



City of Rochester Hills
AGENDA SUMMARY
NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS

1000 Rochester Hills Dr.
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Legislative File No: 2014-0593

TO: Mayor and City Council Members
FROM: John D. Staran, City Attorney
DATE: December 11, 2014 (For December 15 meeting)
SUBJECT: Request for Attorney General Opinion re oil and gas development regulation

REQUEST:

Council is requested to authorize and submit a request for an opinion from the Michigan Attorney General clarifying and explaining what powers cities have to regulate oil and gas development through local zoning.

BACKGROUND:

City Council is well aware of the issues and concerns surrounding the prospect of oil and gas exploration and development activities and facilities in or near our City. The City Council has tasked the City's Planning Commission with developing and recommending appropriate and lawful local ordinances and regulations for oil and gas development and related pipelines. The Planning Commission is in the midst of studying and deliberating the issues and has adopted a resolution asking the City Council to request a Michigan Attorney General Opinion to clarify and advise as to whether and what limits are there on the City's authority to regulate oil and gas development through local zoning. Meanwhile, I have drafted a proposed letter requesting an attorney general opinion for the City Council's consideration.

RECOMMENDATION:

City Council should consider and resolve whether to authorize the Mayor to sign and send a letter requesting a Michigan Attorney General Opinion clarifying and explaining what powers cities have to regulate oil and gas development through local zoning.

APPROVALS:	SIGNATURE	DATE
Department Review		
Department Director		
Mayor		
Deputy Clerk		