



**ELWOOD VILLAGE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES OF
July 12, 2023**

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees, Village of Elwood, July 12, 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: Tricia Maas, Ron Schmidt, Darryl Lab, and Michael Varman

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

Not Present: Trustees: Kendy Elberson and Jodie Bertucci

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 Varman to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Presentation of Minutes – June 7, 2023

Presentation of Closed Session Minutes – June 7, 2023 Not for Release

Presentation of Bills – Paid Invoice Report May 20, 2023 through June 6, 2023 in the amount of \$113,512.33.

Presentation of Bills – Paid Invoice Report June 8, 2023 through July 7, 2023 in the amount of \$93,027.60.

Presentation of Bills – Unpaid Invoice Report in the amount of \$324,546.59.

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

Reports & Communications From Village Officials

Administration – Village Administrator Julie Friebele

May 2023 Financial Reports

The 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.

A Resolution Adopting the Prevailing Wage Rates for Laborers, Mechanics, and Other Workers on Public Works

The Prevailing Wage Act regulates wages of laborers, workers and mechanics employed in any public works by the State, County, City or any public body or any political subdivision or by anyone under contract for public works. If the Village does not adopt a Resolution Adopting the Prevailing Wage Rates for Laborers, Mechanics, and Other Workers on Public Works and file with the Department of Labor, then the prevailing rate of wages for the Village shall be the rate as determined by the Illinois Department of Labor. A motion was made by Trustee Lab to adopt a Resolution Adopting the Prevailing Wage Rates for Laborers, Mechanics, and Other Workers on Public Works. Trustee Varman seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Schmidt – yes, Trustee Lab – yes, Trustee Maas – yes, and Trustee Varman – yes. The motion carried.

Will County Center for Community Concerns Donation Request

Will County Center for Community Concerns sent a letter requesting a monetary donation. The agency provides programs and services such as counseling, utility assistance, homeless services and more at no cost to the customer. In 2022 the agency provided Village of Elwood residents with \$45,429.67 in direct client assistance utilizing 44 services. A motion was made by Trustee Varman to authorize a donation to Will County Center for Community Concerns in the amount of \$1000.00. Trustee Maas seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Schmidt – yes, Trustee Lab – yes, Trustee Maas – yes, and Trustee Varman – yes. The motion carried.

Police Department – Chief Fred Hayes

During the Month of May 2023

The Elwood Police Department responded to 367 calls for service. For more details concerning the types of calls, residents can visit the Village of Elwood website.

Police officers issued citations:

- Local Citations (O.V.) 2
- State Citations 99
- Overweight Violations (2)
- Monthly Total 101
- Year to Date Total 457

Arrest Report Summary:

- Traffic Arrests 15
- Warrant Arrests 0
- Criminal 1
- Monthly Total 16
- Year to Date Total 49

TRAINING REPORT:

OFFICER	CLASS	DATE	HOURS
Ed Wright	Commercial Vehicle Interdiction	5/1-3/23	24
Sarah Zimmerman	Advanced Financial Crimes Investigations	5/1-2/23	16
Anthony Lohmar	High Risk Vehicle Stops	5/1-2/23	16
Nick Adams	Heavy Vehicle Mechanical Inspection/Crash	5/8-12/23	40
Anthony Drabik	Breath Analysis Operator	5/9/23	8
Anthony Drabik	Tactical Emergency Care	5/17/23	8
Sarah Zimmerman	Active Threat Response; Command & Controls	5/23/23	8
Ed Wright	Active Threat Response; Command & Controls	5/23/23	8
Anthony Drabik	Active Threat Response; Command & Controls	5/23/23	8

Anthony Drabik	Policing a Diversified America	5/30/23	8
Ed Wright	Policing a Diversified America	5/30/23	8
Sarah Zimmerman	Policing a Diversified America	5/30/23	8
Nick Adams	IDNR Explosives Safety, Recognition	5/31/23	8

Total Training Hours: 168

Request Authorization to Purchase Public Safety Vehicle

There continues to be a severe disruption in the supply chain for police vehicles. The major manufactures have been unable to supply orders and, in many cases, have out right canceled orders due to their inability to meet them. We were just notified that the second order placed for a Ford F150 Police Pursuit pick up truck in 2022 has now been cancelled. Although Ford made several deliveries to local police departments, Elwood PD was not one of them. Ford stated they were unable to meet all the demand and will not accept any more orders for the F150 until the fall for 2024. Sutton Ford Commercial & Fleet of Matteson, IL contacted the Village and indicated they have a limited shipment of stock 2023 Police Interceptor Utility (SUV), also known as a Ford Explorer. The 2023 Police Interceptor meets the needs of the department. A motion was made by Trustee Schmidt to authorize and approve the purchase of a one (1) 2023 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicle from Sutton Ford Commercial & Fleet of Matteson, IL in the amount of \$41,030.00. Trustee Lab seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Schmidt – yes, Trustee Lab – yes, Trustee Maas – yes, and Trustee Varman – yes. The motion carried.

Request Authorization to Purchase In-Car Video Camera

In-car video recording has emerged as a fundamental instrument for the law enforcement community to protect its officers as well as the community at large; these systems are used increasingly in police vehicles to the point that they have now become almost standard equipment. Advancement in technology now allows for these systems to integrate with the Body Worn Cameras (BWC's) which are required by Illinois State Law commencing January 1, 2025.

