

VILLAGE OF ELMWOOD

323 W. Winter Avenue Elmwood, 54740

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

DATE & TIME: September 9, 2024 – 7:00PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Neil Boltik, Paul Unser, Pat Geraets, Dawn Toth, Pam Marson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jason Severson, Mark Wolf

STAFF PRESENT: Holly Malaszuk, Nick Andrews

PUBLIC PRESENT: Carl Schroder, Amy Bechel, Dick Tiffany, Steven Halvorson, Glenn Webb, Tony Denucci, Russell Price

PRESS PRESENT: None

NOTE: APPROVED MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

President Neil Boltik called the Board Meeting to order at 7:00PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NOTE COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING LAWS

President Neil Boltik noted that the Village had complied with the open meeting law requirements.

OPEN REGULAR BOARD MEETING-

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR AUGUST 12, 2024 -

Dawn Toth made a motion to approve the minutes for August 12th as submitted. Seconded by Paul Unser. Roll Call and motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT –

-Richard Tiffany stated that grass and weeds are growing through the sidewalks and need to be addressed.

-Glenn Webb stated he brought up the crosswalk issue when he returned to town in 2018, stating that he had discussed it with Bill Stewart and the Public Works Department at the time. He explained that both he and the school board had approved the crosswalk paint and lights, and the school has already invested approximately \$62,000 into the walking path and trail. The permits for the crosswalk paint and lights are free, but Glenn had expectations for the village to cover the costs for the crosswalk, considering how much the school has spent. He is requesting that the permit be filled out and signed.

Neil Boltik expressed his interest in holding a joint meeting between the village board and the school, as he is eager to assist. However, a formal meeting needs to be scheduled to address the matter properly. He advised calling the clerk tomorrow to arrange a date and time for the meeting. He emphasized that approval cannot be given through informal conversations and must be legally conducted with the entire Village Board Members.

-Russell Price introduced Tony Denucci, the scheduling manager for the Pro AWF that participated in UFO Days. They inquired if there was interest in having them back for next year's UFO Days. Neil Boltik and Paul Unser clarified that the Village Board does not oversee UFO Days, as it is organized by the Community Club. They asked Tony to provide his contact information to Holly, who would forward it to the appropriate individuals.

COMMUNITY GROUPS – ENRICHMENT COUNCIL/COMMUNITY CLUB/AMERICAN LEGION –

Amy Bechel, speaking on behalf of the Community Club, announced that they will be hosting Fall Day in the park on October 13th. She inquired about whether the outlets in the first shelter at the park are functioning. Additionally, the Community Club is planning to have Santa Claus in the village auditorium on December 7th.

OPERATOR'S LICENSES – MICHAEL WEISS, MATTHEW MEHRKENS, REBECCA BAUMGARTNER – KERN'S KURBSIDE

Tabled

COMPLIANCE MAINTENANCE ANNUAL REPORT –

Holly explained that the CMAR (Compliance Maintenance Annual Report) is completed each year for the water plant. The main issues highlighted in the report are the need to have more spare parts available for quicker repairs and the requirement to conduct a rate study for the plant. They aren't asking if a rate study is being done; they are informing us that it must be completed due to shortcomings in Financial Management. Holly will reach out to Ehlers to see if they can contact the DNR to clarify that the rate study process is already underway. Neil Boltik explained that, unfortunately, this means water rates will be increasing. The Board is aware that the water/sewer plant is currently losing around \$30,000 annually, so it's necessary to make adjustments to get things back on track.

SACRED HEART CHURCH – EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION –

On September 22nd, Sacred Heart Church is planning to hold a Eucharistic Procession from 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The procession will begin at the church, turn right onto Woodworth St, then right onto Clark St, and return to the church.

Paul Unser made a motion to approve the street use permit as submitted. Seconded by Dawn Toth. Roll Call and motion carried.

PURCHASE OF LAPTOP –

Holly explained that she attempted to download a newer version of Chrome onto her laptop so she could continue working while attending seminars. However, the laptop indicated that it was already running the latest version it could support and suggested recycling the device. Paul Unser made a motion to grant Holly permission to purchase a new laptop. Seconded by Dawn Toth. Roll Call and motion carried.

Library Board: Nick Andrews mentioned that he has been trying to attend more events but hasn't been able to do much since he was diagnosed with Lyme disease. The library's attendance numbers are similar to last year's, and in November, he will be attending a library conference. With school back in session, he has been making many classroom visits. He's heard work being done on the roof but isn't sure if it's been completed. He would like to extend the library's hours in the future, but it's not currently in the budget. For now, their hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon.

Nursing Home: Neil Boltik mentioned that another walkthrough of the nursing home took place, but we are still awaiting a response from them.

Parks & Buildings: None

Public Works: Paul Unser read a message from Bryan Bechel, who worked with McCallie's last week to handle more tree care in town. Minnesota Pump Works inspected the lift station pumps, and all are in good condition. A cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, September 28th. Bryan will also be taking subclass tests in Eau Claire this Wednesday and additional tests in Rhinelander on October 2nd.

Personnel & Finance: None

Police Report: Paul Unser also read a message from Chief Chris Thibado, who was unable to attend. Chief Thibado reported 22 calls for service, submitted reports to the state, and certified equipment on loan from the federal government. He is continuing recruitment for an officer and is working on a new benefits package, which he hopes to present to P&F for a lateral transfer program.

Clerk Report: Holly Malaszuk announced that two more people have signed up to help with the elections, and she encouraged others to volunteer, even if only for Presidential Elections, as any help is greatly appreciated. She thanked Dawn Toth and Angie Boltik for signing up. Holly also mentioned that the Thanksgiving Dinner is being discussed and will announce it when a date is figured out. She also stated that the draft for the audit from CLA has been received. Additionally, she noted that the office will close early on September 23rd and remain closed until September 27th due to the League of Wisconsin Municipalities conference, with regular hours resuming on Friday the 27th.

PAYMENT OF BILLS –

Dawn Toth made a motion to approve full payment on the bills as submitted. Seconded by Pam Marson. Roll call and motion carried.

ADJOURN –

Dawn Toth moved to adjourn. Second by Pat Geraets. Roll Call and motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Holly R. Malaszuk
Clerk/Treasurer