

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall on March 10, 2026, with Mayor Anksorus presiding, and the following council members present: Funk, Olson, Sogard, Jensen, with Phipps arriving at 6:07 pm. Also in attendance were Ashley Platte and Brittany Williams with the ECA, Jim Leiding of Bolten and Menk, Alan Hanson with Central Iowa Water Management, Heather Hanson, and Iowa Governor candidate Eddie Andrews.

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

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

- a. Motion to approve February 24, 2026, council minutes.
- b. Motion to approve March 10, 2026, payment of claims.

Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried, and claims hereby made a portion of these minutes.

PUBLIC FORUM: None Present

LIBRARY: None Present

FIRE/EMS: None Present

ECA: Ashley Platte, ECA Board President, represented the community group along with Brittany Williams. The ECA would like to make their recent Trivia night a regular occurrence in the community center. The group asked permission to use the city building on the third Friday of each month unless there was a paid rental on the books. Motion by Sogard and seconded by Jensen to allow the use of the community center for Trivia nights by the ECA on the third Friday of each month. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried. ECA also updated the Council on the upcoming April 25th dump your junk event. The group requested partial closure of Dearborn to accommodate the drive-up drop-off traffic in front of the city sheds from 7 am to 2 pm on April 25th. Motion by Funk and seconded by Olson to allow this road closure for the event. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: LIQUOR LICENSE REQUEST – PARK SHELTER HOUSE: Heather Hanson was present to request permission to pursue a no-sale liquor license and insurance policy for a wedding reception located at the city Park Shelter House on August 1st. Motion by Phipps and seconded by Sogard to approve this request. Clerk Eckers to follow through on the license. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – BOLTEN AND MENK: “Resolution 03-10-2026 (3) to provide for a notice of hearing on proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of cost for the Ellsworth Water Storage Tank Improvements Project, and the taking of bids therefor” Jim Leiding present to answer questions by Council concerning changes made to the project before going out for a third round of bids. Bids will be opened at City Hall on April 7th at 3pm, and Council will consider the bids at the April 13th regular Council session. Public hearing per the Resolution 03-10-2026 (3) to be held on March 25th at the regular Council session. Motion by Phipps and seconded by Jensen to approve Resolution 03-10-2026 (3). Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: HAMILTON COUNTY HAZARD PLAN: Resolution 03-10-2026 “Adopting the Hamilton County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan” Motion by Sogard and seconded by Olson to adopt Resolution 03-10-2026. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: HOMETOWN PRIDE – Resolution 03-10-2026 (2) “A Resolution in support of submission of an application to the “Hometown Pride” program”. Clerk Eckers discussed with Council the Ellsworth contribution of \$750 annually for a five-year commitment of \$3750 and the benefits of the vibrancy program and access to a professional to help with grant finding and writing for projects in the city and for the community. Motion by Sogard and seconded by Olson to adopt Resolution 03-10-2026 (2). Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

MIDAS LMI SURVEY UPDATE: The final 5 surveys will be completed by Mayor Anksorus in the next week, and Clerk Eckers will transmit to MIDAS.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: EJS 28E AGREEMENT: Police Board members Marcy Olson and Mayor Anksorus discussed with Council the information shared at the recent Police Board meeting. The Police Board will make decisions and consider potential revisions to the proposed 28E agreement at the April meeting. City Council can hold out on adopting and voting on the proposed 28E agreement until the first June meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS: A: Discussion and possible action: RO Membranes: Supervisor Vanlangen and Water Affidavit Operator Alan Hanson were present to discuss recent updates about the water plant with the City Council. Vanlangen presented

the Council with two quotes to replace the phase three RO membranes. Used/refurbished would be \$210 each with installation of \$3600. New would be \$440 each with installation of \$3600. Supervisor Vanlangen forwarded an email to the Council, and it was printed by Clerk Eckers, outlining these costs from Consolidated Water Solutions. Vanlangen was instructed by the Council to obtain another agreement by the company in writing stating their willingness to install and be present for troubleshooting when the RO system would be activated with the new stage three filters in place.

Motion by Sogard and seconded by Jensen to approve the purchase of 36 new RO filters for stage three replacement pending the receipt of a guarantee from the company for installation and presence for activation and troubleshooting to a total of \$19,440. Roll call votes: 5-0. Motion carried. B: Dollar General Utilities/Development – Supervisor Vanlangen recently spoke with the subcontractors for the Dollar General development and was made aware that the water/sewer changes and driveway relocation that were approved by the Council were not in the subcontractor's hands. Vanlangen will reach out to the Developer directly to address.

CITY HALL: A. Due to the tax levy deadline last week, Clerk Eckers will present the Treasurer’s Report at the next meeting. B. Clerk Eckers presented Council with a contract between the City and Robb’s Tree Service for FY27 for the flat rate to the city of \$850 per tree. Council members and the Mayor will be performing a tree inventory on private property in the coming month. Clerk Eckers will be drafting a letter to residents and will include a copy of the current ordinance for dangerous/dead trees. Citizens will have the opportunity to either utilize the rate of \$850 per tree removal directly to Robb’s Tree service or have the fees assessed to their utility bill in either a 1-year or 2-year financed plan. This plan will be presented to the Council for approval via Resolution at the next Council meeting on March 24th.

AC. Discussion and possible action: Insurance FY27. The Council was presented with a quote for insurance coverage for FY27 from EMC Insurance through Shomo Madsen firm in Jewell. The coverage for FY27 totals \$96,864. Motion by Sogard and seconded by Jensen to continue the insurance contract through EMC and Shomo Madsen. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

D: Discussion and possible action: USDA Wildlife Damage Mitigation – Lagoons: Motion by Funk and seconded by Jensen to approve the request by USDA to mitigate wildlife at the city lagoons as a bird flu preventative measure for the adjoining property’s turkey barns. Roll call votes 4-1 with Sogard voting Nay. Motion carried. E: Comp plan update – Clerk Eckers presented Council with an update from the ISU College of Design on the timeline and upcoming meetings for the comp planning process.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Sogard and seconded by Phipps to adjourn the meeting. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.

/s/ Barry Anksorus, Mayor

/s/ Heidi Eckers, City Clerk

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Barry Anksorus, Mayor

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Heidi Eckers, City Clerk