THE VILLAGE NEWS

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NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION VILLAGE OF ELK MOUND APRIL 1, 2025

Election Details

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An election to be held in the Village of Elk Mound, on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, the following offices are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed.

Office Incumbent

Village President Terry Stamm
Village Trustee Bob Bachman
Village Trustee Patricia Hahn
Village Trustee Joyce Price

Office Terms

The term for village president and village trustee begins on April 15, 2025. The term for all other offices begins on May 5, 2025. All terms are for two years unless otherwise indicated.

For Candidates

The first day to circulate nomination papers is December 1, 2024 and the final day for filing nomination papers is 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 in the office of the village clerk.

Primary Election

If a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025.

Additional Information

Acceptable Photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo I.D., you may obtain a free I.D. for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Done in the Village Elk Mound on November 25, 2024.

Paris way

6

Karin Wolf Clerk/Treasurer

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Terry Stamm

Next Village Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 18th at 6:00 p.m. If you have a specific item to bring to the Board please sign up under citizen's forum.

A reminder that alternate side of the street parking regulations are in effect beginning November 1st and ending April 1st. More information on page 5.

Now that winter is here, there is salt/sand behind the Public Works Building at E204 Menomonie Street. Village Residents are welcome to bring a bucket and help yourself for your sidewalk and drive approaches. Be sure to recover the pile with the tarp when finished. Thanks for your part in keeping our sidewalks safe for pedestrians.

Solid Waste Site hours are changing in January 2025 to be Wednesdays 11am-5pm and Saturdays 7am to Noon. Christmas tree lights should be recycled. Please give your used string lights to an attendant on duty.

The 2025 Solid Waste & Recycling permits will be sent by mail to arrive by mid-December. If you do not receive a permit by mid-December, please stop by the Village Hall to obtain one. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

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BOARD MINUTES OCTOBER 21, 2024

The October 21, 2024 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 Bob Bachman, Tim Benjamin, Pat Hahn, Pat Lien, Joyce Price and Terry Stamm present. Cynthia Abraham was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Price/Hahn moved and seconded a motion to approve the Village Board minutes of September 16, 2024. Motion carried.

<u>CITIZEN'S FORUM – (PUBLIC INPUT):</u> Tom Gilbert expressed continued concerns regarding the addition of fluoride to the Village's water supply. He asked the Village to consider stopping this process. John Nickolai stated that he also supports discontinuing the addition of fluoride to the Village's water supply.

<u>PUBLIC APPEARANCE:</u> Paul Mahler, Bakke Norman, introduced himself as the new Village attorney. He is looking forward to working with the Village's trustees and employees.

APPROVAL OF GENERAL FUND AND WATER/SEWER UTILITY VOUCHERS: Benjamin/Bachman moved and seconded a motion to approve the combined checks 33017-33057 and direct deposits V3806 – V3834 for a total of \$65,188.16. Motion carried.

<u>APPROVAL OF TID VOUCHERS:</u> There were no TID vouchers.

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

The following permits were issued: Doug Franze, 113 Juniper Ave, demo building; April and William Sarbeck, S200 Holly Ave, electrical permit, a construction/insulation permit and an installation of furnace and air conditioner/replacement of all ductwork permit.

<u>Water/Sewer Report:</u> 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.

<u>Director of Public Works Report:</u> The Director of Public Works Report was presented by Mark Levra, Director of Public Works. The report is on file in the Director of Public Works office.

<u>Police Chief Report:</u> The Police Chief Report was presented by Police Chief Chad Weinberger. The report is on file in the Village Clerk-Treasurer's office.

Standing Committee Reports:

<u>Public Works & Streets:</u> Bob Bachman reported that the Public Works & Streets Committee did meet to discuss budget items and the fluoridation of the Village water supply, which will be covered later in the meeting.

<u>Public Safety:</u> Tim Benjamin reported that the Public Safety Committee did meet to discuss budget items and the ordinance amendments regarding police/fire false alarms, which will be covered later in the meeting.

<u>Property & Finance:</u> Bob Bachman reported that the Property & Finance Committee did meet to discuss budget items and the determination of dangerous dog status, which will be covered later in the meeting.

<u>Employee Relations:</u> Pat Lien reported that the Employee Relations Committee did meet to discuss employee wage and benefit negotiations, which will be covered later in the meeting.

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

Report from Fire Board Representative

The Department responded to seven calls for service this month. The Department membership is currently 24 members.

(Continued on Page 3)

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BOARD MINUTES OCTOBER 21, 2024 CONTINUED

Chief Fuester is working on ordinance changes for billing purposes. He is also working with their insurance company on updated replacement values for equipment. Engine 5 is still being repaired and painted as needed.

All of the second half assessments and 2% dues have been paid by the three municipalities. The second half of the year fire inspections will be conducted soon. A joint training with other Fire Departments was very successful.

Chief Fuester is recommending a banking switch to Independence State Bank. He is also currently working on the 2025 budget for the Department.

Report from Elk Mound/Colfax Solid Waste & Recycling

The R.U has completed the compensation adjustment effective for 2025. They are presently working on the 2025 per capita charges to the nine municipalities who are a part of the R.U. Work is continuing on the 2025 Colfax R.U. budget and they hope to have copies available soon.

Colfax Rescue Squad Monthly Report

The Colfax Rescue Squad Monthly Report from August was reviewed and is on file in the Village Clerk/Treasurer's office.

Community Center/Library Report

Terry Stamm reported that the Community Center/Library Board did not meet but is scheduled to meet on October 28 at 4:30 p.m.

Communications & Miscellaneous Business as Permitted by Law

President Terry Stamm reported that trick-or-treating will be held in the Village on October 31 from 5-7 p.m. The Lions Club will once again be handing out treats at the fire hall.

Unfinished Business:

<u>Discussion/Action Review of Ordinance Sec. 6-4-5:</u> Abatement of Tree Disease Nuisances

No action was taken on this agenda item.

<u>Discussion/Action Consideration of Amendments to Ordinance Sections 13-1-42 and 13-1-200(c)</u>

Stamm/Benjamin moved and seconded a motion to table this agenda item until the next meeting. Motion carried.

<u>Discussion/Action Revisions to Ordinance Section 5-3-6,</u> <u>Police/Fire False Alarms and Ordinance Section 1-3-1,</u> <u>Fee Schedule for Police/Fire Alarms</u>

Lien/Hahn moved and seconded a motion to approve the following ordinance changes: in section 5-3-6(e), remove the words "or occupant" and in Section 1-3-1 fee schedule for Section 5-3-4, remove "not to exceed \$500" and the fee schedule for Section 5-3-6, change "location" to "property owner" and charge the following fees for police/fire false alarms: 1st – no charge, 2nd - \$250, 3rd - \$500, 4th - \$1,000. Motion carried.

Discussion/Action Fluoridation of Village Water Supply

Bachman/Hahn moved and second a motion to accept the Public Works and Streets Committee's recommendation to continue with the fluoridation of the Village water supply. Motion carried.

New Business:

Open Public Hearing for Determination of Dangerous Dog Status

Hahn/Bachman moved and seconded a motion to open the Public Hearing for determination of dangerous dog status. Motion carried.

Close Public Hearing for Determination of Dangerous <u>Dog Status</u>

Benjamin/Bachman moved and seconded a motion to close the Public Hearing for determination of dangerous dog status. Motion carried.

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BOARD MINUTES OCTOBER 21ST, CONTINUED

<u>Discussion/Action Determination of Dangerous Dog Status:</u> Bachman/Hahn moved and seconded a motion to uphold the decision of the Property and Finance Committee that Piper, the dog of Misty Pierce, N302 Holly Avenue, is a dangerous dog. Motion carried.

<u>Discussion/Action 4.1% Simplified Rate Increase for Water Utility:</u> Benjamin/Bachman moved and seconded a motion to approve a 4.1% Simplified Rate Increase for the Water Utility. Motion carried.

<u>Discussion/Action Resolution 24-2: Intention to Join the Statewide Public Safety Interoperable Communication</u>
<u>System:</u> Hahn/Benjamin moved and seconded a motion to approve Resolution 24-2: Intention to Join the Statewide Public Safety Interoperable Communication System. Motion carried.

Discussion/Action Resolution 24-3: To Recognize the Efforts of the Elk Mound Police and Fire Departments

During the Residential Fire on Juniper Avenue in September 2024: Bachman/Benjamin moved and seconded a motion to approve Resolution 24-3: To recognize the efforts of the Elk Mound Police and Fire Departments during the residential fire on Juniper Avenue in September 2024. Motion carried.

<u>Discussion/Action Opening of Sealed Bids for the Sale of the Abandoned Motorhome at 215 University Street</u>

There were no sealed bids for the abandoned motorhome. No action was taken on this agenda item.

<u>Discussion/Action Approval of Alternate Polling Locations:</u> Benjamin/Lien moved and seconded a motion to approve the following alternate polling locations: 1st – Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church, 2nd – Elk Mound Community Center, 3rd – Elk Mound High School. Motion carried.

<u>Discussion/Action Approval of Location of the Elk Mound</u> <u>Fire District's Fire Danger Sign</u>

Price/Bachman moved and seconded a motion to approve the placement of the Elk Mound Fire District's Fire Danger sign in the southwest corner of the Village Park. Motion carried. <u>Contract:</u> Benjamin/Price moved and seconded a motion to approve the 2025 Dunn County Humane Society Contract as presented. Motion carried.

Discussion/Action Adjourn to Closed Session per 19.85(1) (c), considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the Village has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility

Benjamin/Lien moved and seconded a motion to adjourn to closed session per 19.85(1)(c), considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the Village has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Roll call vote: Bachman: yes, Benjamin: yes, Hahn: yes, Lien: yes, Price: yes, Stamm: yes. Motion carried.

Discussion/Action Reconvene to Open Session

Benjamin/Lien moved and seconded a motion to reconvene to open session. Motion carried.

<u>Discussion/Action Village of Elk Mound Employee Wage</u> and Benefit Negotiations for 2025

Lien/Benjamin moved and seconded a motion to approve the following wage changes: wage increases for Julie Conlin - \$2.00/hour, Chad Weinberger - \$5.00/hour, Kyle Devries and David Vodenlich - \$4.20/hour, and a 4% increase for Kevin Garnett, Mark Levra, Todd Steinhorst and Karin Wolf; and the following benefit changes for Kevin Garnett, Mark Levra, Todd Steinhorst and Karin Wolf: a 4% increase in the health insurance stipend; an increase in life insurance/disability insurance reimbursement from \$500 to \$750/each; and implementation of a Post Employment Health Plan where hours in sick leave bank at retirement are put into a fund that can be used for medical expenses. Motion carried.

Adjourn

Lien/Price moved and	l seconded a	motion to	adjourn the
meeting at 8:01 p.m.	Motion carr	ied.	

Karin Wolf
Village of Elk Mound Clerk-Treasurer

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BOARD MEETINGS

Next Board Meeting is Wednesday, December 18th Board Meetings are typically held the third Monday 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.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS VILLAGE OF ELK MOUND

The Dunn County Treasurer, 3001 US Hwy 12 East, Suite 102A, Menomonie WI 54751 will collect real estate taxes for the 2024 tax year on behalf of the Village of Elk Mound. Please make checks payable to Dunn County Treasurer. First installment of real estate tax is due January 31, 2025. Second installment of real estate tax is due July 31, 2025.

Note: Your dog licenses should be purchased from the Elk Mound Village Clerk/Treasurer, and you must provide proof of rabies vaccinations for the dogs.

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.



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.)

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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 crossside-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 or visit www.elkmound.org

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.

The following messages are courtesy of the U.S. Fire Administration:

Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns. Make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they cannot be knocked down easily.

Inspect holiday lights each year before you put them up. Throw away light strands with frayed or pinched wires.

Water your Christmas tree every day. A dry Christmas tree can burn very hot and very fast.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!



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WARNING SIREN

When severe weather occurs, you will hear a steady tone for three minutes. Upon early warning, volunteers will attempt to set the Warning Siren to a STEADY TONE. This warning is to inform you to seek information from TV, broadcast radio, or "NOAA Weather Alert" radio. For residents that do not have adequate shelter, the Lutheran Church, 207 University Street, has offered the use of the church basement. Every effort will be made to get the rear (south) doors opened on alarm. YOU SHOULD MAKE ALTERNATE PLANS IN THE EVENT THE CHURCH IS NOT OPEN!!

Having a plan in place will minimize confusion when time is of the essence. Preplanning to bring flashlights, possibly a blanket, as well as making other arrangements for pets will make for quick access to shelter. (Please do not bring pets to the Church).

This plan will be in effect immediately and until further notice.

"NOAA Weather Alert" radios are available for purchase at local electronics or major department stores. These units can be used in addition to the local warning siren for early severe storm alerts.

According to Dunn County Emergency Management, the siren is intended to alert people outdoors that severe weather conditions are nearby. The sounding of these sirens is your cue to access local detailed weather information from radio or television and discover if there is an need to take further action. More information can be found on their site: www.dunn.wi.co.us, click on Departments, Emergency Management & Outdoor Warning Sirens.

Dunn County Communications Center is responsible for testing the emergency siren system April through October. Village of Elk Mound tests November through March. The Emergency Warning Siren is tested the first Monday of each month at 10:00 am and monitored by the Village of Elk Mound. Standard emergency warning siren electro-mechanical tones are as follows:

ALERT— Steady Tone, 3 minutes
ATTACK—Wailing Tone, 6 sec. Hi/6 sec. Low, 3 min
FIRE— Wailing Tone, 16 sec. Hi/8 Sec. Low, 4 Cycles
GROWL- Short Burst, 2 Sec. Used for testing of siren only.

Warning Siren

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

> December 2, 2024 January 6, 2024 February 3, 2024

Elk Mound Community Tree Lighting Event

Organized by the Elk Mound Area Lions Sunday, December 3rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Elk Mound Library/Community Center Parking Lot.

Enjoy holiday music performed by the Elk Mound School Music Departments and beverages provided by Trinity United Methodist Church.

All event proceeds go back into the community to fund local Lions initiatives.

If you are considering joining the Elk Mound Area Lions, please contact us at ElkMoundLions@gmail.com

Absentee Ballot Requests

If you wish to continue to receive a ballot by mail, please fill out a new request for 2025. Requests need to be renewed annually.

Thank you!

December 2024								
S U	M o n	TUE	W E D	Тн	Fri	S A T		
1	2 Library Open 2pm-6pm	3 Pop Up Pantry 11:30-12:30 Food Pantry 4-6pm	4 Solid Waste Site Hours 1pm-5pm Library Open 9am-1pm	5	6 Food Pantry 10-noon Village Office Closed Library Open 2-6pm	7 Solid Waste Hours 8am to 3pm		
8	9 Library Open 2pm-6pm	1 0 Food Pantry 4-6pm	1 1 Solid Waste Site Hours 1pm—5pm Library Open 9am-1pm	1 2	1 3 Food Pantry 10-noon Village Office Closed	1 4 Solid Waste Site Hours 8am to 3pm		
1 5	1 6 Library Open 2pm-6pm	1 7 Food Pantry 4-6pm	1 8 Village Board Meeting 6pm Solid Waste Site Hours 1pm—5pm Library Open 9am-1pm	1 9	2 0 Food Pantry 10-noon Village Office Closed Library Open 2-6pm	2 1 Solid Waste Site Hours 8am to 3pm		
2 2	2 3 Library Open 2pm-6pm	2 4 Christmas Eve Hollday Food Pantry 4-6pm	2 5 Christmas Day Holiday Solid Waste Site Hours 1pm—5pm	2 6	2 7 Food Pantry 10-noon Village Office Closed Library Open 2-6pm	2 8 8-Noon Solid Waste Site Hours 8am to 3pm		
2 9	3 0 Library Open 2pm-6pm	3 1 Food Pantry 4-6pm	Village Office I 8:00 a.m.—4:3		. Monday—Thurs	sday		

January 2025								
S U N	Mon	T U E	W E D	Тн	Fri	Sат		
			1 Solid Waste Site Hours 11am–5pm Library Open 9am-1pm	2	3 Food Pantry 10-noon Village Office Closed Library Open 2-6pm	4 Solid Waste Hours 7am to 12 Noo		
5	6 Library Open 2pm-6pm	7 Pop Up Pantry 11:30-12:30	8 Solid Waste Site Hours 11am–5pm Library Open 9am-1pm	9	1 0 Food Pantry 10-noon Village Office Closed Library Open 2-6pm	1 1 Solid Waste Si Hours 7am to 12 Noo		
1 2	1 3 Library Open 2pm-6pm	1 4 Food Pantry 4-6pm	1 5 Solid Waste Site Hours 11am—5pm Library Open 9am-1pm Fire Board 7pm	1 6	1 7 Food Pantry 10-noon Village Office Closed Library Open 2-6pm	1 8 Solid Waste Sit Hours 7am to 12 Noo		
1 9	2 0 Village Board Meeting 6pm Library Open 2pm-6pm	2 1 Food Pantry 4-6pm	2 2 Solid Waste Site Hours 11am-5pm Library Open 9am-1pm	2 3	2 4 Food Pantry 10-noon Village Office Closed Library Open 2-6pm	2 5 Solid Waste Sit Hours 7am to 12 Noo		
2 6	2 7 Library Open 2pm-6pm	2 8 Food Pantry 4-6pm	2 9 Solid Waste Site Hours 11am—5pm Library Open 9am-1pm	3 0	3 1 Food Pantry 10-noon Village Office Closed Library Open 2-6pm			

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