THE VILLAGE NEWS

www.elkmound.org

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ADOPT-A-HYDRANT PROGRAM

The Elk Mound Water Utility is asking residents and community businesses to adopt their neighborhood fire hydrants. They can do this by clearing accumulated snow around hydrants near their homes and places of employment.

Snow removal around the system fire hydrants is the responsibility of everyone, but during the winter storms, hydrants may become buried for sometime before utility crews reach all hydrants in the system.

Not all systems require utility personnel the sole responsibility to clear snow—but rely on street departments, fire departments and citizen volunteers. Please remember safety precautions must be followed. By taking a few minutes to clear your "adopted" hydrant, you'll be assisting both the water and fire departments. The house you save might just be your own!. For more information please contact the Public Works Department at 715-556-4566.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Terry Stamm

Next Village Board Meeting is scheduled for February 5th at 6:00 p.m. If you have a specific item to bring to the Board please sign up under citizen's forum.

The Village of Elk Mound will be using our new Badger Books at the upcoming election on April 2nd. If you would like to preview of the equipment prior to the election, please stop in the Village Hall. More Badger Book information can be found on page 2.

Clear bags are now required at the Colfax and Elk Mound sites for garbage. There will be a grace period for customers to use their existing stock of white and black bags.

Remember winter parking regulations are in effect through April 1st. Please be mindful where you park.

Salt/sand mixture is available for Village Residents for their sidewalks. The mixture is behind the Fire Department, remember to re-cover the pile when you are finished to prevent washout. Sidewalk snow removal ordinance is listed on page 6 for your review.

2024 DOG LICENSES DUE

Dog licenses are now due for 2024. Fees are \$18.00 for non-spayed or non-neutered and \$13.00 for spayed or neutered pets. All dogs over the age of 5 months residing in the Village of Elk Mound require a license. You can drop your payment and a copy of the rabies vaccination certificate in the utility payment box at the front of the Village Hall, E206 Menomonie Street, Elk Mound. If you have questions, please call the clerk/treasurer's office 8:00am to 4:30pm, at 715-879-5011.

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Badger Books

In 2017, at the direction of the Commission, WEC staff developed an electronic poll book application for use in Wisconsin elections. Wisconsin statute requires authorization from the commission for the use of any electronic poll book in the state. To date, the Badger Book is the only electronic poll book authorized for use in Wisconsin and is the only e-poll book application with indirect WisVote integration. **Badger Books are not connected to the internet.**

The Badger Book is only an electronic version of the paper poll book and as such, performs only those functions. It is used to check in voters, process Election Day Registrations (EDRs) per Wis. Stat. 6.79(2)(c), and record absentee participation.

After Election Day, a data file generated from the Badger Book is used to upload election participation and Election Day Registration information into WisVote so voters may see their participation more quickly in MyVote. More information on Badger Books can be found at www.elections.wi.gov.

Register to Vote

Save time at the polling locations by registering to vote in advance of the election. Next election for the Village of Elk Mound is the Spring Election on April 2, 2024. Go to myvote.wi.gov, select the register to vote tab, and follow the instructions.

Register to Vote Deadlines for the Spring 2024 Election

March 13, 2024 - *Deadline to Register by Mail* - Your voter registration form, along with proof of residence must be postmarked to your municipal clerk no later than March 13, 2024.

March 13, 2024 - *Deadline to Register to vote online.* - Voters who are able to match their name, date of birth, Wisconsin Driver License or State ID number, and address with the Wisconsin DMV can register to vote online through March 13, 2024.

March 29, 2024 @ 5:00 p.m - *Deadline to Register in Your Municipal Clerk's Office*- Voters may register in-person in their municipal clerk's office during the clerk's business hours until 5:00 p.m. on March 29, 2024.

April 2, 2024 from 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m - Register to Vote at Your Polling Place- Voters can register to vote at their polling place on Election Day, April 2, 2024.

More information available at www.elections.wi.gov or www.myvote.wi.gov

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BOARD MINUTES DECEMBER 20TH, 2023

The December 20, 2023 meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Village of Elk Mound was called to order by Village President Terry Stamm at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.

Karin Wolf, Clerk-Treasurer, verified that proper notice of the meeting had been posted.

