



ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Community Association Officers:

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Treasurer: Linda Clark

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CONGRATULATIONS
TO
SOPHIA NIBE

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HAMILTON COUNTY

2026

FAIR QUEEN

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Last Quarter: 5 New Moon: 12 First Quarter: 19 Full Moon: 28	JULY 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 31	SEPTEMBER 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	GUIDE TO BEST FISHING DAYS BEST GOOD FAIR POOR			Bingo Community Center 5:00 1
Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00 at City Park 2	3 Civic Holiday (Canada)	4 Community Assoc 6:00 CommCenter	5 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	6 	7 	8 Bingo Community Center 5:00
9 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	10 City Council 6:00	11 	12 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	13 	14 	15 Bingo Community Center 5:00
16 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	17 	18 Community Assoc 6:00 CommCenter	19 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	20 Firemen Meeting 7:00	21 Trivia Night 7:00 Comm Center	22 Bingo Community Center 5:00
23/30 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	24/31	25 City Council 6:00	26 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	27 Homewood Cemetery Meet 10:00 TLC	28 	29 Bingo Community Center 5:00
AUGUST			2026			

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

2nd- Deb Senn
 2nd - Marcy Olson
 4th - Tom Swenson
 8th - Lauren Olson
 10th - Erin Hill
 10th - Noah Laube
 12th - Betsi Danielson
 23rd - Brian Henderson

ANNIVERSARIES

7th - Molly & Brian Henderson
 14th - Teresa & Lauren Olson
 14th - Liz & Ryan Hill
 15th - Janelle & Todd Hill
 26th - Joely & Tom Swenson
 28th - Holly & Don Adix

REMEMBERING THE PAST: ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION 1946-1980

On January 16, 1946 an organizational meeting was held to form an Association of Ellsworth Businessmen with Orval Peterson presiding as temporary chairman. It was decided to elect officers at this meeting and form the organization. Officers elected: President - Vernon Peterson; Vice-President - Clarence R Kuhl; Secretary - Beryle Thoreson; Treasurer - Francis Reisetter. An Executive committee was also elected. They were: Irving McGowan, George Hanson, Lloyd Coates and Orval Peterson. All officers were to serve one year terms.

On January 31, 1946 the first regular meeting was held at Millers Cafe. At this meeting the constitution and by-laws were read and with some modification, approved. Also the title "Ellsworth Businessmen's Association" was approved for the organization. Membership was limited to businessmen of Ellsworth, Iowa.

In January of 1971, the name was changed to "Ellsworth Community Association" and also opened up the membership to farmers of the surrounding area.

The Association has sponsored many community projects since its inception and has helped other clubs and organizations with their projects. One of the first was to beautify and develop the City Park. Projects there were the planting of trees, putting in a tennis court, shuffleboard court and building a shelter house. Later they worked with the farmers in securing a fire truck for the community. Also, the organization was instrumental in starting the "Turkey Day" celebration.

The officers in 1980 were: Everett Erickson - President; Harlan Hertzke - Vice President; Don Larson - Treasurer; and Jerry Grove - Secretary.



AUGUST 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

. BASE Exercise Group – Meets MONDAY – WEDNESDAY- & FRIDAY's 10:15 – 10:45am - NEW DAYS & TIMES -If interested please contact 515-832-2525 for more information.

. Story Time for Children ages 0 to 5 is every Thursday at 10:30 am till 11:30 am. We read stories, sing songs, create a craft and have a snack. If you have a child or children 5 years old or older and would like to join us, they are always welcome too.

. LIBRARY BOARD TRUSTEE MEETING will be held on August 6,2026, at 5:30 pm here at the library.

. SUMMER READING ENDS July 30,2026 – Please make sure you turn in your reading logs by August 3, 2026 and prizes will be announced on August 8, 2026.

. AUGUST 6, 2026 at the Ellsworth City Park we will be having Hamilton Conservation here starting at 10 am for a program on insects. This a free and fun event for the whole family.

. The Summer reading program (Plant a Seed Read) has had some wonderful programs here at the library. I would like to Thank all the parents and children that attended our events and all of our guest presenters too. It has been a great summer with amazing attendance.

. The library has weeded more books and DVD's so stop in and check out the selection that is now available.

. The library has a vacant spot on our library trustees board if this something of interest to you please contact City Hall. The board only meets once a month on the first Thursday of each month.

More details about programming will be available on our website ellsworth.lib.ia.us/ events.

HOPE EVERYONE HAS A GREAT SUMMER!

Roxann Boyce

Director / Ellsworth Public Library

515-836-4852

JUNE 23, 2026 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 6:00 pm on June 23, 2026, at City Hall, with Mayor Anksorus presiding, and the following council members present: Sogard, Olson, Jensen, Phipps, and Funk. Also in attendance were Brian Zimmerman, Ashley Platte with the ECA, Brittany Williams with the ECA, and Jordan Walbaum.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Motion by Olson, seconded by Funk to approve the agenda. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

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

Motion to approve June 8, 2026 council minutes.

