



ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION

JUNE NEWSLETTER

Community Association
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Board Member:
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Editor:
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*Ellsworth Extravaganza,
June 29th, 2024*

5-K Run	7:00 AM
Parade	10:00 AM
Turkey Lunch	11:00 AM

Fun in the park:

Car Show	Nickel Scramble
Radcliffe Rails -Barrel Train	3 Legged Race
Bouncy House	Egg Toss
Dunk Tank	Bubble Gum Contest
Tug-0-War	Face Painting
Frozen T-Shirt Contest	Art Show Contest
Bags Tournament	Kayak Raffle

Evening:

Band - "Lincolnway Driverz"

Food Trucks

Fire Works

Sponsored By Ellsworth Community Association

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JUNE 24

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>MAY</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4</p> <p>5 6 7 8 9 10 11</p> <p>12 13 14 15 16 17 18</p> <p>19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p> <p>26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p>JULY</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6</p> <p>7 8 9 10 11 12 13</p> <p>14 15 16 17 18 19 20</p> <p>21 22 23 24 25 26 27</p> <p>28 29 30 31</p>					1 Bingo Community Center 5:00
2 Trinity Lutheran Church	3 Summer Reading Program Kickoff 2:00	4 Primary Election Day	5 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	6 New Moon Library board meet 5:30	7	8 Bingo Community Center 5:00
9 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	10 City Council 7:00	11 Community Association 7:00 Community Center	12 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	13	14 First Quarter Flag Day	15 Bingo Community Center 5:00
16 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00 Father's Day	17 Firemen Meeting 7:00	18	19 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00 Juneteenth	20 Summer Begins	21 Full Moon	22 Bingo Community Center 5:00
23 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	24	25 City Council 5:00	26 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	27	28 Last Quarter Homewood Cemetery meet TLC 10:00	29 Bingo Community Center 5:00
30						

Notices:

NEWSLETTER MATERIAL DUE: by the 25th of the month for the next month's edition. Send by email to ellsworthca@netins.net or Ellsworth Community Association, PO Box 272, Ellsworth, Ia 50075. Subscribe/ unsubscribe by email: send your request to ellsworthca@netins.net.

Opinions expressed in the Ellsworth Newsletter are those of the writers and are not necessarily those of the Ellsworth Community Association or the editor.

Ellsworth Meals: Contact Linda Clark 515-297-3012 if you wish to have the noon meal delivered. Delivery Monday thru Friday, no holidays. Each meal \$5.00

Lords Cupboard - open every Monday from 4:30-6:60 at Bethesda Lutheran Church, Jewell

Community Coffee - Tuesdays 9:30-?. Trinity Lutheran Church, Ellsworth. Everyone welcome.

Lord's Cupboard: Bethesda Lutheran Church, Jewell, 1st Monday 1:00-2:00, 5:00-6:30, other Mondays 5:00-6:30.

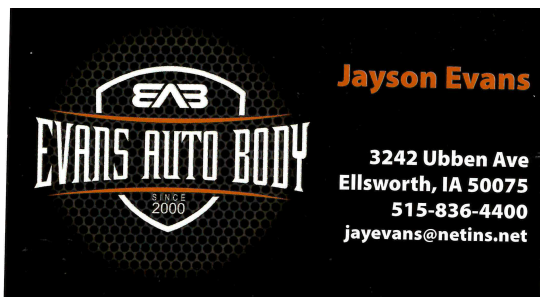
Birthdays This Month

ANNIVERSARIES

Peyton Heredia	2nd	Butch Sogard	18th	Tia & Thad Brown	1st
Cherie Hill	9th	Kevin Tuttle	21st	Marifern & Don Hill	11th
Randy Olson	10th	Makayla Henderson	21st	Faye & Noel Thompson	12th
Blaine Tuttle	11th	Dave Hill	22nd	Gail & Scott George	12th
Hayden Hill	12th	Wayne Patterson	24th	Dawn & Dave Hegland	22nd
Steve Hetland	13th	Cassidy Brown	25th	Betsy & Nathan Hill	27th
Maurine Hemphill	13th	Betty Swenson	25th		
JenniferTolle	14th	Burnell Hill	26th		
Brittany Brim	16th	Evey Henderson	26th		
Linda Barquist	17th	Don Swenson	28th		

June Business Spotlight: Evans Auto Body

Evans Auto Body Shop, located at 3242 Ubben Ave is the June Business Spotlight. Evans Auto Body is family owned and operated by Jayson and Lori Evans for 24 years. They have two children, Brayden and Paige.



