



ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY  
ASSOCIATION  
OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Community Association  
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**ELLSWORTH TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT**

**October 31, 2024**

5:30 - Hot Dogs & Drink served at the Fire Station  
sponsored by  
The Ellsworth Community Association

6:00-8:00 Trick or Treating in the City of Ellsworth

Fire Station open for Safe Place

during Trick or Treating.



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# OCTOBER 24

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>SEPTEMBER</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>NOVEMBER</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1	2 <small>New Moon</small> Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	3 Library board meet 5:30 Rosh Hashanah (New Year)	4	5 Bingo Community Center 5:00
6 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	7	8 Community Association 6:00 Community Center	9 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	10 <small>First Quarter</small>	11	12 Bingo Community Center 5:00 Yom Kippur
13 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	14 City Council 7:00 Columbus Day Indigenous Peoples' Day Thanksgiving Day (Canada)	15	16 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	17 <small>Full Moon</small>	18	19 Bingo Community Center 5:00
20 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	21 Firemen Meeting 7:00 Radon Workshop Library 6:30	22 City Council 5:00 Community Association 6:00 Community Center	23	24 <small>Last Quarter</small>	25 Homewood Cemetery meet TLC 10:00	26 Bingo Community Center 5:00
27 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	28	29	30	31 Trick or Treating in City of Ellsworth Halloween		

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

**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

Kristi Busch	2nd	Karsyn Lande	10th	Mary Kay & Sewlyn Rash	6th
Conner Hill	2nd	Preston Hocking	12th	Robin & Keith Hovick	21st
Alyssa Hegland	3rd	Lori Yager	12th		
Taylor Hill	3rd	Megan Thompson.	12th		
Ronald Cook Jr	4th	Parker Hill	17th		
Joely Swenson	4th	Desmond Hill	20th		
Ella Angove	5th	Linda Graham	21st		
Araya Nelson	5th	Hope Caudle	28th		
Leigh Solis	6th	Kassidee Hodnefield	28th		
Roger Olson	8th	Brooklyn Hill	30th		

Additions/Corrections/Deletions to the Birthday and Anniversary list, please contact the Editor at [ellsworthca@netins.net](mailto:ellsworthca@netins.net)

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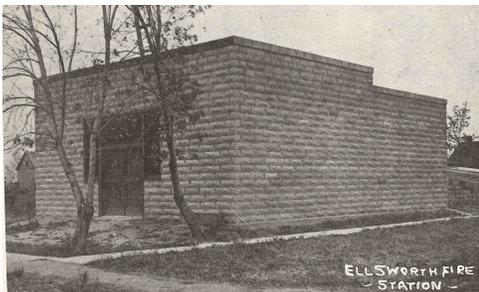
## REMEMBERING THE PAST:

### ELLSWORTH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

As early as 1885, a cistern system to put out fires in the town of Ellsworth was dug at different points on the east side of main street. The water was pumped by hand for fire purposes. The early system was called the fire brigade.

In the early 1900's the first Ellsworth Fire Station was built. It was used as a city hall, fire station, water works and an electric light plant. The first fire hydrants were installed in 1910. That fire station was destroyed and a new one built in the 1930's.

In January, 1952, the Ellsworth Volunteer Fire Department is organized. Twenty-seven men volunteered their services. This same year the first Ellsworth Fire Truck was purchased and more fire hydrants were installed.



The present Fire Station was built in 1960 which houses the fire and emergency equipment. In 1979 through a donation from Cuddy Farms, Inc. all the old fire equipment was replaced. Cuddy Farms, Inc. also donated a bus to the City of Ellsworth for its use in boosting fire fighting capability.

October is Fire Prevention Month.  
Thank a Volunteer Fireman.

## AUGUST 12<sup>th</sup> TH CITY COUNCIL

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall on August 12, 2024 With Mayor Yager presiding, and the following council present: King, Gelder, Sogard, Laube, with Funk arriving at 7:03 p.m.