Motion to approve June 23, 2026 payment of claims.

Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried, and claims hereby made a portion of these minutes

PUBLIC FORUM: Brian Zimmerman inquired as to the status of the City brush dump site. Clerk Eckers mentioned it would be discussed later on in the meeting.

ACCESSORY BUILDING 546 DESMOINES AVE: Councilman Funk asked a few questions to clarify details on the placement, the nearby alley easement, utilities, and some verbiage in the Zoning Ordinance. Funk has been in contact with City Legal to discuss procedure moving forward.

E-BIKE/SCOOTERS/ELECTRIC VEHICLES: Council discussed examples by the City of Humbolt and Ankeny. Clerk Eckers and Mayor Anksorus will discuss collaborating on similar verbiage with the City of Jewell and will have a first draft of an Ordinance by the July 13 meeting.

CITIZEN COMMENT FORM: SIDEWALKS UPDATE: Tabled

SECOND READING PROPOSED WATER RATE ORDINANCE NO. 605: Motion to remove item from Table by Funk and seconded by Olson, roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried and item added to Agenda. Motion by Funk and seconded by Jensen to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 605 amending the water rates. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

LETTER OF SUPPORT EXTENSION OF THE JEWELL BIKE TRAIL TO LITTLE WALL LAKE: Motion by Sogard and seconded by Olson to approve Clerk Eckers in sending a letter of support to the Hamilton County Conservation organization for the upcoming trail extension project. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

CITY BRUSH SITE DISCUSSION: After discussion, Mayor Anksorus agreed to contact the adjoining property owner to plan a time to sit down and draft an agreement of terms that would be convenient for both the property owner and the City and its residents. Until such time City Hall will maintain the keys to the padlock on the gate, if residents need access they can come during business hours and check out a key.

LIBRARY: None present

FIRE/EMS: None present

ECA: Brittany Williams requested City staff assistance with moving picnic tables and benches to the park for additional seating over the upcoming weekend's event. The ECA requested Council members' help with setting up and tearing down the beer tent snow fencing at 4pm and after the band finishes for the night. The Mayor was asked to participate in the nickel scramble with Police Chief Morton.

PUBLIC WORKS: Motion by Funk and seconded by Phipps to approve the replacement estimate of the chlorinator systems in the water plant of \$33,577.56. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

CITY HALL: Clerk Eckers presented Council with a tentative end-of-year program balance report.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Jensen and seconded by Funk to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

/s/ Barry Anksorus, Mayor

/s/ Heidi Eckers, City Clerk

JULY 13, 2026 CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 6:00 pm on July 13, 2026, at City Hall, with Mayor Anksorus presiding, and the following council members present: Sogard, Olson, Jensen, Phipps, and Funk. Also in attendance were Brian Zimmerman, Ashley Platte with the ECA, Brittany Williams with the ECA, Jordan Walbaum, and Lori Crouse.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Motion by Funk, seconded by Olson to approve the agenda. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

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

Motion to approve June 23, 2026 council minutes.

Motion to approve July 13, 2026 payment of claims.

Motion to approve Dollar General Liquor License.

Motion to approve Sign Pro sign permit for BVS Solutions.

Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried, and claims hereby made a portion of these minutes

PUBLIC FORUM: None

PUBLIC HEARING FY 27 BUDGET AMENDMENT: Mayor Anksorus opened the public hearing at 6:02 pm. No public present for the hearing. Hearing closed at 6:30 pm.

RESOLUTION 07-13-2026 ADOPTING FY 27 BUDGET AMENDMENT: Motion by Funk and seconded by Olson to approve Resolution 07-13-2026 adopting FY 27 Budget Amendment. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

BRUSH NUISANCE ABATEMENT EXTENSION REQUEST: Lori Crouse requested an extension from the City concerning the overgrowth of brush at 436 Brinton Ave. Motion by Sogard and seconded by Funk to grant a 30-day extension. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

EMPLOYMENT MATTER: Due to failure to complete Level 1 water operator testing and lagoon/wastewater certifications, as per the motion passed by Council on June 23, 2026, City Public Works Supervisor Nick Vanlangen's position is terminated effective immediately. Discussion followed about posting the position as presented by the Personnel Committee. Motion by Funk and seconded by Sogard to post for a Public Works employee for a 30-day application period starting Wednesday, July 15, when published in the South Hamilton Record News. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried. Personnel also recommended the temporary non-benefited hire of Jordan Walbaum to do daily water testing under the supervision of affidavit operator Danny Anderson. Motion by Sogard and seconded by Olson to hire Jordan Walbaum at \$20/hour and less than 20 hours per week for no more than 6 months to maintain temporary status. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

NEW CITY HALL EMPLOYEE HIRE: After discussion about amending the job description to include that it is not a remote position, motion by Funk and seconded by Olson to post a job opening for a part time accounting associate. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

CITY BRUSH SITE DISCUSSION: The Council was presented with a draft of an agreement prepared by Clerk Eckers between the City and Thomas Wirth, owner of the adjacent property to the City Brush Dump and Lagoons. Motion by Jensen and seconded by Sogard to present the agreement to the currently adjacent property owners. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

ACCESSORY BUILDING 546 DESMOINES AVE: Councilman Funk has tried to contact the property owner to have a discussion about the non-compliance concerning setbacks. He will have another update for Council at the July 28 session.

