

**CITY OF EVART
VIRTUAL SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 27, 2020 8:00 AM**

The meeting was called to order at 8:06 am by Mayor Pro Tem Sandy Szeliga.

Present (by roll call): Mr. Ralph Carlson, Mr. Dan Elliott, Mr. Matt Hildebrand, Mayor John Joyce, and Ms. Szeliga.

Absent: none

Present: City Manager Sarah Dvoracek, Assistant City Manager Mark Wilson, Communications Director Melissa Rohen, City Clerk Kathy Fiebig

Guests: Lynn Salinas, Molly Cataldo, Shannon Schmidt, Alan Bengry

Ms. Dvoracek advised council that the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Board has tendered a contract for employment to Eric Kehoe to serve as DDA Director. Ms. Dvoracek further advised that Jessica Wood, City Attorney, had offered several suggested revisions to the contract and had noted that due to the fact that this contract is for the duration of six months, Council could choose to accept the contract as written.

Mayor Joyce stated that he believed the changes to be valid and to the City's benefit. Mr. Elliott said that he had some initial concerns with the contract and the suggested changes addressed all to his satisfaction. Mr. Carlson questioned Mr. Kehoe's residency and was told that he would work remotely from his home in the Detroit area. The contract requires that he spend five days per month on site. Ms. Dvoracek reminded the board that due to the current pandemic, Mr. Kehoe's personal contacts would be severely limited even if he were in Evart.

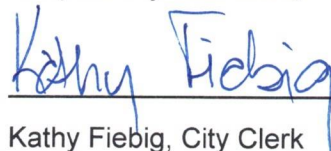
Lynn Salinas gave a brief review of the DDA history under the two past directors and said that each had a very different focus that served their needs at the time. The DDA is now ready to move forward with economic development, and she believes that Mr. Kehoe is uniquely qualified to lead that effort.

Ms. Cataldo described the hiring process followed by the Board and said that Mr. Kehoe was clearly the most qualified and experienced applicant. Mr. Hildebrand asked how the Board voted on the three finalists, and Ms. Cataldo said it was unanimous for Mr. Kehoe.

Motion by Mayor Joyce to approve the employment contract with the changes as suggested by Ms. Wood. Support by Mr. Elliott. Motion carried with a roll call vote; all were in favor.

Motion by Mayor Joyce to adjourn. Support by Ms. Szeliga. Motion carried with a roll call vote; all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Fiebig, City Clerk