	July Receipts	July Disbursements
General Fund	40414.32	30656.98
Road Use Fund	5780.24	1322.59
Employee Benefit Fund	2368.89	3680.78
Emergency Fund	880.86	7112.00
Local Option Sales Tax Fund	6120.48	
Tax Increment Finance Area 1		
Tax Increment Finance Area 2	1290.62	
Tax Increment Finance 1 Amend	36.28	
Bingo Fund	4970.98	11457.92
Debt Service Fund	1360.54	13764.00
Capital Project-Storm Water		
Capital Project-Water Tower		
Water Fund	25153.21	17135.29
Water Sinking Fund		
Sewer Fund	7213.90	8589.78
Electric Fund	61157.96	69176.02
Electric Sinking Fund		
Storm Water Fund	4360.18	57.75
Storm Water Sinking		3058.00
	\$161107.46	\$166011.11

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

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

- a. Motion to approve July 23<sup>rd</sup> council minutes
- b. Motion to approve July payment of claims

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

**PUBLIC FORUM:** Marv Norem came to the city as he was in charge of watching over his grandson’s property while he was on vacation. He stated that he looked all over the property to ensure all faucets were turned off that the time his grandson had left. He watched over the property while he was gone. Norem stated that the night before his grandson got back he noticed that a water spicket had been turned on in the back and the garden was full of water. He was asking for forgiveness of the bill. The council has decided to wait on a decision until hearing about reads from Nick to make any decisions. This has happened once before and the situation had been handled with an agreement. Mayor Yager will be in touch With EJS for further assistance as well.

City Council Minutes continued on page 5

**BUILDING PERMIT UPDATE FOR 415 Elmo Ave:** The city has requested a new building permit for 415 Elmo Ave as it had expired in 2022. Huebners were present to discuss the building and progress made over the past 2 years. Many accomplishments have been made. The city requested they fill out a new permit at this time as their old one had expired. They filled out a new permit and paid the permit fee of \$150.00. Requirements state that the home be move in ready by 8/12/2025 as is stated in the city ordinance. Glen Heubner had asked if they be prorated for sewage as they have a septic system and do not use sewage. Mayor Yager will have further conversation with Nick to see the processes as it was not discussed with the city at the start of construction.

**LIBRARY:** The library board was in attendance to ask for a resolution to be made. They asked for Their \$9300.00 back that they didn't use last year. They would like to use these funds for building maintenance and other projects they had planned for their 5 year strategic plan. Mayor Yager stated she would get more information on doing a resolution and get back to them about it. The Library board had also asked about the city paying for repairs needed for the Library building. Mayor Yager asked for quotes on items needed to be fixed.

**FIRE/EMS:** Fire Chief Evans was in attendance as well as Noel Thompson from Ellsworth Loading. They were here to discuss a rental agreement between the Ellsworth Fire Department and Ellsworth Loading for rental of the Ellsworth Loading building. Rent would be paid by our insurance company. Ellsworth Fire Department would be responsible for utilities. The City will be forwarding the agreement on the City Attorney for further review. Motioned by Funk, seconded by King. Roll call votes 3-0, 2 to abstain. Motion carried.

Fire chief Evans updated the council on repairs for equipment. Some repairs have been done to equipment with more repairs still needing to be completed. Evans will keep the city updated on what is being repaired and where Fire equipment will be going. Sogard has asked for further clarification on where repairs can be taken as to not cause a conflict of interest but still have items done in a timely and convenient manor. Mayor Yager will get a final statement from the auditor with regulations on money being spent.

**CHURCH:** Trinity Lutheran Church ahs requested the street at the church ber blocked off for their Rally Sunday. Mayor Yager Will discuss with Chief Turpen and Nick to close the street for the event.

**NUISANCE AND ABATEMENT:** Chief Turpen and Officer Morton have been serving nuisances in the community. Many nuisances have been taken care of as some are still left unmaintained. Mayor Yager will be in touch with the city Attorney to move forward with Nuisances that have been left unmaintained. Motioned by Gelder, seconded by king. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion Carries.