Roll call showed Cynthia Abraham, Bob Bachman, Tim Benjamin, Pat Hahn, Pat Lien, Joyce Price, and Terry Stamm present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Benjamin/Abraham moved and seconded a motion to approve the Village Board minutes of November 20, 2023 and December 4, 2023. Motion carried.

CITIZEN'S FORUM – (PUBLIC INPUT)

There was no one registered for Citizens Forum.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE

There was no public appearance.

APPROVAL OF GENERAL FUND AND WATER/SEWER UTILITY VOUCHERS

Hahn/Benjamin moved and seconded a motion to approve the combined checks 32610 - 32649 and direct deposits V3594 - V3613 for a total of \$51,614.38. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF TID VOUCHERS

Hahn/Price moved and seconded a motion to approve TID check 1014 in the amount of \$28,898.62. Motion carried.

PERMITS – BUILDING; WATER/SEWER APPLICATIONS FOR SERVICE/TAP PERMITS

The following permits were issued: Kat's Pourhouse, W305 Menomonie Street, for a kitchen renovation and pavilion construction; Xcel Energy for Right of Way permits at E101 Menomonie Street and 500 University Street; Amanda Nolan, 303/305 Moundsview Court, for re-roofing and re-siding of her residence; and Donald Stuckert, 216 Mound Park Drive, for an occupancy permit for his home addition.

Water/Sewer Report

The Water/Sewer Report was presented by Mark Levra, Director of Public Works. The report is on file in the Director of Public Works office.

Director of Public Works Report

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Police Chief Report

The Police Chief Report was reviewed by the Village Board. The report is on file in the Village Clerk-Treasurer's office.

Standing Committee Reports:

Public Works & Streets

Bob Bachman reported that the Public Works & Streets Committee did not meet.

<u>Public Safety:</u> Tim Benjamin reported that the Public Safety Committee did not meet.

Property & Finance: Cynthia Abraham reported that the Property & Finance Committee did not meet.

<u>Employee Relations:</u> Pat Lien reported that the Employee Relations Committee did not meet.

<u>Plan Commission:</u> Terry Stamm reported that the Plan Commission did not meet.

Report from Fire Board Representative

The Fire Department is hoping to finalize a contract with Colfax Rescue by January 1, 2024. Fire District banking options are still being reviewed for a recommendation. Fire Inspector Dan Williams is continuing to complete inspections as needed.

The Department successfully applied for a DNR grant for an AED and foam. The Department is asking the Fire Board to pay half of an electric combination tool out of the savings account.

(Continued on page 4)

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BOARD MINUTES DECEMBER 20TH, CONTINUED

Chief Fuester asked for assistance to help write and adopt billing and collection ordinances for all three municipalities in the District.

The Department is working on decommissioning Squad No. 2 to get it ready for sale. Squad No. 3 has been put in service. The radio has been installed and the goal is to get signs on the doors and complete some work on the lights.

Report from Elk Mound/Colfax Solid Waste & Recycling

The unit has been working on finding sources for different size clear bags at the most reasonable cost. They are currently selling 33-gallon bags at 3 for \$1.00 and 13-gallon bags at 4 for \$1.00.

Tony Christopherson from the Town of Elk Mound, John Schaefer from the Town of Spring Brook, and Terry Stamm from the Village of Elk Mound met for their 2023 annual budget and billing meeting.

Office Assistant Julie Conlin is working on the distribution of approximately 385 permits, DNR education materials and a fee schedule for items other than trash and recyclables, to village residents.

Christmas wrap and tissue paper are considered trash and are not recyclable.

Colfax Rescue Squad Monthly Report

The Colfax Rescue Squad Monthly Report was not available at the time of the meeting.

Community Center/Library Report

Terry Stamm reported that the Community Center/ Library Board is working on obtaining estimates for the installation of a drinking fountain at the community center. The Board agreed to invest \$15,000 of the Community Center/Library savings in a 15-month certificate of deposit at Royal Credit Union with an interest rate of 5.5%.

Communications & Miscellaneous Business as Permitted by Law

Director of Public Works Mark Levra showed the Village Board the signs that will be used for the Village entrances at Division Street, University Street, and Elk Mound Drive. The new "Welcome to Elk Mound" signs donated by the Lions Club have arrived and will be installed in the spring. The Village also received an LRIP grant in the amount of \$20,832.99 to help fund the pulverizing and paving of Mound Park Drive. The Village has five years to use these funds.

