

VILLAGE OF ELLSWORTH BOARD MEETING
March 2, 2026, 6:00pm
130 N. Chestnut St. Lower-Level Boardroom (East Rear Entrance)

Members Present: President Beissel, Trustees Austin, Neeley, Traynor, and Hines.
Staff Present: Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer Roy, Chief Ladwig, DPW Vick, Library Director Meyer (virtual), Attorney Loberg, Engineer Evenson, Building Inspector Todd Dolan
Others Present: Raynee Farrell, Kim Beebe, Jenny Funk, Adriana Sonnentag, Adam Koopman, Bradley Sonnentag, Lynette Winger, Steve Hamilton, Randy Brickner, Lisa Hofacker, Nancy Greske, Faye Albarado, Andrew Harrington (press), Russ Kiviniemi (Cedar Corporation), and multiple citizens in-person and virtually.

MINUTES

1. Meeting called to order at 6pm.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.
3. Public comment on non-agenda items

Jeff Slocum spoke regarding the Grant/Piety Street project and concerns about how the project and property was left for the winter and his inability to connect with the project engineer.

Consent Agenda:

4. Review/Approve payments and deposits
5. Review/Approval of Village Board meeting minutes 2/2
6. Review/Approve Plan Commission meeting minutes 2/23
7. Discuss/Possible Action on Beckler CSM in the Village ETZ
8. Discuss/Possible Action a Temporary Class "B"/ "Class B" Retailer's License: Ellsworth Fire Services Assoc. for 2026, Annual Chicken Feed Fundraiser located at 427 W. Spruce St.
9. Discuss/Possible Action Temporary Class "B"/ "Class B" Retailer's License Approval for St. Francis School for the St. Francis School Gala
10. Discuss/Possible Action Ellsworth High School Senior Graduation Lock-In Donation Request
11. Discuss/Possible Action on a potential Site Plan revision for Kwik Trip

MSC Austin/Traynor to approve the consent agenda. No further discussion. **Motion carried, without a negative vote.**

New Business:

12. Public Hearing on curb, gutter, sidewalk, water/sewer laterals, and driveway apron Special Assessments for Wall St., Broadway St., and Morse St. reconstruction.
Jay Orichio spoke about his estimated assessment amount and then asked about the impact of the ARIP grant on the amount.
Jason Marks also spoke about the ARIP grant for Morse and Wall St improvements. He believes the grant amount should be applied when determining the assessments.
Adam Koopman spoke about the project design and assessment amounts and that the assessments should be consistent for all properties.
13. Discuss/Possible Action on Engineer's Report and Resolution 2026-02 Final Resolution for curb, gutter, sidewalk, water/sewer laterals, and driveway apron Special Assessments for Wall St., Broadway St., and Morse St. reconstruction
The resolution was presented outlining previous assessments of 50% of the cost for the construction of curb and gutter, sidewalk, and water and sewer laterals and 100% of the cost of construction of driveway aprons; a repayment term of up to 15 years with an interest rate of 2% above the Village's borrowing rate. Engineer Kiviniemi, the Board, and Attorney Loberg spoke about have the ARIP grant reduce the assessment amounts.
Traynor stated that he believes the Broadway St. improvements will benefits the properties on Morse St. and Wall St. the street component assessments could be reduced to reflect the grant. **MSC Hines/Austin** to approve Assessments for all property owners in the project area of 25% of the street components (curb, gutter, sidewalk, and

driveway aprons) and 50% for water and sewer laterals. Beissel questioned if the driveway aprons should be 25%. Traynor stated that he doesn't believe that a driveway apron provides any benefit to anyone other than the property owner. **MSC Traynor/Neeley** to amend the motion for driveways to be assessed 100% to the property owner. Hines spoke against the amendment, Austin and Traynor spoke that only the property owners benefit from the driveway apron. **Motion carried (motion amendment), without a negative vote.** Vote for the initial motion with the amendment was called (Assessments to all property owners in the project area 25% for curb, gutter, and sidewalks; 50% for water and sewer laterals; and 100% driveway aprons). **Motion carried, without a negative vote.**

14. Discuss/Possible Action on final design of East End Reconstruction and authorize bidding the project.

Russ Kiviniemi presented the final design and bidding timeline. Final details regarding colored concrete and landscaping rock colors. The engineer recommended browns or greys. Traynor recommended medium grey which can be adjusted if needed. Beissel recommended tan colors. The barriers around the tree planting areas need to allow stormwater runoff. Faye Albarado spoke about the parking spaces and sidewalk size in front of her business; she also questioned business interruption. The engineer spoke about the project phasing and keeping buildings accessible. Adam Koopman spoke about redesigning Broadway Street and notifications. The engineer stated that Broadway Street redesign would push the project back one year. Brad Sonnetag spoke against the Broadway Street design and notifications. Roger Nelson spoke about the assessments and notifications. **MSC Austin/Traynor** to approve the design and authorize bidding with tan colors and fencing around the tree areas. No further discussion. **Motion carried, without a negative vote.**

15. Discuss/Possible Action on Ordinance 721 for a Zoning Map Amendment, for Gerrard Corporation, from the Residential (R-2) district to the Multiple Family (R-3) district, on a portion of Parcel Number 121-01141-0490

Gerrard Corporation is proposing to develop a 36-unit senior residential housing project in Crossing Meadows. The development will include two 12-unit (24 total units), single-level townhomes and six twin homes (12 total units). The property is currently zoned Residential R-2. To accommodate the 12-unit structures, that portion of the property will need to be rezoned to Multiple Family R-3. **MSC Austin/Traynor** to approve Ordinance 721 to rezone the property from R-2 to Multiple Family R-3. No further discussion. **Motion carried, without a negative vote.**

16. Discuss/Possible Action for a Temporary Class "B"/ "Class B" Retailer's License for the Ellsworth Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Ellsworth Cheese Curd Festival
The application was presented; no changes were proposed from the previous year. **MSC Hines/Traynor** to approve the License. No further discussion. **Beissel abstains. Motion carried, without a negative vote.**

17. Discuss/Possible Action for Street Use Permit for the Ellsworth Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Ellsworth Cheese Curd Festival
The application was presented; no changes were proposed from the previous year. **MSC Austin/Hines** to approve the Permit. No further discussion. **Beissel abstains. Motion carried, without a negative vote.**

18. Discuss/Possible Action for a Street Dance License for the Ellsworth Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Ellsworth Cheese Curd Festival
The application was presented; no changes were proposed from the previous year. **MSC Hines/Traynor** to approve the License. No further discussion. **Beissel abstains. Motion carried, without a negative vote.**

19. Discuss/Possible Action on the 2026 Cheese Curd Festival Sponsorship
Various sponsorship levels were presented. **MSC Austin/Hines** to approve the \$1,200.00 sponsorship. No further discussion. **Beissel abstains. Motion carried, without a negative vote.**

20. Discuss/Possible Action on contract with All Croix Inspections for Building Inspector and Zoning Administrator services
The Building Inspector and Zoning Administrator contract with All Croix Inspections, Corp. will expire in at the end of the month. The term of the proposed contract is from April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2028. Todd Dolan presented the changes from the existing contract. **MSC Hines/Austin** to approve the contract with All Croix Inspections. No further discussion. **Motion carried, without a negative vote.**
21. Discuss/Possible Action on Village Hall generator bid
Adams has submitted a proposal for the generator and installation in the amount of \$15,370.85. The Water and Sewer Utilities will each contribute 12.5% of the total cost, reducing the General Fund share to \$11,528.13. Funding for the General Fund portion would come from the Village Hall Capital Expense Account #100-51610-820-000. **MSC Austin/Traynor** to approve the Village Hall Generator bid from Adams for \$15,370.85. No further discussion. **Four in favor, one opposed (Hines). Motion carried.**
22. Discuss/Possible Action on Village Board computer bid
Sunnylink has submitted a proposal for the Village Board computer replacements in the amount of \$7,943.00. The Water and Sewer Utilities will each contribute 25% of the total cost, reducing the General Fund share to \$3,971.50. This is higher than anticipated. Funding for the General Fund portion would come from the Village Board Capital Expense Account #100-51110-820-000. That account began the year with and currently has a balance of \$3,500. The unbudgeted amount of \$471.50 could come from the Village Hall Capital Expense account which has a surplus and no further anticipated expenses. **MSC Austin/Hines** to approve the Sunnylink computer bid of \$7,943.00. No further discussion. **Motion carried, without a negative vote.**

Reports:

23. President's Report. The President's report was presented.
24. Department Head Reports: Reports were presented/provided by Chief of Police, Director of Public Works, Library Director, Village Engineer, and Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer

Closed Session:

25. The Board adjourned to closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes, Section 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. **MSC Traynor/Hines** to adjourn to closed session. Roll Call Vote. **Motion carried, without a negative vote.**
- a. CBS Squared contract amendment for Grant and Piety St. project
 - b. *East End Industrial Park land purchase offer*
- No action taken in Closed Session.

MSC Austin/Hines to reconvene to open session. Roll Call Vote. **Motion carried, without a negative vote.**

MSC Traynor/Austin to adjourn. **Motion carried, without a negative vote.**

Respectfully submitted by Brad Roy, Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer