

**CITY OF EVART
PRE-COUNCIL WORK SESSION
April 3rd, 2023 @ 7:00PM
Community Room at the Depot, 200 S. Main Street**

Mayor Chris Emerick called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Present Council Members: Sean Duffy, Jim Schwab, Mayor Emerick, Matt Hildebrand, Sandy Szeliga

Present Staff: City Manager Pepper Lockhart, Finance Director/Treasurer Jennie Duncan, Downtown Development Director (DDA) Todd Bruggema, Director of Public Works (DPW) Don Duncan, Police Chief John Beam, City Clerk Andrea Grupido

Guests: Ralph Carlson, Diane Carlson, Travis Douglas, Al Fox, June Marie Essner, Kim Mayo, Darryl Kordie, Roger Elkins

Unfinished Business:

Schwab makes it known that he is inquiring again about the liability of our DPW employees while doing MDOT contract work on US10. D. Duncan is still awaiting a forecasted dollar amount for this contract work.

Schmude Oil and Gas Lease

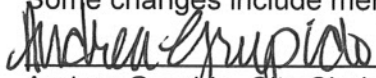
Lockhart reached out to the city manager of Manistee. Their city has had an oil well for 20 years and is still collecting royalties. Lockhart wanted to inquire about any problems, if any, have arose in relation to the oil well. The information she received was that the residents of Manistee have no issues with the oil well, and the only time there is a smell complaint is when they are doing a burn off. In speaking to the DNR, Lockhart was informed of an application that had to be filed when the agreement with Nestle was made. The DNR does not have this application on record. If the city decides to approve the contract with Schmude Oil, they will be responsible for finding out if the application was filed. The city is still investigating the real estate exchange agreement pertaining to this property. D. Duncan and Ryan Keathly walked the property together to get a better understanding of where the well head and holding tanks would be placed. The well head has to be placed 600 ft. from any dwelling. If the surrounding dwellings sign a waiver, the well head can be placed as close as 300ft. This would put the well head in the back corner of the property. The pump and holding tanks, however, must be 600 ft. from any dwelling and that would place them right in the middle of the property. Schmude could possibly pump from a mile away, eliminating the tank placement, and leaving the rest of the land usable for parks and rec. Hildebrand suggests that in entering a contract with Schmude, the city restrict the area where the well head can be set. Council asks for a site map of the property that details the proposed location of the well head. In the case there is no other option but to put the pump and tanks in the middle of the property, both Mayor and Hildebrand agree that would not be in the city's best interest.

Backyard Animals

Szeliga requests that Backyard Animals be put onto the agenda under unfinished business. Szeliga has a copy of the City of Clare ordinance for everyone to review. Szeliga points out the section regarding getting the permission of each surrounding neighbor.

Budget – First Draft

Some changes include merging repeating lines in major/local, as well as water/sewer.



Andrea Grupido, City Clerk