

EVART PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes
Work Session
June 28, 2023
7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY BENGRY, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE AUDITORIUM LOCATED AT 321 NORTH HEMLOCK STREET, EVART, MICHIGAN 49631

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Alan Bengry x, Todd Bruggema x, Mark Moody x, Gerald Nichols x, Karen Pylman x, Eric Schmidt x, Kelly Whitman x.

Also present: Shirley Howard, Superintendent
Jason O'Dell, Middle School Principal
Ken Ranjel, Elementary School Principal
Amy Booher, Recording Secretary

Guests present: Tammy Dellar, William Dellar, Mark Sochocki, Patrick Tiedt, Valerie Hopkins, April Beemer, Jill Moyer, Ashton Moyer, Ralph Carlson, Diane Carlson, Abby Apsey, Eli Vincent, Dave Apsey, George Hollingshead, Bunny Hollingshead, Ken Wirth, Heather Keathley, Camden Gruszecki, Doug Rueffer, Dawn Rueffer, Tracy Gray, Ashlee Flachs, Kati Mora, Rosie Mckinstry, Sherry Morgan, Olivia Fellows, Maryann Corey, Zoe Babb, Roger Elkins, Connie, Douglass, Ryan Douglas, Travis Douglas, Deb Todd, Pepper Lockhart, Gary Terrill.

IV. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS/RECOGNITION OF GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

V. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

A. Alan Bengry shared a letter from Osceola Planning Commission.

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Mark Sochocki, Evart Housing Commission

B. Mark Sochocki shared information on the Evart Housing Commission having an option to purchase 6.4 acres from Evart Public Schools. This would be a 14 million dollar project including 48 townhouses that would be 2-3 bedroom with rates from \$500-\$1200 per month.

C. Connie Douglas had questions on selling the school property.

D. Jill Moyer shared benefits of safety and easier transportation with the building project by the school.

E. Val shared comments on having utilities available as some of her students live outside of town without running water

F. Katie Mora shared on how this project adds value to our community and a place to call home.

G. Heather Keathley asked questions on what is the convenience of the location and if there are other options?

H. Roger Elkins-share on other locations in the area that maybe available

I April Beemer- asked where doe the sale money go? Alan Bengry mentioned it would go to the school district and any type of school expense.

- J. Mr. Rice shared he feels it is the right of the people to vote on this sale.
- K. Jill Moyer shared that “ if you build it they will come.” Business owners etc. will benefit also from this sale.
- L. Ashley Flachs- local realtor shared perspectives of the sale including equal opportunity for buying.
- M. Tammy Dellar is in favor of this project. She shared why.
- N. Camden Gruzecki- shared on his safety concerns as this project he felt was close to the Elementary School.
- O. Ashton Moyer asked about the houses around the Middle School, why are there no complaints mentioned in this situation?
- P. Heather Keathley is concerned about the smoking near the elementary school. Is the playground public and can anyone smoke on the premise? Alan Bengry mentioned the playground is public, however it is a tobacco free zone.
- Q. Patrick Tiedt feels now is the time to say “yes” to this project.
- R. Connie Douglas- asked if the supervisors in this area are aware of the project? “ Does the City have interest with the school on this?” Is Ice Mountain aware of this with the water shed that runs right through the property?”
- S. Ken Wirth wanted to know about a growth plan for this project?
- T. Ralph Carlson mentioned he might be interested if the land becomes available to the public.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A. Recommendation to Adjourn

MOVED BY MOODY, SUPPORTED BY BRUGGEMA THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Results: Carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.