Evans Auto Body offers professional service in collision repair and painting, vehicle service, maintenance, repairs, tires and more. The business is open Monday thru Friday 7:30-5:30, closed Saturday and Sunday. The staff consists of 8 employees, 7 full time and 1 part time. Follow Evans Auto Body on Facebook and their website: evansautobodyia.com

APRIL CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION

The Ellsworth City Council met in special session at 5:00 p.m. April 23rd, 2024 at City Hall with Mayor Yager presiding and the following council present: Funk, Gelder, King and Laube. Absent: Sogard.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Motion by King, seconded by Gelder to approve the agenda. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM: None.

LIBRARY UPDATE: Members of the Library Board were once again in attendance to consider affairs within the Library structure. The Board requested the previous April 8th council minutes be retracted due to what they believed to be an unfair portrayal of the occurrence regarding the Library Board meeting on April 4th, 2024. The Board would like it known that there was in fact no Board meeting, but instead, that members were meeting to conduct an interview. After discussing their concerns, it was determined the minutes did coincide with actual events of the meeting. The Library Board also informed the Council that a Library Director has been selected and is anticipated to start May 1st, 2024.

FIRE/EMS DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Due to the absence of Chief Evans, all matters will be discussed further at May's council meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY24/25 BUDGET YEAR: Council set this time for a public hearing on the FY24/25 Budget. Notification was published April 10th, 2024 in The South Hamilton Record News. An affidavit will be made available to the Hamilton County Auditor. Mayor Yager declared the hearing open. After giving all present an opportunity to be heard, Mayor Yager closed the hearing. Motion by Gelder, seconded by King to adopt Resolution #923 FY24/25 Budget and Certification of Taxes. The total tax levy will be 10.161, with revenues and transfers equaling \$2,166,766 and expenditures and transfers equaling \$2,259,749. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

SETTING PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY23/24 BUDGET AMENDMENT: Motion by Laube, seconded by Gelder to set Monday May 13th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. for the FY23/24 Budget Amendment Public Hearing. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

COPPER/LEAD SURVEY: Due to Supervisor Vanlangens absence, no further discussion took place.

SECOND READING AMENDING ORDINANCE #17.04 PERTAINING TO COUNCIL MEETINGS: Motion by Gelder, seconded by King to pass the second reading of ordinance #17.04 amending the code to include a second monthly meeting to be held the fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

UTILITY RATES: The Council discussed both sewer and electric rates in surrounding areas verses what the City currently charges. In January, the City's electric Wholesaler Midland Power raised their KW rates \$.13 and the City has been covering that cost since. The sewer rates have remained unchanged since 2007. The Clerk stated that some Cities have chosen to just increase the base rates, while others have adjusted both base rates and usage cost. It was determined that separate time would need to be set aside to research and discuss different options before pursuing rate changes.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Yager adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

/s/ Dolorus Yager, Mayor
/s/ Amy L. Zeman, City Clerk

MAY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall on May 13th, 2024 with Mayor Pro Tem King presiding, and the following council present: Funk, King, Sogard, with Mayor Yager arriving at 8:13 p.m. Absent: Laube and Gelder.

	April Receipts	April Disbursements
General Fund	8029.68	77652.44
Road Use Fund	5811.29	7173.65
Employee Benefit Fund	6003.35	2993.68
Emergency Fund	2232.29	
Local Option Sales Tax Fund	5487.70	
Tax Increment Finance Area 1		
Tax Increment Finance 1 Amend	8522.04	
Bingo Fund	5672.81	2237.44
Debt Service Fund	3551.90	2415.00
Capital Project-Strm Water		
Capital Project-Water Tower		
Water Fund	26790.54	34625.47
Water Sinking Fund		
Sewer Fund	7816.75	8865.98
Electric Fund	84253.15	59384.88
Electric Sinking Fund		
Storm Water Fund	3983.62	56.70
Storm Water Sinking		3058.00
	\$245155.12	\$198463.24

AGENDA APPROVAL: Motion by Funk, seconded by Sogard to approve the agenda. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Funk, seconded by King to approve the following items listed on the consent agenda:

- a. Motion to approve April 8th, and April 23rd, 2024 council minutes.
- b. Motion to approve April payment of claims.
- c. Motion to approve debt payment to Iowa Finance Authority for SRF Loan in the amount of \$93,381.25 plus service fee of \$3,537.50, due June 1st, 2024.
- d. Motion to renew Kum and Go #133 Class E Liquor License.

Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried and claims hereby made a portion of these minutes.

PUBLIC FORUM: Thomas and James Marsh with RotoForm Molding attended the meeting to speak with the council regarding the invoice they received for the electrical work done in the Industrial Park to provide service to their new building at 1435 Industrial Park Road. There was question on what responsibility the City had on the installation of the new transmission line and transformer and also confusion on an original conversation that had taken place between the owners, Midland Power and the Economic Development group. No one from the council or staff was aware of the prior conversation, so an additional meeting with those entities will need to occur. It was agreed that RotoForm will be placed on the June agenda.

Council minutes continued on page 6

ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION: Darlene Campbell and Marcy Olson were in attendance to present several requests to the council for the ECA. The ECA has provided concessions and a meal for weekly Bingo at the Community Center for a number of years and utilizes the kitchen to do so. Recently, there was concern for rusting on the floor registers in the kitchen, rust and poor condition of a serving cart that is used to store items, and leaking of the kitchen faucet spray nozzle. The ECA inquired if Bingo could purchase a new cart, floor registers and sprayer. After determining that the floor registers and nozzle were normal wear items, the Clerk suggested that those expenses come out of the Community Center budget for general building maintenance, rather than the Bingo budget. In discussing the actual use of the cart and that it did not in fact leave the kitchen, it was determined that at this time, no cart would be purchased from the Bingo budget.

COMMUNITY CENTER GYM REQUEST: Pastor Rollefson was present to discuss an opportunity through the church to offer a 4-week youth basketball camp in conjunction with Upward Sports. The camp would take place in mid-July and be offered to children in the K-6 age range. He requested to utilize the Ellsworth gym for the camp, stating that they were looking at Tuesdays as a possible practice day. Once confirming that there were no week day rentals in July, the council agreed that as long as it did not affect the tables being set up for Bingo on Saturdays, the camp would be a great opportunity for the community. Motion by Sogard, seconded by Funk to approve the gym rental for 4 weeks for the camp. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried.

DNR REPORTS: Due to Supervisor VanLangens absence, no discussion took place.

LIBRARY: There was no new information to discuss.

FIRE/EMS DEPARTMENT: Chief Evans, former Chief Thompson and Volunteer member Zimmerman were available to meet with the council regarding department matters. The council again addressed an unpaid invoice from May of 2023, stating that the original invoice from Central Iowa Tow still contained incorrect information and in order for Evans Autobody to be reimbursed, the vehicle description, year, and vin number needed to correlate to the Departments ambulance that had been towed. The Clerk stated that she had reached out to Central Iowa Tow and requested another invoice, but received the same information. After presenting that invoice to the City's insurance provider, it was also confirmed no claim would be paid with the incorrect information. Different opinions were expressed at that time, but no resolution was met. The group also discussed the matter of members attending EMT training and the cost of the classes not being budgeted for. The Clerk explained that the Ambulance/EMS budget had already exceeded its budget by \$2,349.00 and still had outstanding bills for May and June to be paid. She then reasoned that due to several unplanned ambulance repairs, the EMS account currently only had a balance of \$6,029.00 and even amending the budget after the fact wouldn't have been possible since the training cost alone was \$7,996.00. The council had been informed of this shortfall at the April 23rd meeting and supplementing revenue from the Fire fund was discussed, as everyone agreed that adding additional EMT personnel was a priority for the City. The council believed that speaking with Chief Evans prior to making that decision was essential. Chief Evans agreed to the importance of the training and gladly concurred to the additional funding from the Fire fund. The Clerk and Chief will coordinate with Iowa Central Business Office to ensure the invoices are paid. Another topic of discussion was the ongoing general maintenance of Fire and EMS equipment. Several members of the council reiterated the importance of budgeting for continued maintenance of vehicles and equipment and how accounting for unexpected breakdowns and inflation costs could save last minute budget amendments or delay of repairs in the future. Council had already approved servicing inspections performed by Evans AutoBody to 5 Fire/EMS vehicles at an estimated cost of \$4,000.00. Chief Evans requested the use of City employees to transport the vehicles to J and T Truck and Trailer Repair in Hubbard, as Evans AutoBody has chosen to no longer service City equipment. The council will speak with employees regarding their assigned workload and discuss the logistics later this week.

