

**CITY OF EVART
PRE-COUNCIL MEETING
June 5th, 2023 @ 7:30PM
Community Room at the Depot, 200 S. Main Street**

Mayor Chris Emerick called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

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

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

Guests: Al Fox

New Business: Mayor received a message from Belinda and David Bock. David had a heart attack over Memorial Day weekend. They will be here tonight because they want to thank and recognize the EMS workers who helped save David's life. Mayor would like to add this to the agenda before Unfinished Business.

Chief states that we can strike item K. from the agenda as they are still collecting more proposals.

Discussion: Duffy would like to discuss taking the development funds and creating a community resource position. Duffy believes that Officer Wilson would be a good candidate. Officer Wilson has already expressed interest in taking on more responsibilities. This idea could also incorporate the promotion of Officer Wilson to sergeant, which would benefit the community and Chief Beam. The housing commission has discussed the possibility of paying 25% of a community resource officer's salary. If Officer Wilson gets the promotion to sergeant, his position as patrol officer would need to be filled. Chief has talked with Mark Sochocki and thinks the community resource officer would help take a more proactive approach concerning the common crimes that happen with the elderly. Hildebrand asks Chief to bring us more information about the salary once he has it.

D. Duncan has provided options for street sign designs. All are in agreement with the color blue. There is discussion about adding the Wildcat logo to the signs surrounding the schools, and the Evart logo to the signs by the Depot.



Andrea Grupido, City Clerk