

June 2018

Village of Elwood
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Mayor's Message....



At our Board Meeting on January 3, 2018, Ehlers & Associates, the Village of Elwood public finance municipal advisors, presented a preliminary Financial Management Plan to the Board seeking their input. The presentation focused on the review of existing funds and resources, new funding for capital projects and the tax impact on residents and businesses.

They assessed the capital improvement needs and the outstanding debt of the Village. They described the preliminary model they built to determine financial sustainability for the Village. Discussed was a "Living Model" that can be changed depending on circumstances. Two scenarios were presented which looked at impacts with and without development in which they analyzed the general fund, motor fuel tax fund, capital construction fund and the water and sewer fund. Once it is finalized, this model can be used by the Village as a long-term forecasting tool.

In January, Ehlers explained the significant difference that occurs between the development and no-development scenarios for taxpayers of the village as it relates to paying off the current debt. Without substantial development, taxpayers would see significant increases in sewer and water rates and property taxes for payment of debt service.

At our June 6 meeting, Maureen Barry, Senior Municipal Advisor/Vice President of Ehlers, provided an update to their initial presentation. She noted that with the Northpoint project not moving forward, they will continue to work with the Village to complete the Financial Management Plan and restructuring of the Village's General Obligation debt that began prior to the Village's receipt of the NorthPoint proposal.

She recapped for the Village Board that the total outstanding General Obligation bond debt at the end of FY 2018 was approximately \$35,000,000 (\$18,000,000 in principal and \$17,000,000 in interest). In discussing the restructuring of the Village's debt, she stated that it could take place in one or more issues and over the next several years if that is more cost effective.

All the G.O. bonds were issued by the Village under the assumption that the Village would develop at a rate and level that has not yet been realized. The economic recession that began in 2008 led to stagnate growth in areas which were previously identified to have enormous residential and commercial potential. Village infrastructure was built according to those plans and the Village anticipated that its ability to pay debt service for the infrastructure would increase as the residential and commercial develop was completed, as is the case in many growing communities.

She further explained that debt restructuring will help, but the Village needs to generate significant new revenues and expand its tax base. Otherwise, as Barry noted in her January presentation, significant property tax and water/sewer rate increases will be required to pay for current and future services and debt obligations including new capital needs that may need to be bond financed. She encouraged Village leaders to fully evaluate any new economic development opportunities that are presented as a way to lessen the burden on residents.

Mayor Doug Jenco



Meyers named to Planning & Zoning

Joe Meyers, lifelong Elwood area resident, was recently appointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission. He is a part time postal worker and recently became engaged and will be married in May 2019.

Upcoming Meetings

Planning and Zoning Commission - June 26, 7:00 PM

Village Board of Trustees - July 11, 7:00 PM (2nd Wednesday)

Village offices will be closed on July 4th

Anderson is newest officer to join Village of Elwood's police force

At their April 4th regular board meeting the Mayor and Board approved the hiring of a new patrol officer to fill the vacancy created from a previous resignation.

Officer Ethan Anderson officially began his duties on Tuesday, May 29th after being sworn in by Village Clerk Julie Friebele.



Mr. Anderson is 23 years old, and until recently was a resident of Murrieta, California where he attended

Vista Murrieta High School. Ethan then went on to attend Mount San Jacinto Community College in California. He and his wife Rayna, along with their 1-year old daughter Ella, now live in Morris, IL.

Ethan previously worked for the Riverside County Sheriff's Department in Banning, California as a Corrections Deputy. He was responsible for the safety and security of the facility, while handling combative and gang related individuals. He was also a Team Leader for both the Emergency Response Team and the Fire Team at the corrections facility.

Officer Anderson will attend 480 hours of basic police training at the Cook County Sheriff's Police Training Academy located at Triton College, River Grove, IL.

Police Chief Fred Hayes said he is a welcome addition to our team and will help compliment the exemplary performance and community service provided by the men and women currently serving on the police department.

