public Hearing

October 14, 2024

Council President King; Council Members Baltzell, Buxton, Fleck, Gray, Sanford, Wolfe; Safety-Service Director Hitchcock; Mayor Hazel; Auditor Shinn; Law Director Moore

Council President King called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm to speak about a zoning change.

Jon Dingledine the CFO at Mercer Health noted he understands the Cities position on free market and competition but spoke about why he thinks the community if better off with Mercer Health and Grand Lake Health as the medical providers for the City of Celina as well as providing the health care infrastructure.

CM Gray spoke about an email he received from Jon. Jon spoke about a restriction covenant under the purchasing agreement with Mercy Health and their acquisition of the acre lot and believes it can stop people from purchasing land or bringing in competition within 25 miles from his understanding.

Michael Johnston the Senior Developer Manager from Mercy Health spoke about the deed restrictions they put on their land acquisitions as a religious non-profit and noted the restriction only affects the parcel they are buying. Michael noted they cannot stop people from selling other property to medical providers and would never do so because they cannot and just puts directives on their own property and what it can be used for.

Jon noted that is not his understanding and what the real estate agent explained to them about purchasing property.

CM Buxton asked Law Director Moore about his thoughts and he noted he did not receive the email and would have to look further into it before speaking on it.

Mayor Hazel noted that Bob Evans put a restriction on their property and noted they would not be the first company to have a deed restriction when purchasing a property and it only applies to the parcel being purchased.

Michael noted that they can pull the restriction back if they were to ever vacate the property.

CM Wolfe asked about the 25 miles radius in the restriction and Michael noted they would only apply restrictions to their property and the acre they are buying.

Deb Borns from Lake Shore Realtors noted that she thinks industrial land should not be rezoned since we do not have much left. Deb also mentioned possible locations that she believes is suitable and would not require a zoning change. Deb also spoke about what she believes would cause more traffic concerns on the infrastructure. Deb noted she believes this will have a negative effect on Mercer Health and the community.

President King adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Submitted by Michael F. Didonato, Clerk of Council