

# The Elkhart Echo



May 2025

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

Vol. 40 Issue 5

## VILLAGE BOARD NEWS

Mayor Lyle Fout called the meeting to order on May 5, 2025, 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: Kyle Farmer, John Galassi, Matt Fights, Ernie Shaw, Travis Moore and Dave Barker. Clerk Ann Curry, Treasurer Theresa Moore, and attorney Don Behle were also present. Mona Maas, Amy Roberts, Matt Olson, and Matt Langan as incoming office holders were present.

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

- A. Approve meeting minutes from April 7, 2025
- 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.

*Lyle Fout thanked outgoing Ann Curry, Theresa Moore, Ernie Shaw, and Dave Barker for their years of service to the Elkhart Community.*

**Swearing in of new Officers:** Don Behle led the Oath of Office for Lyle Fout (President), Naomi (Mona) Maas (Clerk) and Trustees Matt Fights, Matt Langan, Matt Olson and Travis Moore.

**Assignment of Treasurer:** Lyle Fout assigned Amy Roberts to fill term vacancy for Treasurer. Motion by Travis Moore, second by Kyle Farmer to approve Amy Roberts for Treasurer. Trustees responded All Yeas, No Nays.

### **RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC**

None.

### **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

NOTE: Addressed this Budget item first so that Dave Barker (Finance) could be released:

### **ORDINANCE**

- 1) Discussion on **Ordinance** to Amend the Budget, 2025-02. Motion by Matt Fights, Second by Travis Moore to approve Ordinance to Amend Budget 2025-02. Trustees responded All Yeas, No Nays
- 2) **Meetings:** Lyle reports he has a meeting with IEPA on writing up water analysis. He will meet with Rich Adams on 5/6/25
- 3) **Liquor report-** Liquor licenses will be due next month; Lyle will meet with Mona (Clerk) to prepare
- 4) **Committee Assignments/New Trustees** inclusion: Lyle prepared and reviewed Committee assignments to include new trustees. Appointment of Kyle Farmer as Mayor pro tem; no objections.

Clerk to prepare the updated list to be sent to all involved, and forward to Ernie Shaw for Elkhart Website.

5) Discussion of "action items" to be completed for Treasurer access, Clerk to document minutes quickly.

### **ATTORNEY**

Don Behle reports he has just received requests from the Risk Management Coordinators for the Illinois Municipal League mandate for the adoption of a risk management ordinance. This Ordinance will be brought to the VB meeting next month.

### **LIQUOR**

No report.

### **TIF REPORT**

No report.

### **SOLID WASTE**

No report.

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

NAGS + Native Plants (assisted by Elkhart Tree Advisory Committee) successful plant sale.

### **WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT**

No report.

### **STREETS/ALLEYS**

There have been questions about standing water in the ditches. Lyle had discussions with Logan County Highway Department's Brett Aukamp. This is a Logan County responsibility, Elkhart residents should contact him.

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

No report.

### **VILLAGE PARK**

No report.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY**

No report.

### **FINANCE**

Audit for TIF will come at the end of the year, and paperwork is being gathered for processing.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No report.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Discussion Items/Action Items

1) Fish purchase: Discussion for the purchase of fish for the Lake. Motion to Purchase fish by John Galassi, Second Travis Moore, Voice vote. All yeas. No Nays. Motion carried. Fish to be delivered on 5/14/25

2) Discussion of proposed aeration set up at Lake. Motion to purchase aeration equipment for the Lake. Motion by Kyle Farmer, second by Matt Fights to purchase. Voice vote. All yeas. No nay. Motion carried.

3) Discussion on installation of electric for the system- Village will plan to do the work.

4) Water analysis- Lyle discussed this in President's report item 2, above

5) Discussion of bid for treatment of Lake from Aquatic Control; requesting a more detailed estimate. Travis Moore and/or Matt Fights will follow up and bring details to the June meeting.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

None.

## **ORDINANCE**

None.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Time: 6:58 p.m. Motion by John Galassi, second by Kyle Farmer to adjourn. Voice vote. All yeas. No nay. Motion carried. Next meeting June 2, 2025, Submitted By: Naomi (Mona) Maas Village Clerk

**\*\*\*Items for the newsletter MUST be turned into Sarah by 5:00 pm on the Wednesday following the Village Board Meeting. If they are not received by 5:00 pm, they will not be in the newsletter. \*\*\***

**Thank you!  
Elkhart Village Board**

### **NEWSLETTER INFO**

All material for the June 2025 newsletter should be turned in before  
**5:00 p.m. on June 4, 2025**

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

The Elkhart Senior's Lunch will be on May 15, 2025, at 11:30am at The Wild Hare.

