

**CITY OF EVART
VIRTUAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 8, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor John Joyce at 7:30 pm.

Present (via roll call): Ralph Carlson, Dan Elliott, Matt Hildebrand, Mayor Joyce, Sandy Szeliga

Present: City Manager Sarah Dvoracek, Assistant City Manager Mark Wilson, Finance Director Pepper Lockhart, Chief of Police John Beam, City Attorney James White, DDA Director Eric Kehoe, City Clerk Kathy Fiebig, and Communications Director/Meeting Host Melissa Rohen.

Guests: Cathie Crew, Victoria Martin, John and Angela Hunter, Matt Biolette (Republic Services), Chris Emerick, Laurie Chase, Roger Elkins, Unit Assistant, Randy Berger and Travis (by phone).

Citizens' Comments: none

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Dvoracek added "trash cart deployment" to Items for Discussion, and Mr. Hildebrand suggested moving Items for Discussion in front of new business since council expects to go into closed session at that time. Both items involve discussions with guests and this will prevent them having to wait during the closed session.

Motion made by Mayor Joyce to approve the agenda with these changes. Support by Ms. Szeliga. Motion carried with a roll call vote; all were in favor.

Consent Agenda

- B. Regular Council Minutes _ August 24, 2020
- C. Special Council Minutes – August 27, 2020
- D. Vendor's List \$346,052.31
- E. Budget Amendments

Motion by Mayor Joyce to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Support by Mr. Carlson. Motion carried with a roll call vote; all were in favor.

Unfinished Business

- F. Evert Industrial Properties, LLC - expansion project

Mrs. Dvoracek reminded council that the Zoning Board of Review will meet on Friday, September 11 at 7:30 pm at Riverside East to consider the proposed variance for the Evert Industrial Properties LLC regarding their new site plan.

- G. Proposed policy changes for the Evert Police Department – no action taken.

Items for Discussion

- Introduction of Eric Kehoe – Downtown Development Authority Director and Michigan Main Street Director
- Trash Cart Deployment
Mrs. Dvoracek has received a few negative comments regarding this change in service, primarily from senior citizens who are worried about their ability to maneuver the cart to the street. She has been speaking with Matt Biolette of Republic Services and he has

offered a couple of possible alternatives for these situations. Council requested that Mrs. Dvoracek and Mr. Biolette continue to look for solutions to be presented at the next meeting.

New Business

Items for Action:

H. Sewer Credit for 220 S. River Street

Due to abnormally high usage, Patrick Muczynski of the Water Department checked the home and discovered a leak in the laundry room spigot. He verified that the excess water had not gone into the sewer system.

Motion by Mr. Hildebrand to approve a sewer credit of \$881.08 for 220 S River Street. Support by Ms. Szeliga. Motion was proved with a roll call vote; all were in favor.

I. Request to renew snowplow contract

Mayor Joyce appreciated the savings offered with the three-year term and wondered if Mr. Berger would consider extending the contract to five years at these terms. Mr. Berger is willing to do so if the gas recovery cost clause remains in effect for the additional years. Mr. Hildebrand acknowledged the convenience and stability of long-term contracts with service vendors but would like to see a policy put in place that would allow for a review either annually or bi-annually. The contract will be extended to five years and a review clause inserted. No action taken.

Motion by Mayor Joyce: "I move that the City Council go into closed session pursuant to MCL 15.268(f) to review and consider the contents of appointment to a public office which is exempt pursuant to MCL 15.268(f)." He requested the attendance of the following: himself, all Council Members, City Attorney White, City Manager Dvoracek, Finance Director Pepper Lockhart and City Clerk Fiebig. Support by Mr. Carlson. Council moved to closed session at 8:06 pm.

Motion by Mr. Hildebrand to end the closed session. Support by Ms. Szeliga. Motion carried with a roll call vote; all were in favor. Closed session ended at 8:28 pm.

Motion by Mayor Joyce to reconvene the public meeting. Support by Ms. Szeliga. Motion carried with a roll call vote; all were in favor. Public meeting reopened at 8:30 pm.

K. Pepper Lockhart's proposed Finance Director/Treasurer contract

Mayor Joyce offered Resolution 2020-16 to approve the employee contract for Finance Director Lockhart and set the salary pursuant to that contract. Support by Mr. Hildebrand. Motion carried with a roll call vote; all were in favor.

L. Sarah Dvoracek's proposed City manager contract

Mayor Joyce offered Resolution 2020-17 to approve the renegotiated employee contract for City Manager Dvoracek and set the salary pursuant to that contract. Support by Ms. Szeliga. Motion carried with a roll call vote; all were in favor.

Department/Informational Reports (No Action Needed)

M. Accounts Payable Report (8/25/2020 – 9/8/2020)

N. Payroll Report (8/25/2020 – 9/8/2020)

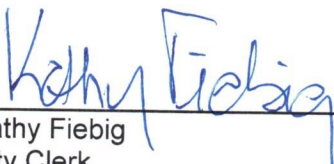
O. Revenue and Expense Report – August 2020

Citizens' Comments: none

Ms. Dvoracek advised council that the Splash Pad has been closed for the season. She reminded them that the City had received a grant earlier this year for 300 native trees. The first 30 trees are arriving tomorrow. Mr. Wilson has scheduled planting for Friday, September 11 at 8 am at Riverside Park West. She reminded Council of the Special Council Meeting to discuss the Strategic Plan on September 11 following the Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting. She will be sending out a number of documents prior to this meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm with a motion by Mayor Joyce and support by Mr. Carlson. Motion carried with a roll call vote; all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Fiebig
City Clerk