**DNR UPDATE:** Nick and Allen have met with Schlotfeldt Engineering for the Lagoon study. Nick will be in further communication with Schlotfeldt.

**LEAD AND COPPER SURVEY UPDATE:** Allen, Nick, and Lee will be working on the spreadsheet to ensure this will be completed by 10/12/2024.

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**CITY HALL UPDATES:** Mayor Yager has been at City Hall for residents Monday through Friday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. The schedule will be changing next week due to schedule conflicts. City Hall Will be open Monday Thursday and Friday 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Signage will be posted to city hall door.

**DISC GOLF COURSE:** Councilman Laube has been in contact with friends for plans on a disc golf course in the park. Laube asked for approval for going forward with the plans. Motioned by King, seconded by Gelder. Roll call votes 4-0 1 to abstain. Motion Carried.

**SIGNATURE CARDS AT AVAILA BANK:** Mayor Yager to be added to all city signature cards, Mayor Pro Tem King to be added to all city Signature cards. Steve Holt, Greg Campbell, Amy Ziemann to removed from all city signature cards.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor Yager adjourned the meeting at 9:26 p.m.

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## HOMEWOOD CEMETERY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

The Homewood Cemetery is getting low on spaces to sell for burial. Do you own a space (burial for 1 cremation & one casket or 2 cremations) available that you won't be using and are willing to sell? THE ASSOCIATION DOES NOT BUY BACK OR SELL AGAIN THESE SPACES, this compiled list is to make buyers/sellers aware where single spaces are available. The present cost of a space is \$400.00 which will go back to the original owners. Contact person for more information is Janet Adix, 515-227-1438, jcadix39@gamil.com.

The Association is planning to develop their land to the north of the present cemetery for future expansion. At the present, no cost has been estimated, but donations will be accepted at any time to Jody Berg, Treasurer, 2420 Tollman Ave, Blairsburg, IA 50034 More information will be available later.

Vandalism was found at the Cemetery by the Maintenance person recently. The solar lights were broken and scattered. Some artificial flower arrangements were destroyed. The incident has been reported to the County Sheriff's Office.

Do you want to honor a member of your family with a flag that makes up the Avenue of Flags displayed during Memorial Day? You can for \$125.00. This buys the flag, pole and the plaque engraved with a name. Contact Lisa Hovick at 515 /836/4712 or jchovick@netins.net. Displayed May, 2025 if ordered before April 1st, 2025.

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## ELLSWORTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM: [ellshismuseum@netins.net](mailto:ellshismuseum@netins.net)

FOR SALE: History of Hamilton Co. Vol 1 & 2 - \$5.00 each

Pictorial Atlas of Hamilton County 1974 - \$5.00

WANTED: South Hamilton Year Book 2017 to complete the collection.

## SEPTEMBER 9th CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 7:01 p.m. at City Hall on September 9, 2024, with Mayor Yager presiding, and the following council present: Sogard, Laube, and Funk.

	August Receipts	August Disbursements
General Fund	683.28	11,091.32
Road Use Fund		
Employee Benefit Fund		
Emergency Fund		
Local Option Sales Tax Fund		
Tax Increment Finance Area 1		
Tax Increment Finance Area 2		
Tax Increment Finance 1 Amend		
Bingo Fund	2940.00	374.94
Debt Service Fund		
Capital Project-Storm Water	2531.21	
Capital Project-Water Tower		
Water Fund	18897.32	
Water Sinking Fund		
Sewer Fund	4960.67	
Electric Fund	50349.10	
Electric Sinking Fund		
Storm Water Fund		
Storm Water Sinking		
	\$80,361.58	\$ 11,466.26

**SWEARING IN OF NEW CITY CLERK:** Heidi Eckers took oath of office.

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

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

- a. Motion to approve August 12<sup>th</sup> council minutes
- b. Approve Trick or Treat Date – October 31, 2024
- c. Approve Love’s Truck Stop ABD License Renewal
- d. Motion to approve August payment of claims

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

**PUBLIC FORUM:** Marv Norem came to the city to recommend Steve Holt for the open council seat.

**MARK HILL:** Contacted by Dollar General to purchase land located at 1325 Delphi to build a store. The council will be communicating with Planning and Zoning. Planning and zoning will be setting a meeting to discuss.