Essay Contest winners speak at National Cemetery Service



Joshua Walsh (left) & Melissa Marasco (3rd from Left) at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery on Memorial Day. They were winners in the Cemetery's essay contest. The theme of their essays was "What Memorial Day Means to Me". Melissa and Joshua also received "Star Awards" at the Village Board meeting on June 6 in recognition of their accomplishment.

Military service recognized

Mayor Jenco and the Trustees would like to update pictures of active service members who have ties to the Village.

Please mail or drop off a color, 8x10 photo, of your family member currently serving in the military. We are proud to display their photo in the lobby of the Village Hall to recognize their service to our country.

Library offers paperback books in Village Hall lobby

The Manhattan-Elwood Public Library is offering a limited number of paperback books for borrowing in the mini-library located in the lobby of the Village Hall and in the basement. Borrowing of books is under the "honor" system. Books can be returned to the to the book shelves or in the curb-side drop box.



Manhattan-Elwood
PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

ELWOOD SOCCER



2018 Registration June 1 – June 30th

\$70 for one player
\$65 each for two players
\$60 each for three or more players

Register in Person at
Elwood Village Hall
401 E. Mississippi Ave.
M-F, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

OR...
Download registration forms at
villageofelwood.com and mail to
Village of Elwood
401 E. Mississippi Ave.
Elwood, IL 60421

For more information, contact the recreation coordinator
at 815-424-1093

Registration forms are available at Elwood Village Hall and online at
www.villageofelwood.com

Recycle your used oils to save money & protect the environment

Cars and many other machines have moving parts that rely on oil to keep them running smoothly. Used oils such as motor oil, transmission fluid, refrigeration oil, hydraulic fluids, and other lubricants unfortunately have the opposite effect on our environment when disposed of improperly.



Used oil is a major source of contamination in our waterways and can result in the pollution of our drinking water. For example, the motor oil from a single oil change can ruin a million gallons of fresh water – equal to a year's supply of water for 50 people.

Because of these adverse effects, recycling used oil is necessary to protect the environment and conserve natural resources.

Used oil can be recycled at a number of locations - many automobile maintenance facilities and retail outlets in Illinois are accepting used motor oil for reuse and recycling.

These facilities usually accept used, drained oil filters too. In addition, consumers and businesses can contribute to the oil conservation cause by using re-refined oil. Re-refining simply reconditions used oil into new, high-quality oil, which can be used for automobiles, maintenance facilities, and other machinery maintenance operations.

Not only does recycling oil help the environment, it also saves money. Improper waste management costs taxpayer dollars because of higher consumer prices and taxes from environmental clean-ups and remediation.

Protect our environment and conserve our resources by taking your used oil to the nearest oil collection center. Please visit the following link on the Illinois EPA website for additional information on used oil disposal: <http://epa.illinois.gov/topics/waste-management/waste-disposal/used-oil/index>.

Cornhole Bags and Bocce Balls available for outings in the Parks



The Village has sets of bags and balls that you can use for your outing in the parks. There is a \$100 deposit for residents and a \$150 deposit for non-residents, refundable if the equipment is returned in good condition. Contact Marie Rodgers for more information at 815-424-1093. Thanks to Kay Burkhar who donated two sets of corn-hole bags.



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- Programmable thermostats
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- WaterSense certified faucet aerators for bathrooms and kitchens
- Hot water pipe insulation
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CALL 855-433-2700 TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT

For details, visit ComEd.com/Assessment

Elwood/Jackson Township History Club

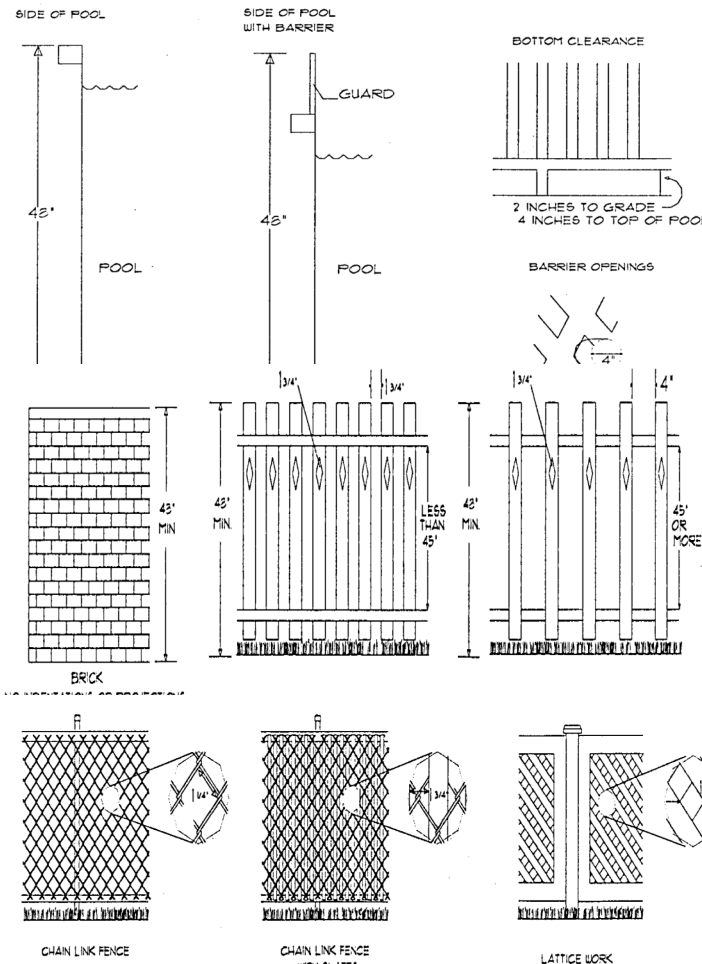


The Brown Church was located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Route 53 and Manhattan Road (Photo taken in 1910). Originally built in 1863 by the Reformed Lutherans, this little church was abandoned around 1868. Various denominations occupied the church for short periods until it became a non-denominational community church known as the Brown Church. This old Jackson Township landmark was removed when Route 53 was widened between Joliet and Wilmington. (Photo courtesy of Mrs. H.W. Palmer.)

Keep your pool safe with proper fencing/latches

It is important to have your swimming pool secured at all times.

Here are some approved safety barrier for all pools.



In some instances, the side of the pool can be used as the safety barrier.

1) A side of the house used for the safety barrier with a door which has direct access to the pool shall have an audible alarm on the door or a power safety cover. The alarm must sound within 7 seconds of opening door – sound for 30 seconds 85 dBA at 10 feet, distinctive sound, automatically reset, deactivation touch pads 54 inches above thresholds for a single opening allowed.

2) Doors opening onto the pool area – self-closing, self-latching, release 54 inches above the floor, swing away from pool area.

3) A deck which opens on to the pool will require a safety barrier from the deck or the deck shall comply

with the safety barrier requirements including stairs and gates.

4) A deck which opens onto the pool and on the house which provides direct access from the door to the pool shall have alarms on the doors or a power safety cover.

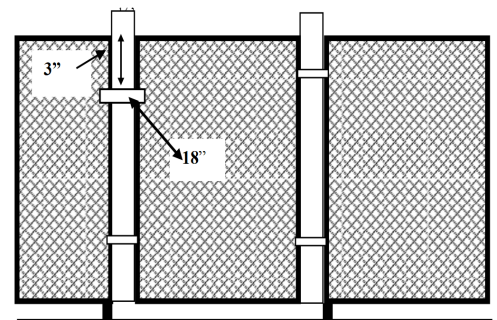
5) Ladders and steps that provide access to the pool are required to be surrounded by a barrier as required above.

Pedestrian Gates—Swing open from pool, self-closing, self-locking, same construction requirements as the safety barriers and equipped to accommodate a locking device.

Gates are required to be self closing and latching with the release mechanism a minimum of 54 inches above grade or located on the pool side of the gate.

Latch on pool side minimum 3" from top.

No opening greater than 1/2" within 18".



This is a picture of an approved self-locking latch for a gate:



Cimino Receives Award

Mayor Doug Jenco presents Alexandra Cimino with the Board's Star Award in recognition of her receiving the Elwood School Nancy Schweizer Award. Joshua Walsh also received the Star Award.