Council minutes continued on page 7

AIR COMPRESSOR FOR WATER TREATMENT PLANT: On Monday April 29th, the air compressor at the water plant began to have issues. Supervisor Vanlangen was able to temporarily use his own compressor to run the plant while he contacted a local electrician. An emergency communication began with the council regarding the decision to purchase a new compressor or continue to repair the current one. Compressed Air, whom services the equipment informed Supervisor Vanlangen that the part needed wasn't able to be purchased due to the age of the compressor. The current compressor is over 15 years old and has had numerous repairs and service calls within the last 5 years. The cost of labor, travel and repair for each call averages between \$1200-\$1500. After weighing the options, including the future water tower construction, and speaking with the Clerk regarding budget revenues, it was decided that a new compressor with warranty would be the best option for the City. Motion by Sogard, seconded by Funk to approve the purchase of a new air compressor for the water treatment plant; with an initial purchase cost of \$10,447.00, not including freight. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY23/24 BUDGET AMENDMENT: Due to the several emergency repairs and unplanned expenses, the amended budget was not proposed or published as originally planned. After confirming with the Department of Management, the Clerk will make the needed amendments and propose and publish the following week and council will reschedule the public hearing for Tuesday May 28th, 2024 at 5:00 pm.

RESCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING FOR FY23/24 BUDGET AMENDMENT: Motion by King, seconded by Funk to set Tuesday May 28th, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. for the FY23/24 Budge Amendment Public Hearing. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried.

METER PROJECT COMPLETION: Van Wert Inc. will be here Monday the 13th and Tuesday the 14th to complete the meter installations on those residents who were not initially included on the first and second wave of installs. In working with the Public Works Department a list of 25 properties were left to be addressed. Any residents/businesses refusing to allow the new meter installation will begin to receive the \$50.00 fee beginning on their utility bill that issues May 31st, 2024.

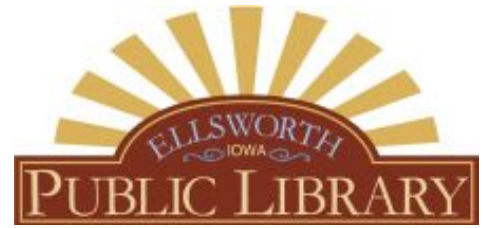
FINAL READ AMENDING ORDINANCE #17.04 PERTAINING TO COUNCIL MEETING DATES AND TIMES: Motion by Funk, seconded by Sogard to pass the final reading amending Ordinance #17.04 Pertaining to Council Meeting Date and Times. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried. The present council members would like to wait for the full council vote prior to adopting the ordinance.

UTILITY RATES: Much time has been spent on discussion in regards to utility rates within the City. The council continues to battle with the loss of revenues and large budget deficits, while expenditures continue to rise due to inflation and the City's equipment and facilities age. A suggestion was made to look into a rate study being performed by an outside company, however after discussing with the Clerk the cost and potential delay of waiting for the report, other options were weighed. Council member Funk was able to supply numerical statistics based on the current rates and information provided by the Clerk. Several rate adjustments were offered and discussed heavily. The council will wait until a full council is present to vote on any changes made to rates.

COMPLAINTS: A complaint was received at City Hall regarding a lot pin that was removed from the property located at 1625 Delphi Street during boring for a new water line to the Norm addition of the east side of town. The property owner spoke with the excavating crew and then Supervisor Anderson regarding the pin being put back upon completion of the work, however claims it was not done. The resident is now requesting the pin be replaced. After considering the length of time that has passed, as well as not having any background information on the situation, the council could not justify the expense at this time.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Yager adjourned the meeting at 10:12 pm.

June 2024



Letter from Library Director: Karlie Hunter

The Ellsworth Public Library has been reopened since May 1, 2024! I would like to thank the community for their enthusiasm and welcoming attitudes as I learn this new position. I am excited to serve the city through the library's programs and services and to be a part of the impact on the kids and adults of the community.

Summer Reading Program Kickoff Week (June 3-7):

Stop in the first week of June to celebrate the beginning of the 2024 Summer Reading Program at the Ellsworth Public Library! This year's theme is Read, Renew, Repeat. There will be events and challenges for all ages to get involved during this kickoff week and opportunities to win prizes all summer long! All activities will be held at the library unless otherwise noted.

