## MICHIGAN MAIN STREET FUNDS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR EVART MAIN STREET TO PROMOTE DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Evart, Michigan – The Michigan Main Street (MMS) Program, a technical assistance program of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), has funded a technical assistance grant on behalf of the Evart Main Street to explore housing and economic opportunities downtown. Properties within the downtown that have underutilized space may be eligible for redevelopment to become unique residential or retail opportunities. The Michigan Main Street Program and the Evart Main Street have contracted Revitalize, LLC to assist property owners and prospective developers explore these redevelopment opportunities and identify potential financial assistance for projects.

Bruce Johnston, Principal of Revitalize, LLC, will team up with staff from the City of Evart, MMS, and the MEDC for a presentation on TUESDAY APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup> starting at 5:30 pm at Evart City Hall, 220 S. Main Street, Evart, MI 49631. The team will discuss successful policies and procedures, offer information on funding opportunities that currently exist, provide case studies, and answer questions from the community. This meeting is no cost and open to the public.

The following morning, WEDNESDAY APRIL 26<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Johnston and the team will tour buildings with property owners and provide insight on the redevelopment potential, cost estimates, and funding opportunities that are available to assist in the rehabilitation of each building individually. These meetings are at no cost to the property owner; specific times for said visits will be coordinated by Evart Main Street DDA Director Todd Bruggema. Todd can be reached at 231-734-0185 or <a href="mailto:ddadirector@evart.org">ddadirector@evart.org</a>.

When building owners invest into their properties, the community adds much needed housing units, adds community vibrancy and economic opportunity, and creates a safer downtown by updating buildings to modern code standards. These investments can help assist property owners with strengthening their businesses as well as adding to the community tax base.

The City of Evart is recognized as a participant in the Michigan Main Street and Redevelopment Ready Communities programs by the MEDC. The City has obtained these designations by demonstrating a commitment to improving their development processes and voicing a priority for downtown revitalization.

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## **Property Redevelopment Meeting**

Tuesday, April 25 at 5:30 PM Evart City Hall - 200 S. Main Street Evart, MI 49631

Property Walkthroughs with Revitalize, LLC and Evart Main Street
Wednesday, April 26

Contact Todd Bruggema, Evart Main Street DDA Director, at 231-734-0185 or <a href="mailto:ddadirector@evart.org">ddadirector@evart.org</a> with any questions and to schedule a property walkthrough for a specific time on April 26.