

**CITY OF EVART
VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 27, 2020**

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

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

Absent: none

Present: City Manager Sarah Dvoracek, Assistant City Manager Mark Wilson, City Attorney James White, Finance Director Pepper Lockhart, City Clerk Kathy Fiebig and Communications Director/Meeting Host Melissa Rohen

Guests: Matt Biolette (Republic Services), P. Kiewit (Emerson Geophysical, LLC), Cathie Crew, Victoria Martin, John and Angela Hunter, Janet, R. Douglas, Travis, Laurie Chase, Roger Elkins, Chris, Molly Cataldo, Unit Assistant, Scott Farrell, and two by phone.

Citizens' Comments (read by Meeting Host Rohen)

Roger Elkins: "The north water tower is looking great. Good job, guys!"

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Dvoracek requested that approval of budget amendments be added to the agenda under new business. Mr. Hildebrand suggested that in the future, budget amendments be addressed in the consent agenda. He feels that due to the current economic situation, council may be dealing with this often.

Motion made by Mayor Joyce to approve the agenda with the addition of approval of budget amendments. Support by Mr. Elliott.

Ayes: Mr. Elliott, Mr. Hildebrand, Mayor Joyce, Ms. Szeliga, Mr. Carlson.

Nays: none

Consent Agenda

Motion made by Mayor Joyce to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Support by Mr. Hildebrand.

Ayes: Mr. Hildebrand, Mayor Joyce, Ms. Szeliga, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Elliott

Nays: none

Unfinished Business

D. Request for Traffic Study Engineering Services – School Zone Safety Review

Mr. Wilson reported having several in depth conversations with an engineer who specializes in the traffic studies and his recommendation was to meet with school officials to seek solutions before committing to a traffic study. Accordingly, Mr. Wilson and Chief Beam met with school superintendent, middle school principal, and the school transportation supervisor. They

suggested several changes in school drop off and pick up procedures, as well as measures the City could take to improve awareness of the school zone at the middle school.

Motion by Mr. Carlson to approve the measures as proposed by Mr. Wilson but to upgrade to thermoplastic paint for the street crossings, not to exceed \$8,000. Support by Mr. Elliott.

Ayes: Mayor Joyce, Ms. Szeliga, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Hildebrand
Nays: none

E. Evert Industrial Properties, LLC

Ms. Dvoracek and City Attorney Jessica Wood have submitted a proposal to the Evert Township Board attorney. They have not received a response so Ms. Dvoracek requested that this remain under unfinished business. No action taken.

New Business

Budget Amendments

Both apply to work done at the airport and are a matter of moving funds from one account to the other to follow best practices and avoid having line items with a negative balance.

Motion by Ms. Szeliga to approve the budget amendments in the amount of \$3300. as presented. Support by Mr. Carlson.

Ayes: Ms. Szeliga, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Hildebrand, Mayor Joyce
Nays: none

F. 2020 Tax Foreclosures from Osceola County Treasurer (will email Friday 7/24/2020)

There are three residential properties in Evert under foreclosure by Osceola County. Two have buildings that will need to be demolished. Ms. Dvoracek recommends not exercising the City's option to purchase at the first auction. She has requested that the County Treasurer put a clause on these sales requiring that if purchased, the buildings must be demolished within 30 days. If the properties do not sell, council can bid at the second auction.

Motion by Mayor Joyce to authorize Ms. Dvoracek to refuse the first option to bid on the three properties with the understanding that if the properties do sell at auction, there will be a clause attached requiring demolition of the buildings within 30 days. Support by Mr. Hildebrand.

Ayes: Mr. Carlson, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Hildebrand, Mayor Joyce, Ms. Szeliga
Nays: none

G. Renewal of Downtown Development Authority Board Members – Bengry and Cataldo

Ms. Dvoracek and council members spoke highly of Mr. Bengry and Ms. Cataldo and were appreciative of their efforts and commitment to the DDA Board.

Motion by Mr. Elliott to approve the reappointment of Mr. Alan Bengry and Ms. Molly Cataldo to the Downtown Development Authority Board of Directors for four-year terms. Support by Hildebrand.

Ayes: Mr. Elliott, Mr. Hildebrand, Mayor Joyce, Ms. Szeliga, Mr. Carlson
 Nays: none

H. Republic Services Contract with Amendment

Ms. Dvoracek asked council to approve a five-year contract extension with Republic Services which would include \$1.75 increase per household per month to move to a wheeled cart system. She believes this system would greatly reduce loose trash in town and would encourage residents to abide by the amounts each household can put out each week.

Mr. Carlson would like to see a citizen survey. Mr. Joyce pointed out that historically, survey responses have been too low to be effective. Mr. Hildebrand felt that the contract should be put out to bid. Ms. Szeliga and Mr. White both spoke in favor of carts.

Motion by Mr. Hildebrand to put Evert city waste services out for bid. Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion made by Mr. Carlson to approve a five-year extension with Republic Services and add the cart service. Support by Mr. Elliott.

Ayes: Mayor Joyce, Ms. Szeliga, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Elliott
 Nays: Mr. Hildebrand

I. Request from Emerson Geophysical, LLC to conduct seismic survey

After discussion, council felt this proposal carried more potential drawbacks for the city than benefits. The survey would be conducted in an area that holds some of the oldest city infrastructure, as well as a major sewer line.

Motion by Mr. Elliott to deny this request. Support by Mr. Carlson.

Ayes: Mayor Joyce, Ms. Szeliga, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Hildebrand
 Nays: none

J. Agreement regarding access to Twin Creek Nature Area

Motion by Mayor Joyce to authorize Ms. Dvoracek to sign the agreement as presented. Support by Mr. Hildebrand.

Ayes: Ms. Szeliga, Mr. Carlson, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Hildebrand, Mr. Joyce
 Nays: none

Department/Informational Reports (No Action Needed)

K. Accounts Payable Report (7/14/2020 – 7/27/2020)

L. Payroll Report (7/14/2020 – 7/27/2020)

M. Summary of all Funds – June 2020 (*will be mailed Monday, 7/27/2020*)

N. Library Board Minutes – June 2020

Citizens' Comments (read by Meeting Host Rohen)

Travis: "Do it! I want a trash cart or at least give us the option to get one."

There being no further business before the council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Motion made by Mr. Carlson. Support by Mayor Joyce.

Ayes: Mr. Carlson, Mr. Elliott, Mr. Hildebrand, Mayor Joyce, Ms. Szeliga

Nays: none

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Fiebig, City Clerk