

VILLAGE OF ELMWOOD

323 W. Winter Avenue Elmwood, 54740

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

DATE & TIME: July 14, 2025 – 7:00PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Neil Boltik, Jason Severson, Dawn Toth, Mark Wolf, Mike Burke, Paul Unser, Pam Marson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Holly Malaszuk, Darren Ekholm, Chris Thibado, Nick Andrews

PUBLIC PRESENT: Amy Bechel, Carl Schroder, Shelly Kosin, Tony Maas

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

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

OPEN REGULAR BOARD MEETING-

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR June 9, 2025 -

Paul Unser made a motion to approve the minutes for June 9th as submitted. Seconded by Dawn Toth. Roll Call. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT –

Shelly Kosin inquired about the possibility of adopting a golf cart ordinance similar to those currently in place in Spring Valley and Ellsworth. She noted that golf carts are not categorized under UTV/ATV regulations due to DNR classifications. Shelly also provided copies of the ordinances from both Spring Valley and Ellsworth for reference. Jason Severson made a motion to put this topic on next month's agenda so that it can be discussed further. Seconded by Dawn Toth. Roll Call and motion carried.

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

Amy Bechel reported that preparations for UFO Days are nearly complete, but additional volunteers are still needed for the food tent. Darren Ekholm stated that "No Parking" signs will be placed near the parking lot by Half Throttle Saloon.

APPROVAL OF LEGAL REPRESENTATION/EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE/VILLAGE VEHICLE –

Dawn Toth made a motion to approve the items discussed during the meeting held at 6:00 p.m. on July 14th. As part of that meeting, the board approved retaining Bakke Norman for the Village's legal representation on a six-month probationary basis to evaluate whether it is more beneficial for the Village to proceed with a prorated payment structure or pay per service. The approval of employee health insurance and the Village vehicle was tabled for further discussion. The motion was seconded by Jason Severson. Roll call was taken, and the motion carried.

OPERATOR'S LICENSE – KARLEE LANGE – HALF THROTTLE SALOON –

Dawn Toth made a motion to approve the operator's license application as submitted. Seconded by Mark Wolf. Roll call was taken, and the motion carried.

OPERATOR'S LICENSE – DEBRA TRAUN – DOLLAR GENERAL –

Jason Severson made a motion to approve the operator's license application as submitted. Seconded by Dawn Toth. Roll call was taken, and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF ALL KERNS KURBSIDE AND LA VERACRUZANA ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE APPLICATION AND RENEWALS –

Pam Marson made a motion to approve the renewal of Kerns Kurbside's paperwork and the new paperwork for a beer license for La Veracruzana. Seconded by Jason Severson. Roll call was taken, and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF UFO DAYS FIREWORKS AND REMAINING PAPERWORK –

Darren Ekholm voiced safety concerns about keeping the alley behind the buildings on North Main Street (from Winter Avenue to Race Avenue) open during UFO Days. He recommended closing it from Friday through Sunday and sending a letter to affected residents informing them that access will be restricted during that time. He also requested a letter be sent to tenants of the Winter Avenue apartments, notifying them that several parking spots near the band area will be unavailable, and that parking passes be issued to manage vehicle access. Open Container hours were updated to:

- Friday: 6:00 p.m. – 2:30 a.m.
- Saturday: 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 a.m.
- Sunday: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

A fireworks permit was submitted by Jeremy Whirry for a display at approximately 10:00 p.m. on July 26th.

Mark Wolf made a motion to approve all items as presented. Seconded by Jason Severson. Roll call was taken, and the motion carried.

REZONING NELSON DEVELOPMENT PARCELS AND CERTIFIED SURVEY MAP FROM PUBLIC HEARING ON JULY 7, 2025 –

Dawn Toth made a motion to rezone the parcels in the Nelson Development from multi-family to single-family and to approve the Certified Survey Map for parcel #122010100440, zoning it as industrial for Tucker Silberhorn. The motion was seconded by Pam Marson. Roll call was taken, and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF FINES FOR FAILURE TO OBTAIN REQUIRED PERMITS/OPERATOR'S LICENSES –

Tabled

APPROVAL OF ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICE –

Paul Unser made a motion to approve partnering with Animal Control Services to handle animals within the Village. The motion was seconded by Dawn Toth. Roll call was taken, and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF NEW TIRES FOR THE SQUAD TRUCK –

Jason Severson made a motion to purchase new tires for the squad truck through Bauer Built. Neil Boltik explained that All-Croix conducts inspections for various items such as driveways, outbuildings, pools, signs, and more. The Village would like them to assume responsibility for all additional inspection services they offer to ensure consistency and allow for both pre- and post-project inspections. Dawn Toth made a motion to approve All-Croix assuming all additional responsibilities. Seconded by Mark Wolf. Roll Call. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNTY LIBRARY TAX LETTER –

Dawn Toth made a motion to approve the letter for the County Library Tax as submitted. The motion was seconded by Jason Severson. Roll call was taken, and the motion carried.

POLICE DEPARTMENT TRANSITION – APPOINTMENT OF DARREN EKHOLM AS CHIEF OF POLICE –

Dawn Toth made a motion to appoint Darren Ekholm as Chief of Police, with Chris Thibado stepping down from the position. The motion was seconded by Mark Wolf. Roll call was taken, and the motion carried.

Library Board: Nick Andrews reported that July was a busy month at the library, with ongoing work on children's programs. Attendance has been increasing, including more visitors from out of town. Story time continues to be well attended. The patio project is now complete, and there is a harvest from the library garden available for anyone who would like to stop by and check it out. The installation date for the new gutters is still to be determined.

Nursing Home: None

Parks & Buildings: None

Public Works: Read by Pam Marson, the Public Works report highlighted a variety of projects, including painting curbs, parking lines, and crosswalks; repairing sidewalk cracks; and installing UFO Days banners, American flags, and a new curb stop at the park. Crews completed the wastewater permit renewal, CCR, and CMAR reports, assembled a dog kennel, repaired the washed-out UTV trail, sealed the basketball court at Butternut Park, and sealed cracks around the Auditorium. Other work included locating and repairing a significant water leak at the school raiders field, repairing a clarifier tank cap, and preparing for upcoming blacktop and patch repairs. Carl Schroder also shared concerns about weeds along Main Street.

Personnel & Finance: None

Police Report: Presented by Jason Severson, the Elmwood Police Department responded to 33 calls for service in June. Training and events included an immigration webinar hosted by the U.S. Attorney's Office, mandatory biennial Emergency Vehicle Operations/Pursuit training in Ellsworth, and participation in the Pierce County Radiological Reception Center training drill. The DOJ Time System Audit is ongoing. Four citations were issued in June, two for possession of THC/marijuana from traffic stops. The Pierce County Sheriff's Office also responded to four calls for service in Elmwood during the month.

Clerk Report: Presented by Holly Malaszuk, the report included preparations for UFO Days, assisting Public Works with the completion and submission of the CCR and CMAR reports, balancing monthly bank statements, and updating financial reports. Additional tasks included assembling welcome packets for new residents and contacting the IRS to obtain the information needed to reopen the Sam's account for grant applications.

PAYMENT OF BILLS –

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

ADJOURN –

Dawn Toth moved to adjourn. Seconded by Paul Unser. Roll Call and motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Holly R. Malaszuk
Clerk/Treasurer