September Council minutes continued on page 8

**1617 DAYTON STREET** – Corey and Chrissy Young were present to discuss an anomaly with water on one month's utility bill. Recordings of past clerk's conversations were shared, the council had copies of water usage for a six month period surrounding the anomaly. City council voted to waive the month in dispute. Motioned by Sogard, seconded by Laube. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion Carries.

**PARK BOARD:** Mayor Dolorus Yager nominated the following community members as the Park Board to oversee improvements to the city park: Linda Clark, Leah Phipps, Maddie Warren, Melanie Reisinger, Andra Willis, and Chrissy Young.

**ECA:** Linda Clark was present to update the council on upcoming community events. Halloween will be a collaborate event with the Fire Station on Thursday October 31<sup>st</sup> 2024, 5-6pm at the fire station and citywide trick or treating from 6pm to 8pm. Christmas celebration also in collaboration with the fire department will be the 14<sup>th</sup> of December.

**LEAD AND COPPER SURVEY UPDATE:** Businesses and building owners will be receiving a letter from Nick VanLangan, supervisor of Public Works with an update on what's required by October 12, 2024 deadline.

**FIRE/EMS:** Fire Chief Evans was in attendance. Moving the existing alert siren from storage to being mounted on the new Fire Station was discussed by Nick Vanlangen and Fire Chief Evans. Insurance will cover the cost, including retrofitting the building to meet structural requirements. A rental agreement between the Ellsworth Fire Department and Ellsworth Loading for rental of the Ellsworth Loading building was discussed. Vote to approve postponed. Rent would be paid by our insurance company. Ellsworth Fire Department would be responsible for utilities. Three fire trucks and one trailer will be housed at Ellsworth loading until they are either sold or a new relocation plan in place. Fire Chief Evans gave update on repairs needed to current equipment including a master cylinder replacement in the Equipment truck #28, new batteries in the Pumper truck and emergency brake work on the ambulance. The retirement of Bruce Thopmson was discussed, a party is planned to celebrate his 50 years of commitment to the community on September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4pm to 6pm at Jewell Golf. Fire Chief Evans shared with the council that the Ellsworth Ambulance and EMS department are now Advanced Treatment Certified. . Reminder that the Ellsworth Fire/EMS monthly meetings are the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm at the Fire Station.

**CITY HALL UPDATES:** Public works will be replacing the faucet in the bathroom at city hall and repairing the rear exit for fire safety purposes.

**SIGNATURE CARDS:** Mayor Dolorus Yager designated council person William Funk and City Clerk Heidi Eckers to be added to the signature cards at Availa Bank for all city, EMS, and bingo accounts.

**RESIGNATION:** Motion made by Funk to accept the resignation of council member Steve Gelder. Seconded by Laube. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion Carries.

**COUNCIL SEAT VACANCY:** Council discussed options to either appoint new council member after a period of 2 weeks of accepting applications or holding a special election. Council seat must be filled by October 14<sup>th</sup> of 2024. Motion to proceed with accepting applications and appointing a new council member made by Funk, seconded by Laube. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carries. Heidi Eckers will get notice to the SHRN, post to website and print applications to have available at city hall.

**COMMENTS:** Funk thanks Sogard for contacting DOT and arranging work on approach to Delphi. The state has completed work. Laube gave update on Disc Golf course at the Ellsworth city park. He has

contacted the sign company and working on gathering more information for complete quote on project. He will be putting together a proposal that can be used for soliciting donations to help offset the cost of the project. PW Supervisor Nick VanLangen gave update on car wash project. The city is waiting on delivery of the transformer and is collecting quotes for the cost involved with installing a primary power box as well as boring from 175. David Speed with Midland Power will be sending examples to the City of other municipalities process for payment contributions towards similar projects.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor Dolorus Yager called for adjournment at 8:29pm.

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"It's that cluckin' time of year again! Time to renew your fowl permits! You can print from the City website and leave it in the drop box with your fee or come into City Hall M-F 8 am to 4pm to fill out a form and pay the annual fee. Permits must be submitted by October 22nd, failure to renew permit will result in revocation of permission to allow fowl for up to a period of one year."

**Heidi Eckers**

City Clerk - Ellsworth (Pop. 508)  
515-836-4751



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**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Extension and Outreach

**RADON WORKSHOP**

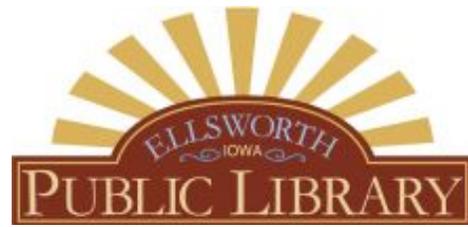
October 21, 2024  
Ellsworth Public Library  
6:30 to 8:00 pm

Worried about radon in your home or not sure if you have radon? Radon is naturally occurring odorless radioactive gas that can cause lung cancer and have a big impact on indoor air quality.

This free informational meeting will cover:

- Radon and it's negative health effects
- Where to place a radon test for safest and most accurate result
- How to read test results
- Steps to make to mitigate radon gas

Pre-registration is required to receive your **FREE** test kit (one per household) online at <https://go.iastate.edu/XR5FAL> or by calling 515-832-9597



# October 2024

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Card Group | 1:00-4:00pm on Tuesday, October 1
- Healthiest State Annual Walk | 5:00-5:30 on Wednesday, October 2
  - Register and sign the waiver at <https://runsignup.com/Race/Register/RaceGroup-1?raceId=139014>
- Early Childhood Dental Health Program | 3:00-4:00pm on Thursday, October 3
  - Cindy from the I-Smile program of the Webster County Health Department will teach you and your kids ways to keep their mouths healthy and give parents tips for advocating at your dental office. If you have an infant or toddler, this is for you!
- School Age Dental Health Program | 4:00-5:00pm on Thursday, October 3
  - Cindy from the I-Smile program of the Webster County Health Department will teach you and your kids ways to keep mouths healthy, including during sporting activities.
- Board Meeting (open to public) | 5:30-6:30pm on Thursday, October 3
- Card Group | 1:00-4:00pm on Tuesday, October 8
- After School Snack & Activity | 4:00-5:00pm on Thursday, October 10
- Card Group | 1:00-4:00pm on Tuesday, October 15
- After School Snack & Activity | 4:00-5:00pm on Thursday, October 17
- Radon Safety Program | 6:30-8:00pm on Monday, October 21
  - Radon is a naturally occurring odorless radioactive gas that can cause lung cancer and have a big impact on indoor air quality. Dr. Kapil Arora, Ag Engineer with the Iowa State University Extension Office, will be discussing radon safety. All attendees who pre-register will receive free radon tests. Register online at <https://go.iastate.edu/XR5FAL> or by calling 515-832-9597.
- Card Group | 1:00-4:00pm on Tuesday, October 22
- After School Snack & Activity | 4:00-5:00pm on Thursday, October 24
- Early Childhood Storytime | 10:30-11:30am on Friday, October 25
  - All kids birth to preschool age and their parents/caregivers are welcome to join us for a fun and interactive storytime to promote literacy skills in children.
- No School Day Snack & Activity | 1:00-2:00pm on Friday, October 25
- Young(ish) Adult Book Club | 6:00-7:00pm on Monday, October 28
  - Come pick up a book to join this new book club for adults age 18-30(ish)! This month, we will be discussing the book American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins.
- Card Group | 1:00-4:00pm on Tuesday, October 29
- After School Snack & Activity | 4:00-5:00pm on Thursday, October 31