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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# Elkhart Community

## Senior's Bingo

(the over 55 crowd)

*Sponsored by NAG*

**First Tuesday of each Month**

**2:00 pm**

**Village Hall**





# we've got fun wrapped up!

Join us in ancient Egypt! You'll explore Pharaoh's palace, experience thrilling "real-life" dramas, play high-energy games, sample tasty snacks, and hear unforgettable music. Plus, you'll meet lots of new friends!

Location: Elkhart Christian Church - FCC Building

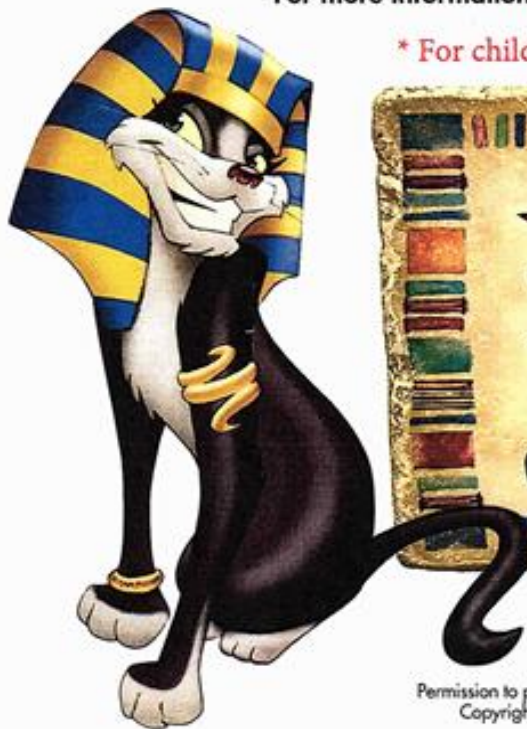
The adventure will last: June 2-6

Celebration begins at: 9:00 AM

The day's journey ends at: 11:30 AM

For more information, call: Kay Faucon 217-947-2747

\* For children 4 years old to entering 6th Grade



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## Elkhart Tree Advisory Committee Update

We celebrated our Arbor Day TREE CITY status with a proclamation and showing off our new plaque!

Elkhart's maintenance guys got the big SIGNS up along with the FLAG at the Park!

The Mt. Pulaski High School Volunteers cleaned up the Vet Park, The Library, the Habitat and we did some "rabbit prevention" putting up fences at the fishing Lake! Many thanks to Michele Clark for helping to make that all happen.

We joined with the NAGS for their plant sale, and they are AWESOME! We sold Native Plants with 4 different kinds of Milkweeds! We will be able to fund much of the \$\$ to pay summer help with our young people. It was a LOT of work; they helped out and learned a bit...and it was wonderful to see some old "plant friends" and make some new!

You will see us this month planting out at the Fishing Lake to establish native plant areas. This is the final step in our grant from the Illinois Native Plant Society.

We will schedule a meeting of the Tree Advisory Committee in June, and YOU are welcome to attend...we want your input!

-Mona Maas for the Tree Committee I am at [justmona2@gmail.com](mailto:justmona2@gmail.com).



## FIRST ANNUAL FIREFLY WALK PICNIC

On Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> (rain date June 21<sup>st</sup>) at 5:30p.m. the community is invited to the Nancy Jane Moore Community Park, located at 109 Stellar St. in Elkhart, Illinois, for a BYO picnic dinner, with time for the children to run and play. If you choose not to take part in the picnic dinner, you can still take part in the walk portion of the evening. Be sure to be at the park no later than 7:20 p.m. At 7:30 p.m., we will caravan



to the north end of Elkhart Hill, to the landscaped grounds of Bob and Lynne Neal where the Firefly talk & walk will begin. Our guide for the evening, Allen Yow, presented “The World of our amazing Fireflies,” as our Elkhart Historical Society monthly dinner lecture last summer, at which time the idea of a walk on the hill was launched.

