



# The Elkhart Echo



August 2024

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

Vol. 39 Issue 8

## VILLAGE BOARD NEWS

Mayor Lyle Fout called the meeting to order on August 5, 2024, 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, Travis Moore, Dave Barker, and Ernie Shaw. John Galassi was absent. Clerk Ann Curry and Treasurer Theresa Moore were also present.

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

- A. Approve meeting minutes from July 1, 2024
- B. Approve submitted bills and bill sheets
- C. Approve employee reimbursements
- D. Approve Treasurer’s report

### **RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC**

None.

### **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

No report.

### **ATTORNEY**

No report.

### **LIQUOR**

No report.

### **TIF REPORT**

No report.

### **SOLID WASTE**

No report.

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

On September 14, 2024, a Cycling Club will be coming through Elkhart and will be stopping at the park. Kyle will be getting more details.

### **WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT**

There are 3 water hydrants that need to be replaced.

**STREETS/ALLEYS**

No report.

**BUILDINGS/VILLAGE PROPERTIES/EQUIPMENT**

No report.

**VILLAGE PARK**

Ernie is working on putting together 2 signs to be put at the pond. The signs will explain the rules of the pond.

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY**

No report.

**FINANCE**

No report.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No report.

**NEW BUSINESS**

No report.

**RESOLUTIONS**

None.

**ORDINANCE**

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Matt Fights, second by Kyle Farmer, to adjourn at 6:38pm. Voice vote. All yeas. No nay. Motion carried.

Submitted By  
Ann Curry  
Village Clerk

## **NEWSLETTER INFO**

All material for the September 2024 newsletter should be turned in before  
**5:00 p.m. on September 11, 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**

**The Elkhart Senior's Lunch will be on August 21, 2024, at 11:30am at The Talk of The Town.**

**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 – July 17, 2024

<https://www.mtpulaski.k12.il.us/o/mpgs/article/1681205>

The next regular board meeting is Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at 6:00pm.

# ANDERSON LAWN CARE

CONTACT CHRIS ANDERSON @ 217-737-9607.



## Elkhart Tree Advisory Committee-August update

Our Tree Committee met on July 8, 2024.

We reviewed our recent Tree Inventory, and we pursued ideas on where young, different species of trees can be planted in Elkhart. We have filed grant applications. We WILL move forward on Arbor Day Tree City status for Elkhart in September.

THANKS to those of you who have shared details about some of the GREAT trees that are in Elkhart right now. We're interested and are brainstorming ideas to showcase these Elkhart beauties. Do YOU have one of these trees? Let us know!

Our next meet is scheduled for Thursday, August 22, at the Village Hall at 6:30.

YOU are welcome to join us! Our meeting will not take longer than an hour, and you are welcome to stop in!

Thanks for reading, from Mona Maas, Stephanie LaFarge, Jay and Amy Roberts, and Jeff Harris. Lyle Fout is our liaison with the Village Board. You can email our committee at [ElkhartTreeAdvisoryCommittee@gmail.com](mailto:ElkhartTreeAdvisoryCommittee@gmail.com)

# Elkhart Community

## Senior's Bingo

(the over 55 crowd)

*Sponsored by NAG*

**First Tuesday of each Month**

**2:00 pm**

**Village Hall**



# WHAT MAKES ELKHART UNIQUE AND SPECIAL

## EARLY BEGINNINGS OF OUR TOWN

Before there was Amazon/ordering everything online (how convenient to do it from your home), and before there were indoor or outdoor shopping malls (how convenient to have a variety of stores in one location) there were locally owned stores in your own downtown neighborhood. In the 1850s many families moved to Elkhart and several started businesses to meet the demands needed for everyday living. Last month we met J. R. Saunders and his general goods store that doubled as the post office.

For many years Elkhart was one of the largest shipping points on the railroad, due to the large stock farms of John D. Gillett (more on him in the future). Thomas Brennan first arrived in Elkhart City in 1858, having come to America from Ireland. He married Mary Kavanaugh in 1861 and operated a grocery store that also had a saloon in it because he acquired a liquor license in 1862. He continued in business until his death in 1892, when his son took over his business. He was also a town board member for many years.

Some of the other resident business owners: T. B. Perry was a physician/surgeon, J. H. Craig was a merchant, C. Elwood, H. F. Lewis, and L. D. Dana were all grain dealers, R. J. Williams was a harness maker and R.R. & Express Agent, James White was a cattle grazer, J. Dalby was a stock trader, and Thomas Alsop was an agent of Elkhart Mills.

Technically not a business, but in 1855 we got our first schoolhouse, and moved into town from an unknown location. It was first set on the corner of (current street names) Governor Oglesby and Bogardus streets but was later moved to the corner of (current street names) Shockey and Gillett streets.