Monday, June 3 at 2:00-3:00pm: Paper Clay Activity Part 1

Tuesday, June 4 at 10:30-11:30am: Touch-a-Truck with American Sanitation

Wednesday, June 5 at 1:00-4:00pm: Recycled Building Project (drop-in)

Thursday, June 6 at 10:30-11:30am: Adventures in the Park (at city park)

Friday, June 7 at 1:00-4:00pm: Paper Clay Activity Part 2 (drop-in)

All Week: puzzle and board game swap, outdoor photo challenge, library scavenger hunt, themed coloring pages, book sale (see front desk for more details)

Library Clerk Position:

We are currently searching for a Library Clerk to open the library on Saturday mornings. This is a paid position, and interested applicants can find more information on our website at www.ellsworth.lib.ia.us or by stopping in and grabbing a flyer from our front desk.

New Hours:

Monday: 12pm-7pm

Tuesday-Friday: 12pm-5pm

Saturday: 9am-12pm (pending hiring a Library Clerk)

Note: Karlie will be out of town June 8-16 for a previously planned vacation and June 26-29 for a family wedding. Please check the door postings or our website event calendar for the latest closure dates.

Winners of the Mother's Day Baskets:

Shawnda DeWitt, Bethany Batten, Kim Houck, and Lori Yager

REMEMBERING THE PAST

CELEBRATIONS OF THE PAST IN ELLSWORTH

Ellsworth's earliest celebrations took place before 1900 on the Fourth of July. Also, the "Free From Care Day" celebrations took place in the fall in the east part of town. There was a parade and the merry-go-round was a big attraction. The kids were always on deck in Sunday best to celebrate that day. A band and a speaker were added entertainment.



Freedom from Care Day Parade

Oak Park, an amusement spot south of Highway 175 and east of the Skunk River, 2974 Highway 175, was a popular place for a time in the teens and early twenties. At the Pavilion, name bands played for the dances. Lawrence Welk and band played there. A man from Kamrar, Hap Havinga, was in his band at the time and helped get play dates for Welk and company. Ball games and celebrations were held in this area.

For some years celebrations were held intermittently until Turkey Day was instigated, from 1950 to 1959. The Daily Freeman Journal, September 10, 1952 is quoted, "The free luncheon at noon today was furnished by many sponsors of the event which was an annual festival to spotlight Ellsworth's constantly growing turkey industry. Governor Beardsley was the afternoon speaker and arrived in time for the turkey sandwiches plus the trimmings in a 17 car caravan headed by Sheriff E. R. Lear. Attorney General Robert Larson met the caravan in Ellsworth".

Turkey Day with its free sandwiches, ball games, parades, races, skits, talent shows and band concerts flourished for a while (10 years). An effort to revive the event, renamed Ellsworth Holidays, 1969-1974 was short lived.

Ellsworth Extravaganza was started in 1994 to be every other year to correspond with the Ellsworth High School Reunion/Banquet. The celebration started on Friday night with Friday Night Live, was all day Saturday with parade, ball games, Craft Show, Antique Auto Show etc and ended Sunday morning with joint Church Services in the City Park.

Over the years, there have been one day happenings. In 1990, the Ellsworth Grand Prix Go Kart Races sponsored by Ellsworth Community Association, were held on the streets of Ellsworth. The Levi and Lace Saddle Club held horse shows regularly one mile north of town. More recently, RVTV was in town in 2019.

ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Send this form and yearly dues -\$20.00 to:

Ellsworth Community Association, PO Box 272, Ellsworth Ia 50075

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY the following information for our records.

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone () _____ - _____

Mobile Phone() _____ - _____

Email _____

Do you or your family wish to be included in the monthly birthday/anniversary calendar in the newsletter.

First Name

Last Name

Month/Day

B. A _____

B. A _____

B. A _____

B. A _____

Do you wish to get the monthly Ellsworth Newsletter by email? Yes _____ No _____

VOLUNTEER: Webster’s Dictionary defines a Volunteer as one who chooses freely to do something.

The Ellsworth Community Association needs Volunteers for the Ellsworth Extravaganza. Is there something you can volunteer to do to help? Maybe for the parade, the noon food stand, or games in the Park for 1 hour or more. Get in touch with Marcy Olson, cornflower39@yahoo.com.

There will be a special issue of the Ellsworth newsletter later in June with more information concerning the Celebration - parade map, sign up parade location, Auto Show location, Fire works show, where the food trucks will be , info about the Kayak Raffle etc.