The Elwood Police Department determined that the BWC's manufactured by Axon Enterprise, Inc are the best-performing body-worn cameras and best suited to meet the police department's needs. Additionally, the purchase of Axon in-car dash cameras will allow for the future integration of the departments BWC's. Axon is also compatible with the department's current deployment of Flock Safety Camera (ALPR) system, with data storage in the Axon Evidence program. The Village of Elwood procurement ordinance and policy allows for sole source procurement without using the competitive method of source selection when there is a sole source or sole economically feasible source for an item. A motion was made by Trustee Lab to authorize to waive competitive bidding and enter into a purchasing agreement in the amount of \$35,742.61(\$7,148.57 annual x 60 months) for (2) In-Car video Camera Systems from Axon Enterprise, Inc of Scottsdale, Arizona. Trustee Maas seconded the motion. A vote was called: Trustee Schmidt – yes, Trustee Lab – yes, Trustee Maas – yes, and Trustee Varman – yes. The motion carried.

Public Works – Director of Public Works Larry Lohmar

Heritage Drive

Public Works has been working on Heritage Drive South clearing brush and small trees from the ditch line to prevent mischief from happening on Heritage Drive as a result of not being seen from Mississippi Avenue.

Road Sweeper

Preventative maintenance is now complete on the road sweeper.

Village Hall Landscaping

Crews have been removing the old rubber mulch and installing black dirt to build up and slope the water away from the foundation. Decorative stone will replace the mulch.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

Various repairs have been completed at the plant bringing it up to today's standards.

Church/Learning Center

Work has started and all exterior walls and roof are up along with most of the electrical conduit. As weather/rain permits, we will begin working on the front entrance of the building.

Village Administrator – Julie Friebele

Government Finance Officers Association

The Village was notified that our annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year that ended April 30, 2022, has met the requirement to be awarded GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting. A special thank you to our Finance Director Robbie Day for going above and beyond!

National Cemetery Administration's 50th Year Anniversary Across the Country

Various cemeteries are celebrating the 50th Year Anniversary. Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery (ALNC) is celebrating by hosting an open house, Saturday, July 29th from 11:00 am – 1:30 pm. It will be a behind the scenes look at their operations and will include a mock committal service with military honors, etc. Prior to the open house there will be a ceremony to recognize all our local first responders and will include both VA medical centers. Director Ms. Quincy McCall ALNC asked if allowed will the Village display a banner regarding the event. She was advised that the Village would be honored to display a banner to promote the event.

Multi Use Building - The Hydrangea House, Lloyd Erickson Park

Public Works has been super busy constructing the building for the last few weeks. Hats off to Larry and his team they are doing an amazing job! The building will be utilized for a learning center, small gatherings, weddings, etc. The landscape will be predominantly a pollinator garden.

Village Hall Landscaping Update

The Village Hall landscaping is getting a much-needed update. Public Works employees are filling in and raising the beds up along the building to help move the rainwater away from the building instead of running down the outside wall of the building and possibly causing flooding downstairs. We do see some casualties although hopefully most of the plants will survive.

Tennis/Pickleball Courts

The Tennis/Pickleball Courts in O'Connor Park are going to be resurfaced. The process will begin at the end of August and should take about a week to complete.

Elwood Community Days

Elwood Community Days is a three (3) day fun filled event this year scheduled on August 18th, 19th, and 20th.

- Friday, August 18th, Tyler Park 5-10 pm – Magic Show, DJ & Street Dance
- Saturday, August 19th, Lloyd Erickson Park kicks off the day with the Fishing Derby at 7:30 am, Parade at 11:00 am and throughout the day there are multiple shows, games, live music by the Junkyard Dawgs & The Band Sundance and amazing fireworks.
- Sunday, August 20th, Classic Car Show 9:30 am, Soapbox Derby at 10:30 am, and Ukulele Strummers at 2 pm.

Music in the Garden – No Cost to Attend

- Tuesday, July 18th – Landon James Tribute to Elvis 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Tuesday, August 1st – Ray Koncar & The Boys, play a variety of music such as polkas, folk, country & rock Elvis 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Thursday, August 3rd – Manhattan/Elwood Library Storytime 10:30 am – 11:00 am
- Saturday, August 8th – TY-Rodg Beats Kids Dance Party! Begins with a Shoe Box Parade 5:30 pm – 6:25 pm, Ice Cream Social 6:00 pm – 6:25 pm, Dance Party and games 6:30 pm

Upcoming Village Meetings

Planning and Zoning	Tuesday, July 25 th	7:00 pm
Finance Committee	Tuesday, June 25 th	4:00 pm
Park Committee	Wednesday, July 26 th	5:30 pm
Village Board of Trustees	Wednesday, August 2 nd	7:00 pm

Village President – Doug Jenco

- Thank you to all Village staff and the Village Board of Trustees. I am so proud of our team and believe we should receive awards for all we do for the Village.
- Thank you to the group that came together for the Elwood Community Days event. The event is coming up soon and they are looking for volunteers.

Other Business

- We should check into getting veterans' pictures and creating banners to display in honor of them on the light poles on Mississippi Avenue.

Public Comments

Members of the audience did not have public comments.

Closed Session

Closed Session meeting was not held.

Adjournment

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

Julie Friebele, Village Clerk