



ELWOOD VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 2023

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees, Village of Elwood, January 11, 2023, at 7:00 pm. was called to order by Village President Doug Jenco.

Role Call

Present: Village Board President Doug Jenco, Village Board Trustees: Ron Schmidt, Tricia Maas, Darryl Lab, Kendy Elbersen, Michael Varman, and Jodie Bertucci

Also, Present: Village Administrator/Village Clerk Julie Friebele, Police Chief Fred Hayes, and Public Works Director Larry Lohmar

The Meeting Opened With the Pledge to the Flag

Presentations and Public Hearings

None

Public Comments – Pertaining to Agenda Items

Members of the audience did not have public comments pertaining to the agenda items.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Bertucci to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Presentation of Minutes – December 7, 2022
- Presentation of Bills – Paid Invoice Report November 29, 2022 through December 6, 2022 in the amount of \$\$27,852.60.
- Presentation of Bills – Paid Invoice Report December 8, 2022 through January 6, 2023 in the amount of \$179,220.60
- Presentation of Bills – Unpaid Invoice Report in the amount of \$309,403.45.

Trustee Schmidt seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Lab – yes, Schmidt – yes, Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Elbersen – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, and Trustee Bertucci – yes. The motion carried.

Reports & Communications From Village Officials

Administration – Village Administrator Julie Friebele

November 2022 Financial Reports

The November 2022 Financial Report, prepared by Finance Director Robbie Day, was presented to the Village Board for review. The report represents the Village of Elwood's year to date revenues, expenses, and end of the month fund cash balances.

Jackson Township Twilighters Donation Request

Annually the Jackson Township Twilighters submit a letter to the Village Board requesting a monetary donation in support of their organization. The donation funds are used to reduce the individual member's cost for senior programs, celebrations, and informational speakers. A motion was made by Trustee Lab to approve a monetary donation in the amount of \$500.00 to Jackson Township Twilighters. Trustee Bertucci seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Lab – yes, Schmidt – yes, Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Elberson – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, and Trustee Bertucci – yes. The motion carried.

Police Department – Chief Fred Hayes

Oath of Office, Officer Anthony J. Drabik

Village Clerk Julie Friebele administered the Oath of Office to Officer Anthony J. Drabik.

During the Month of November 2022

The Elwood Police Department responded to 315 calls for service. For more details concerning the types of calls, residents can visit the Village of Elwood website.

Police officers issued a total of 102 citations:

- Local Citations (O.V.) 2
- State Citations 100
- Overweight Violations (0)
- Monthly Total 102
- 2022 Year to Date Total 1113

Arrest Report Summary:

- Traffic Arrests 4
- Warrant Arrests 1
- Criminal 0
- Monthly Total 5
- Year to Date Total 81

TRAINING REPORT:

OFFICER	CLASS	DATE	HOURS
Marc Reid	Nuclear Incident Recognition	11/1/2022	4
Ed Wright	Traffic Incident Management	11/10/2022	4
Ed Wright	Canine Team Drug Detection	11/15/2022	8
Sara Zimmerman	Crisis Intervention Training (CIT)	11/14-18/22	40

Total Training Hours: 56

Authorization to Hire a Full Time Police Officer

The Police Department’s organizational structure is budgeted for FY2022/23 at (11) sworn police Officers, which includes a Chief, two (2) Sergeants, and eight (8) Patrol Officers. The department currently has one (1) full time vacancy due to the vacancy of one (1) Sergeant position. A motion was made by Trustee Varman to appoint Drin Bajrami as a Conditional Full Time Police Officer to the Elwood Police Department. Trustee Schmidt seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Lab – yes, Schmidt – yes, Trustee Maas – yes, Trustee Elberson – yes, Trustee Varman – yes, and Trustee Bertucci – yes. The motion carried.

Public Works – Director of Public Works Larry Lohmar

Public Works Yard

The Public Works yard was cleaned up and is ready for the winter snows.

Winter Truck Service

The trucks and equipment are serviced and ready for snow plowing.

Water Service

We repaired a water line break at 109 South Street.

Christmas Holiday Decorations

The Christmas decorations have been removed and stored for next year with the exception of Mr. McChilly he will be removed as soon as the ground firms up.

Salt

We received the Village's salt for the year and it is loaded and stored in the salt shed.

Surf Internet

Surf has approximately 90% of the conduit in the ground and are working on Wooded Cove cables to turn on the internet there. There have been many issues not only in Wooded Cove but in the Village as a whole. RLM has hit a gas line, electric lines, and a dog fence, etc. Larry is making a list of issues to be repaired.

Light Pole Damage

The Village will receive payment in the amount of \$4,768 regarding damage to Village light poles.

Village Administrator – Julie Friebele

Bringing the Library to Downtown Elwood

January 10, 2023, we met with the Director of Elwood Manhattan Public Library, Ashley Hopper and the architects to discuss their proposed renovation of the building located at 111 E. Mississippi to meet the needs of the new library branch in downtown Elwood! The redevelopment will deliver many advantages for the community. The library currently has an intergovernmental agreement with Elwood School to provide public library cards to all of the students. Benefits include but are not limited to preschool aged children story times and play dates, after-school programs for older children, smart lockers, and computers & printing for public use. Construction is projected to begin late spring.

Retirement of Dave Yakich

It is with personal regret but warm wishes that I announce the retirement of Public Works employee Dave Yakich, effective January 6, 2023. Dave was a dedicated employee of the Village for the past 18 years and will truly be missed.

Consolidated Election, April 4, 2023

The Certification of Ballot was sent to the Will County Clerk Election Authority on December 20, 2022 listing all offices and candidates in the order that they are to appear on the ballot at the Consolidated Election to be held on April 4, 2023.

Three (3) Village Trustees - Four (4) Year Term

1. Tricia Maas
2. Michael J. Varman

3. Darryl P. Lab

Early Voting begins on Monday, 20th day of March 2023, and continues for two weeks.

Upcoming Village Meetings

Planning and Zoning	Tuesday, January 24 th	7:00 pm
Finance Committee	Tuesday, January 31 st	4:00 pm
Park Committee	Wednesday, January 25 th	5:30 pm
Village Board of Trustees	Wednesday, February 1 st	7:00 pm

Village President – Doug Jenco

- I received a letter from 9-year-old Brooklyn Barney requesting an Ice Cream Truck in the Village. Although we cannot get an ice cream truck, her letter was so touching that we gave her a few boxes of different types of ice cream she can share with her family and friends.
- Thank you to all of the Village staff; administration office, Public Works, Police Department, you all do a great job.
- Village Trustees I appreciate all you do.

Other Business

Great open house regarding Habitat for Humanity homes in Elwood. The event is being televised on NewsNation.

Public Comments

Members of the audience did not have public comments.

Closed Session

No closed session meeting was held.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Bertucci to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Schmidt seconded the motion. The Village Board voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

Julie Friebele, Village Clerk