Council Minutes continued on page 8

E-BIKE/SCOOTERS/ELECTRIC VEHICLES: The Council was presented with a first draft of Ordinance No. 72 “Bicycle and Mobility Regulations” for the City of Ellsworth. After discussion, the Council instructed Clerk Eckers to edit with no age requirements/limitations, and to present a fee schedule at the next Council meeting.

FIREWORKS ORDINANCE DISCUSSION: Council discussed adding in the current Iowa Code to the local Ordinance as required.

THIRD READING PROPOSED WATER RATE ORDINANCE NO. 605: Motion by Sogard and seconded by Phipps to approve the third reading of Ordinance No. 605 amending the water rates. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 07-13-2026(2) ADOPTING ORDINANCE NO. 65 WATER RATES: Motion by Jensen and seconded by Phipps to adopt Ordinance No. 605 amending the water rates. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried. Rates will go into effect for August usage and billing due the 20th of September 2026.

HWY 175/UBBEN CROSSWALK UPDATE AND DISCUSSION: Councilwoman Sogard reached out to the DOT with questions about requirements for a crosswalk. The City would be required to install and maintain sidewalks on Ubben/Delphi both North and South of Hwy 175 and maintain the painted crosswalk lines across Hwy 175. Due to the number of utilities located on the city easement along Ubben/Delphi and the South and West corner of the intersection a sidewalk installation would not be possible. Councilwoman Sogard will request through the DOT if it would be possible to reduce the speed along Hwy 175 as a precaution concerning pedestrian traffic crossing the Highway to patron Dollar General.

POLICE 28E AGREEMENT: Motion to approve the FY27 Agreement for the Ellsworth Jewell Police Department by Jensen and seconded by Olson. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

PARKS BOARD: Councilwoman Olson and Councilwoman Sogard will arrange a meeting of the Parks Board in August for an update and to start project planning for improvements to the City Park.

LIBRARY: Council was presented with a letter of resignation from Board member Kris Groth. Mayor Anksorus will appoint a replacement at the July 28th Council meeting.

FIRE/EMS: None present

ECA: Ashley Platte and Brittany Williams were present to update the Council on how the Ellsworth Extravaganza went. The group is hoping to make this an annual instead of biannual event. There was an aggressive dog at large issue during the 5K as a part of the weekend, Clerk Eckers and Officer Morton were made aware of the incident and are currently working on tighter verbiage to the local dog ordinance so that this does not happen in the future. The Group also alerted the City to the lack of power to the box on the pole in the park by the basketball courts.

PUBLIC WORKS

LAGOONS UPDATE: Tabled

WATER PLANT UPDATE: The RO system is being worked on by Wigen’s contractor and will be online this week

WATER MAIN LEAK DEWITT AND HWY 175: Public Works employee Lee Knickerbocker will test the water and, if needed, call Halls Excavating for repair.

CITY HALL: None

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Jensen and seconded by Funk to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

/s/ Barry Anksorus, Mayor

/s/ Heidi Eckers, City Clerk



A vibrant poster for an annual backpack supply giveaway. The title "Annual BACKPACK SUPPLY GIVEAWAY NIGHT" is prominently displayed in large, colorful, stylized fonts. The word "Annual" is in a cursive script, while "BACKPACK", "SUPPLY", and "NIGHT" are in bold, block letters. "GIVEAWAY" is in red. The poster includes a calendar icon for the date "TUESDAY, AUGUST 4TH, 2026" and a clock icon for the time "5-7 PM". A heart icon is next to the text "ALL SOUTH HAMILTON STUDENTS K-12 ARE WELCOME!". A backpack icon is next to "BACKPACKS AND SUPPLIES PROVIDED!". The location "TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 1629 DEWITT ST. ELLSWORTH, IA" is listed at the bottom. The right side of the poster features a photograph of school supplies: a blue backpack, a pencil holder with colored pencils, a glue stick, a red apple, and several notebooks.

☆ *Annual* ☆

BACKPACK

SUPPLY ☆

GIVEAWAY

NIGHT

📅 **TUESDAY,**
AUGUST 4TH, 2026

🕒 **5-7 PM**

❤️ **ALL SOUTH HAMILTON**
STUDENTS K-12
ARE WELCOME!

🎒 **BACKPACKS AND**
SUPPLIES PROVIDED!

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1629 DEWITT ST.
ELLSWORTH, IA

1st day_{of}
school

August 24, 2026