

## **VILLAGE OF ELMWOOD**

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, February 9, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Elmwood Village Auditorium – 323 W. Winter Avenue**

#### **NOTE: APPROVED MINUTES**

##### **1. Call to Order**

Village President Neil Boltik called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

- a) Roll Call – Board members present: President Neil Boltik - Trustees: Pam Marson, Mike Burke, Dawn Toth, Jason Severson, Mark Wolf, and Paul Unser.  
Staff present: Holly Malaszuk, Clerk/Treasurer; Darren Ekholm, Police Chief; Nick Andrews, Library Director.
- b) Public Present: Linda Garfield, Anna Crownhart, Roxann Peterson, Jim Shwebach, Tom Wilber, Andrew Harrinton
- c) The meeting was noted in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.
- d) Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

##### **2. Open Regular Board Meeting**

The regular monthly meeting of the Village of Elmwood Board of Trustees was opened.

##### **3. Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Neil Boltik, seconded by Dawn Toth, to approve the minutes of the January Board Meeting.

Motion carried by voice vote.

##### **4. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)**

No public comments were made.

##### **5. Community Groups – Enrichment Council/Community Club/American Legion**

**Enrichment Council** – Two flooring samples were presented for the Village Dining Room renovation project. Paul Unser noted that LVT flooring would allow individual tiles to be replaced if damage occurs.

Discussion occurred regarding flooring selection. The Enrichment Council, Community Club, American Legion, and the Village will need to agree on the color and pattern before moving forward.

An American Legion representative asked whether Village employees could remove the existing carpet to reduce costs. Board members discussed that specialized equipment such as a carpet puller may be required and that labor, time, and supplies could make that option more expensive.

The Legion asked about installing a small duct to the Legion room, as liquids stored there sometimes freeze. They also indicated they would hire a contractor who would carry insurance and that pictures would be stored while painting work is completed.

Discussion occurred about contacting the Elmwood Area Historical Society regarding items currently in the room. The Legion suggested exploring the possibility of replacing the dining room stoves.

Linda Garfield presented a third flooring sample.

This item will be referred to the Personnel & Finance Committee for further review before returning to the Village Board for final approval.

**New Business** (*Discussion and possible action unless otherwise noted*)

**6. Possible Closed Session – Nursing Home Property Sale**

The Board did not enter closed session. Holly Malaszuk explained that final repair estimates and bills are not yet available. She then read a written explanation from Public Works Director Bryan Bechel, who was absent, stating that the boilers at the nursing home had shut down over the weekend, which caused several water lines to freeze. Bartingale Mechanical was able to restart the boilers. The boilers and water lines in the building have since been completely drained to prevent further damage.

Motion by Neil Boltik, seconded by Dawn Toth, to table this item until repair pricing is received.

Motion carried by voice vote.

**7. Reconvene Into Open Session – n/a**

**8. Committee Reports**

**Personnel and Finance – Dawn Toth**

Discussion occurred regarding the Village Dining Room renovation project and Dawn Toth explained the difference between 20 mil flooring and 30 mil flooring, noting that 30 mil flooring is more durable. The Board agreed another Personnel & Finance Committee meeting will be held to obtain additional bids before determining how much the Village will contribute toward the flooring and painting.

Discussion occurred regarding the purchase of an airless line striping machine for Public Works. Two machines were presented for consideration: one battery operated and one gas powered. Board members asked how the equipment would be transported and whether a trailer would be needed or if it could be hauled using a mower.

Motion by Paul Unser, second by Neil Boltik, to table the paint sprayer discussion until additional questions can be answered.

Motion carried by voice vote.

**Public Works Report – Bryan Bechel**

The Public Works report was read by Holly Malaszuk. The department replaced the main water meter at the fire hall after it failed annual testing. Staff worked with Bartingale Mechanical regarding the nursing home boilers. Backwoods Electric inspected several streetlights that were not functioning and ordered replacement heads. Bryan Bechel attended certification testing in Rice Lake and passed one of the remaining exams needed for full certification.

**Police Report – Chief Darren Ekholm**

The Elmwood Police Department responded to 19 calls for service during January, while the Pierce County Sheriff's Office responded to 10 calls for service within the Village. Chief Ekholm attended several meetings, handled evidence transfers, attended court hearings, and issued one citation.

**Clerk/Treasurer Report – Holly Malaszuk**

The Village office will close early February 11 and will be closed February 13 while staff attended an Ehlers seminar. KerberRose, village auditors, completed an onsite visit and has begun work on PSC reporting and the water rate study with Ehlers. We are currently completing February's tax settlement. Residents were reminded that Village ordinance

requires sidewalks to be cleared of snow and ice because it has been causing issues this year.

**Library Report – Nick Andrews**

Circulation increased 8% for books and 15% for eBooks. Wi-Fi usage increased 27%, the library held 45% more events, and attendance increased 111%. Partnering with school groups and local non-profits like Staying Put will continue to be a focus.

**9. Payment of Bills**

Holly Malaszuk explained that the only bill outside of the normal bills was the loan payment for the nursing home property.

Motion by Dawn Toth, seconded by Pam Marson, to approve payment of the bills as submitted. Motion carried by voice vote.

**10. Adjournment**

Motion by Dawn Toth, seconded by Pam Marson, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Holly R. Malaszuk

Clerk/Treasurer