Allen Yow gives many firefly tours in Springfield and Jacksonville every year and was willing to help Elkhart get involved in this fascinating summer treat. Whether called fireflies, lightning bugs, glow worms or moon bugs, Yow said they’re all synonymous, but their unique illumination differences separate the individual groups and allow us to identify them. This ability is the result of a complicated chemical reaction that allows them to find a mate in the right group. Habitats are critical to every living thing, including these amazing ‘beacons’ of the summer evenings. Come learn more and help them to continue adding their sparkle to our lives for generations to come.

The Elkhart Historical Society is helping to coordinate the evening as a free family-friendly event. The Talk of the Town Restaurant has agreed to help you with the food portion of the picnic with the special menu below. Be sure to read the instructions carefully for an optional easy solution to a picnic dinner. Add insect repellent and a blanket to sit on at the walk site, and enjoy the beauty of Elkhart Hill, on what we hope to have as an annual event.



TALK OF THE TOWN  
PICNIC DINNER ORDER FORM

FOR JUNE 14, 2025 (Rain Date June 21st, 2025)

PULLED PORK BULK 1 LB. (includes 3 buns per pound)

**\$10.00** X \_\_\_\_\_ (NUMBER) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PULLED PORK SANDWICH & CHIPS **\$9.99** X \_\_\_\_\_ (NUMBER) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

COLD FRIED CHICKEN 2 PC (includes breast and choice of 1 leg, wing or thigh)

**\$6.00** X \_\_\_\_\_ (NUMBER) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

COLD FRIED CHICKEN 4 PC (includes 1 breast, 1 thigh, 1 wing and 1 leg)

**\$10.00** X \_\_\_\_\_ (NUMBER) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHICKEN TENDERS **\$2.50 each or 2 for \$5** X \_\_\_\_\_ (NUMBER) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB SANDWICH (Ham turkey bacon cheese lettuce tomato & Mayo) + CHIPS

**\$11.00** X \_\_\_\_\_ (NUMBER) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

BLT SANDWICH & CHIPS **\$ 11.00** X \_\_\_\_\_ (NUMBER) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SINGLE SERVING POTATO SALAD **\$ 2.00** X \_\_\_\_\_ (NUMBER) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SINGLE SERVING COLESLAW **\$2.00** X \_\_\_\_\_ (NUMBER) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Need tableware & Napkins  Paid Total \_\_\_\_\_

MUST BE PAID WHEN ORDERED - - - FILL OUT AND DROP OFF ORDER FORM AT TALK OF THE TOWN BETWEEN JUNE 3, AND JUNE 11, 2025 (1P-7P). Talk of the Town is closed Sunday and Monday.

PICK UP ORDERS AT 5P ON JUNE 14TH. Save your receipt as proof of purchase.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PICNIC AND CARAVAN TO THE FIREFLY VIEWING AND GUIDED WALK- - 217 899 2238

Order Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Cash  or Card

# Elkhart Public Library District



## Financial Q & A Opportunity

Investing. Estate Planning.  
Life Insurance. Policy Review.

Do these kinds of topics confuse you? Stress you out?  
Make you wish for a root canal instead?

Meet Blake Curry.



Blake is a financial professional (Prudential) and will be at the library next week (Mon/Wed) - 5/12 & 14 from 4:30 - 6:30 to hear your questions and provide some general answers and information.

NOTE: This is a Come & Go event, and there is NO OBLIGATION if you decide to stop by.

## Special Memorabilia and Book Display

Stop by to see what we have featured as we observe:

National Armed Forces Day (5/15)

Memorial Day (6/26) D-Day (6/6)

Military memorabilia will be in rotation with related DVDs and Books - some NEW TO OUR COLLECTION!

## Important Dates

Financial Q & A with  
Blake Curry 5/12 & 14  
4:30 - 6:30pm

READ - Summer Reading '25  
6/18 - 7/16  
(Wednesdays)  
1 - 1:15pm

REFLECT - US Military Display  
& Related Books / DVDs  
5/12 - 6/7  
(Display items will rotate)

CELEBRATE - Butterfly Release Event  
July 31st @ 5pm  
(Registration in July)



## Sign Up for Summer Reading!

Want to go on a journey? That's great, because  
**Reading Will Take You  
EVERYWHERE!**

Join us each Wednesday from  
June 18 - July 16 @ 1pm  
for fun, snacks, learning about new places and  
things, weekly incentives, and of course,  
**PRIZES!**

Registration begins on May 18th, and you may  
pick up your book logs to start reading  
**ONE WEEK BEFORE on JUNE 11th!**