

ELKHART VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 2, 2026

Mayor **Lyle Fout** called the meeting to order on February 2, 2026, 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, Matt Fights, Matt Langan and Travis Moore. John Galassi and Matt Olson were absent. Attorney Don Behle, Clerk Mona Maas, and Treasurer Amy Roberts were present.

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

A. Approve meeting minutes from January 5, 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.

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC: Jacinda Noltensmeier, Carrie Fights, Judy Brown, Dorsey Hill and Gisele Hamm.

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

Liquor: Paperwork in process for the Talk

ATTORNEY: TIF Audit pending

CLERK/TREASURER:

Clerk- Elkhart Tree Advisory Committee will meet on February 16, 2026, at 6:30 at the Village Hall.

Elkhart received an email from the U. of I. Climate Jobs Institute. They are doing a survey to gather data for the Displaced Energy Workers Bill of Rights, an Illinois law. Ernie to post the notice on the Facebook website, and here is a link if any local folks who worked at the Viper Mine would like to participate: <https://go.illinois.edu/ViperMine>

Treasurer: Amy updated on bills, ledger and bank statement and Audit activity in January.

Buildings/Properties: no report

Finance: Audit being finalized and Budget in production now.

Local Events Liaison/ Economic Development: Lyle and Kyle met with Scott McCoy about Route 66 materials that can be put for sale in local businesses as Route 66 gears up for its 100 Year anniversary.

There will be a new Route 66 SIGN donated to Elkhart, a "Welcome to Logan County" kind of sign.

Parks/Hall/Pond: Interest in obtaining estimate for pond to be stocked with fish and treated for algae, etc., in 2026. Travis will handle that and submit.

Concerns about ice fishing at the pond; amended Ordinance prohibiting that will be presented in March.

Public Health and Safety: Potholes in the streets were fixed by Elkhart.

Solid Waste: no report

Streets/Alleys: no report

Tax Increment Finance (TIF): questions on status of audit.

Water/Sewer: There was a water main break on Kennedy Road.

Old Business: Prairie Point subdivision price of lots. Discussion on reviewing covenants and decision to lower price to attempt to spur sales. Don has supplied covenants, further discussion in March.

New Business:

Dorsey Hill spoke to us about her work on public event in Logan County called Rural Big Table. It's a community input event taking place on February 19 from 3:00-6:00 p.m. at the Lincoln Park District (1400 Primm Road, Lincoln, IL 62656).

Gisele Hamm Program Director, MAPPING the Future of Your Community presented her program. Elkhart's involvement with the program in 2001 was briefly discussed. Terms of the cost to Elkhart, and the amount of community engagement, were presented. Discussion how to proceed was tabled until March.

Elkhart's Clerk Mona Maas announced that she is sad to say, after the death of husband, she is moving out of State this summer. Local resident Jacinda Noltensmeier has been interviewed and was nominated by Mayor Fout to start as Elkhart's new Clerk on May 4, 2026, or sooner if desired. She is "job shadowing" Mona now. She is highly qualified. Motion to approve by Travis Moore, second Kyle Farmer. Roll call vote. Those voting yea: Kyle Farmer, Matt Fights, Matt Langan, Travis Moore. John Galassi and Matt Olson were absent. Those voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Window treatment for Village Hall- new blinds. Bid from Susan Dey Exciting Windows! Was presented for cordless aluminum blinds for all windows at the Hall. The bid is for \$1,535 and includes professional installation. Other bids from Lowes were discussed. Motion to approve by Travis Moore, second Matt Fights. Roll call vote. Those voting yea: Kyle Farmer, Matt Fights, Matt Langan, Travis Moore. John Galassi and Matt Olson were absent. Those voting nay: None. Motion carried.

Income Survey- Lyle presented that discussions are ongoing to develop a plan for Elkhart to complete an Income Survey. This is necessary because most recent Census data isn't specific enough to prove that Elkhart should be categorized as eligible for Community Development Block Grants (and others). If we can accomplish this, Elkhart will be eligible for Federal grants to help the Village proceed on work to protect our water, our sanitation and infrastructure. Consultant Jeff Torricelli and a representative from CDAP (Community Development Assistance Program), will attend our VB meeting in March. We continue to research and plan how we can accomplish this. We hope for an aggressive timeline.

ORDINANCE – none presented

RESOLUTION(S) – none presented

EXECUTIVE SESSION (If required)- None

ADJOURNMENT- 7:32 p.m. Motion by Travis Moore, second by Matt Fights to adjourn. Voice vote. All yeas. No nay. Motion carried.

Next meeting: March 2, 2026.

Submitted By: Naomi (Mona) Maas, Village Clerk