Trustee Cynthia Abraham announced that the Christmas Party will be held on January 13 at 6:30 p.m.

Trustee Tim Benjamin reported that the Dunn County Economic Development Corporation is adjusting the arrangement of its board. This change will better represent all municipalities in the county.

President Terry Stamm announced that Synergy Cooperative hopes to open the gas station shortly after Christmas. He also passed along Christmas wishes from former Village President Greg Kipp.

Continued on Page 5

Absentee Ballot Requests

If you wish to continue to receive a ballot by mail, please fill out a new request for 2024 and return to the Village Clerk's office. Requests need to be renewed annually.

Thank you!

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BOARD MIINUTES CONTINUED

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

Discussion/Action Public Works Fee Schedule

Benjamin/Hahn moved and seconded a motion to approve the Public Works Fee Schedule as presented. Motion carried.

Adjourn

Lien/Hahn moved and seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried.

Karin Wolf

Village of Elk Mound Clerk-Treasurer

Elk Mound Fire District Chili Feed Fundraiser and Open House

Come and Support our Local Firefighters and EMTs on Sunday, February 11th from 11:00am to 2:00pm

ALL YOU CAN EAT — DONATIONS APPRECIATED!

Representatives from the Elk Mound Fire Department and Colfax Ambulance Service will be available to give tours of the Fire Station.

Positions are currently available for both firefighters and EMTs. No previous experience required.







Streetlight Outage

If you notice a street light that is not functioning properly, you can report it through the Xcel Energy website:

https://www.xcelenergy.com/outages and emergencies/report outage or you can call the Public Works Department at 715-556-4566 with the following information:

- 1. Location of Street Light (Nearest Address)
- 2. Nearest Cross Street
- 3. Issue (Blinking Light, Light Not Operating, etc.)

BOARD MEETINGS

Next Board Meeting is February 5th. Board Meetings are typically held the first and third Mondays of each month at 6:00 p.m. Meetings are open to the public in person, via Zoom or phone call. Instructions on how to access the meeting by phone are listed below.

The Zoom meeting IDs are 889 679 0258, Password 619735

For current agendas see the posting locations: Elk Mound Village Hall, Post Office, Independence State Bank, as well as on the website: www.elkmound.org, click on government, then board/committee agendas. Village Residents are encouraged to participate under citizen's forum, if you have a topic for discussion please email to karin@elkmound.org.

Donations for Friends of the Menomonie Public Library Book Sale

Please Read

- Gently used adult and children's fiction, including best sellers
- CDs, DVDs and Audio Books in playable condition
- Non-fiction books (self-help, travel, crafts, cookbooks, gardening, hobbies, business, health)

<u>Please:</u> Musty, dusty, moldy or torn books are not acceptable and may harm volunteers and staff who must handle them, and can infect the library's

We are not interested in magazines, encyclopedias, condensed books, books from rummage sales or other book sales.

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ORDINANCE REMINDER

Sec. 6-2-8 Snow and Ice Removal.

(a) **Removal From Sidewalks.** Within twenty-four (24) hours after the cessation of any fall of sleet or snow, it shall be the duty of the owners and/or the occupants of any lot or parcel of land in the Village of Elk Mound to remove, or cause to be removed, the snow or sleet from any and all sidewalks and the nearest cross-side-walks adjacent to the premises of such owner or occupant, and to keep the same free and clear of snow and ice for the full width of the sidewalk.

(b) Failure to Remove. In case of failure or neglect of any owner or occupant of any land or parcel of land to remove the snow from sidewalks as specified in subsection (a) within the time set forth in said Subsection and, after twenty-four (24) hours after the cessation of any fall of snow, the owner or occupant has failed to remove such snow from sidewalks as specified in Subsection (a), the Public Works Department shall remove or cause the snow to be removed from any and all sidewalks and cross-sidewalks that may be so neglected by the owner or occupant, and a fee established by the Village Board shall be assessed against the owner or occupant for the cost and expense of moving such snow. The fee will be charged against the respective lots and parcels of land adjacent to which said work shall be done, as a special charge, and such sum or sums shall be collected in the same manner as other special taxes.

For a copy of the entire ordinance call 715-879-5011.



SCHOOL CROSSINGS

Please be mindful of crossing guards and for all pedestrian traffic by marked crossings. Most children have little concept of danger and do not have fully developed peripheral vision and hearing. It is up to adults to be responsible drivers.

Major types of auto accidents involving children include:

- 1. Children darting out into street at corner or mid-block.
- 2. Vehicles turning left into the path of pedestrians.
- 3. Vehicles backing up in roadways, driveways, or parking lots.

Remember if there are children on the sidewalk the speed limit is 15 miles per hour in school zones.

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VILLAGE PARK RENTAL INFORMATION

The park located at S405 Holly Avenue (Highway H) offers men's and women's restroom facilities, a lighted pavilion with 15 picnic tables, soccer fields, a 9-hole disc golf course, volleyball nets, horse-shoe pits, a basketball court and playground equipment. The park pavilion is a perfect place for food preparation; offering kitchen utilities including stove, refrigerators and chest coolers, 4 grills and a large serving counter.

Check pavilion availability at www.elkmound.org and click on calendar. Booked dates will show up with Pavilion Reserved.

The Village park is available for rent for \$100.00 per day for Elk Mound Village Residents, and \$150.00 per day for Non-Residents. These fees go toward the cost of continuous park maintenance, along with cleanup and garbage removal for your specific event. Any proceeds from park rentals will go toward park improvements.

Keep in mind there may be other activity on the ball fields as they are rented separately. We have very active baseball & softball youth groups in the area.

The baseball and softball schedules are also available on our website: www.elkmound.org. Click on calendar to see various events. If the pavilion is already reserved it will be noted on the calendar.

Park pavilion and ball field reservations can be made by contacting the clerk's office at 715-879-5011.

ORDINANCE REMINDER WINTER PARKING

Per Sec. 10-1-29 (b) Winter Parking Restricted:

- (1) No person shall park a vehicle on streets or portions of streets within the Village of Elk Mound, between the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., from November 1 through April 1, the snow removal season, except as follows:
 - a) On odd-numbered calendar days, on that side of the street with oddnumbered house numerals; and
 - b) On even-numbered calendar days, on that side of the street with even numbered house numerals.
- (2) In addition to the penalties of Section 10-1-50, Village officials may remove any such vehicle parked in violation of this Section to a place of storage and may charge the cost of towing and storage to the owner of such vehicle.

Warning Siren

The Warning Siren will be tested the first Monday of the month at 10:00 a.m., dates are as follows:

> February 5, 2024 March 4, 2024 April 1, 2024

SOLID WASTE SITE NEWS

Clear garbage bags are now available for sale at the Elk Mound Village Hall. Clear bag cost large = 3 for \$1.00 and small = 4 for \$1.00.

There will be a grace period for customers to use their existing stock of white and black trash bags. If you have any questions, please see your attendant or call 715-962-3311.

February 2024								
S U	M o n	T U E	W E D	Тн	FRI	S A T		
	age Office I 0 a.m.—4:3		nday—Thursday	1	2 Food Pantry 10-noon Village Office Closed Library Open 2-6pm	3 Solid Waste Hours 8am to 3pm		
4	5 Board Meeting 6pm Library Open 2pm-6pm	6 Pop Up Pantry 11:30-12:30 Food Pantry 4-6pm	7 Solid Waste Site Hours 1pm-5pm Library Open 9am-1pm	8	9 Food Pantry 10-noon Village Office Closed Library Open 2-6pm	1 0 Solid Waste Site Hours 8am to 3pm		
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1 8	1 9 President's Day Village Offices Closed Library Open	2 0 Food Pantry 4-6pm	2 1 Fire Board 7pm Solid Waste Site Hours 1pm—5pm Library Open 9am-1pm	2 2	2 3 Food Pantry 10-noon Village Office Closed Library Open 2-6pm	2 4 Solid Waste Site Hours 8am to 3pm		
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COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Community Food Pantry is located at Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church, 207 University Street (Entrance from the Parking Lot).

Call 715-879-5115 with any questions.

E-mail: info@elkmound.org Website: www.elkmound.org

Phone: 715-879-5851

PO Box 188