

VILLAGE OF ELLSWORTH STREET & SIDEWALK COMMITTEE MEETING

March 30, 2026, 6:00pm

130 N. Chestnut St. Lower-Level Boardroom (East Rear Entrance)

Committee Members present: Traynor (Chairperson for Austin), Borner, and Hines (in place of Austin)

Village Board Members present: Beissel, Bench (virtual)

Staff present: A/C-T Roy, Chief Ladwig

Public Present: Kim Beebe, Lisa Hofacker, Tom Schutz, Adam Koopman, and others virtually.

Minutes

1. Meeting called to order by Chairperson Traynor

2. Discuss/Possible Action on the Friends of the Library 5K Walk/Run

The Friends of the Library are proposing to host a 5K walk/run event on April 25th. The event will begin at 6am and end at 12pm. They anticipate 250 people in total for the event. Volunteers will be on the course to direct the participants. Option 1 is to begin at Summit Park and use W. Grove, N. Beulah, W. Hollywood, N. Grant, W. Overlook Dr., and N. Brown St.; upon reaching the N. Brown St./Industrial Rd. intersection the participants will take the same route back to the park to complete the 5K. Option 2 is for a continuous loop using W. Grove, N. Beulah, W. Kinne St., Pierce County property, N. Maple St./Hwy 65, Main St., Terrace Ave., and E. Summit Ave. Construction on North Grant Street was confirmed by the Project Engineer and Contractor Project Lead to not be a concern, and that the event would not impact the construction schedule. **MSC Borner/Hines** to approve Option #1. No further discussion. **Motion carried without a negative vote.**

3. Discuss/Possible Action on sidewalk use permits in the commercial districts

Staff presented a concept for sidewalk use permits that allows use of public sidewalks for business purposes in the commercial areas. Benefits of the program are economic development, downtown vitality, support for local businesses, and improved community experience. To adequately implement a program, a permit process should be implemented. The permitting would ensure public safety & ADA compliance, liability & risk management, consistency & fairness, emergency access & maintenance, and aesthetic and community standards. The Committee directed staff to continue working on developing a sidewalk use program and to look into existing regulations in nearby communities like Hastings, MN and Red Wing, MN and to any potential DOT issues for the program on Main St. **No formal action taken.**

4. Discuss/Possible Action on East End parking lot

The Village-owned parking lot is proposed to be paved and striped for 19 parking spaces. The creation of these spaces is important to help maintain parking capacity in the area, particularly given the reduction in available parking spaces along N. Broadway Street. Concerns have been raised regarding whether enough parking spaces will remain available for customers of nearby businesses. Time-limited parking and Customer-only parking options were presented. Enforcement was discussed with the Chief of Police. The Committee directed staff to pursue

time-limited parking, with a preference of 3-hour limits, and to also consider this for the entire East End Business district. **No formal action taken.**

5. Discuss/Possible Action on 2-hour parking

A 2-hour parking limit is typically used to balance accessibility, turnover, and fairness in high-demand areas like downtowns or near businesses. The rationale for 2-hour parking is to promote customer turnover, support local businesses, discourage long-term storage of vehicles, improve traffic flow, encourage use of alternative parking, and fair access to public space. The current 2-hour restrictions were presented. The Committee discussed enforcement and whether changes to the 2-hour parking areas are needed. **MSC Borner/Hines** table this item until a future meeting. No further discussion. **Motion carried, without a negative vote.**

6. Adjournment. **MSC Borner/Hines** to adjourn. No further discussion. **Motion carried, without a negative vote.**

Respectfully submitted by Brad Roy, Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer