



# The Elkhart Echo



December 2023

[www.elkhartillinois.us](http://www.elkhartillinois.us)

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## VILLAGE BOARD NEWS

Mayor Lyle Fout called the meeting to order on December 4, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. at the Elkhart Village Hall. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken. Answering present: Dave Barker, Kyle Farmer, John Galassi, Matt Fights, Travis Moore, and Ernie Shaw. Attorney Don Behle, Clerk Ann Curry, and Treasurer Theresa Moore were also present. Visitors present were Robert Neal, Amy Roberts, and Mona Maas.

Motion by Travis Moore, second by Ernie Shaw, to approve Consent Agenda Items, A, B, C, and D.

- A. Approve meeting minutes from November 6, 2023
- B. Approve submitted bills and bill sheets
- C. Approve employee reimbursements
- D. Approve Treasurer’s report

Roll call vote. All yeas. No nay. Motion carried.

### **RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC**

Bob Neal with M & E Realty has walked the area looking at the lots the Village owns at Prairie Point. He had a few questions he needed answered so he can get ready to sell the lots. We will have a resolution next month on the price of the lots. Possibly \$11,000.00.

### **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

No report.

### **ATTORNEY**

No report.

### **LIQUOR**

Lyle will hand out the liquor license and collect the fees this month.

### **TIF REPORT**

The Elkhart Library sent the paperwork for the TIF reimbursement for their renovations. Motion by Travis Moore, second by Matt Fights to reimburse the Library \$7,608.70 per year over 3 years for their renovations. Starting in fiscal year 2024. Roll call vote. All yeas. No nay. Motion carried.

### **SOLID WASTE**

No report.

## **LOCAL EVENTS LIAISON/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The Tree Lighting was nice despite the weather.

The NAG Grinch visit was a huge success.

## **WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT**

The generator will be delivered between December 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.

## **STREETS/ALLEYS**

No report.

## **BUILDINGS/VILLAGE PROPERTIES/EQUIPMENT**

The new garage door will be delivered on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **VILLAGE PARK**

Ernie has been in contact with IDNR about the pond and they sent an agreement for the Village to go over. The Board was not in favor of this agreement. We will look for other ways to get fish for the pond.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY**

No report.

## **FINANCE**

No report.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mona Maas talked about trees and grants for trees. With the Inflation Reduction Act there are grants available in 2024.

She had mentioned possibly getting trees around the pond and along the fence by the highway. There are a couple organizations that work on Tree Grants. Arbor Day has Tree City USA and there is a Trees Forever.

The board gave Mona the go ahead to look into these grants.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

None.

## **ORDINANCE**

Motion by Kyle Farmer, second by Ernie Shaw to pass Ordinance 2023-12, An Ordinance Adapting a Schedule of Meetings for Calendar Year 2024. Roll call vote. Those voting yea: Dave Barker, Kyle Farmer, Matt Fights, John Galassi, Travis Moore, and Ernie Shaw. Those voting nay: none. Those absent: none. Ordinance adopted.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Travis Moore, second by Ernie Shaw, to adjourn at 7:10pm. Voice vote. All yeas. No nay. Motion carried.

Submitted By  
Ann Curry  
Village Clerk

**NEWSLETTER INFO**

All material for the January 2024 newsletter should be turned in before  
**5:00 p.m. on January 10, 2024**

Please email your article in Word to [sarahvball@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahvball@hotmail.com)

If there is any event that needs added to the calendar,

Please call (217-494-0059) or e-mail the information.

**Senior Citizen Luncheon**

***There will be NO Senior Lunch in December.***

**For questions, please call Anita at (217) 341-0167.**



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***We Need Volunteer Firefighters!!!***



bad pay



crappy hours



tough working conditions

***Come Join Us!!***

GREAT SATISFACTION!!

WHO WILL ANSWER THE CALL?

ELKHART VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief: Jay Akers 217-737-6500

Assistant Chief: Paul Hayden 217-871-0121



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Mt. Pulaski High School Board Minutes – November 20, 2023

<https://www.mtpulaski.k12.il.us/o/mpgs/article/1349080>

The next regular board meeting is Monday, December 18, 2023, at 7:00pm.

Elkhart Community

Senior's Bingo

(the over 55 crowd)

First Tuesday of each Month

2:00 pm

Village Hall



## **LET'S GET MOVING IN 2024!!!**

**Looking for a group to exercise with?  
Need a gym to get together?  
Someone to give advice and direction?**

When: Wednesdays and Fridays

Where: at the Christian Church Fellowship Hall (old school gym)

Time: 9:30 am

Bring: stability ball, light weights, bands, and mats if you have them

Sponsor: NAG (Needs and Goal of Elkhart)

Questions: Contact Elise Gleason 217-415-6893



## **Hello from Mona Maas and the Elkhart Pollinator Habitat!**

We had an interesting Village Board meeting on Monday December 4th. I presented information on the **Arbor Day Tree City USA** program, <https://www.arborday.org/programs/treecityusa/#benefitsSection> and introduced **Trees Forever**, <https://treesforever.org/>

I hope that Elkhart can be a credible candidate for different grants to be released in 2024 and these organizations can HELP.

The Board has given their permission for me to proceed to organize and report in.

I think trees around the Community Fishing Pond would be GREAT! What's **YOUR** idea?

I will return to the Village Hall for the January 8, 2024, meeting with more information.

**And p.s. I will bring along a "REVEAL". A fun surprise for the Habitat...come to the VB meeting to SEE it!**

Let me know via email [justmona2@gmail.com](mailto:justmona2@gmail.com),

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ElkhartIllinoisPollinatorHabitat>,

or find me "out there" **if you are interested in joining this effort!**



# December

## Holiday Closings

Please note that the library will be closed on **Monday, Dec. 25th, 2023** & **Monday, January 1st, 2024**

## Coming In January

Our monthly **Toddler Time** filled with books, snacks, crafts, and fun will be **moving** from a Saturday to a **weekday**. We hope this will allow even **MORE** of our kiddos to join us, so watch for more in the next newsletter!

*The Elkhart Public Library Board & Staff  
Wish You A Very Merry Christmas*

Elise  
Gleason

Jeanine  
Kolb

Jessica  
McClellan

Mark  
Moughan

Sarah  
McCutcheon

Sue  
Roush

Phil  
Shelton

Doris  
Craner

Cecilia  
Davis

Andrew  
Hite

David  
Ruhl

Carolyn  
Trout

Sarah  
Wilson

## Elkhart Public Library District

*for more info visit*  
[elkhartlibrary@lib.il.us](mailto:elkhartlibrary@lib.il.us)