



ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

ELLSWORTH TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT

October 29, 2026

Community Association Officers:

President: Ashley Platte
ellsworthcommunityassn
@gmail.com

V-President: Brittany Williams

Secretary: Brittany Williams

Treasurer: Linda Clark

Editor:

Janet Adix

ellsworthca@netins.net

5:30 - Hot Dogs & Drink served at the Fire Station
sponsored by

Ellsworth Volunteer Fire Department

Ellsworth Community Association

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

Fire Station open for Safe Place

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Last Quarter: 3 New Moon: 10 First Quarter: 18 Full Moon: 26	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	NOVEMBER 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	1 Library Board meet 5:30	2 	3 Bingo Community Center 5:00
4 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	5 	6 Community Assoc 6:00 CommCenter	7 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	8 	9 	10 Bingo Community Center 5:00
11 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	12 Columbus Day (USA) Indigenous Peoples' Day (USA) Thanksgiving Day (Canada)	13 City Council 6:00	14 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	15 	16 Trivia Night 7:00 Comm Center National Boss Day (USA)	17 Bingo Community Center 5:00
18 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	19 	20 Community Assoc 6:00 CommCenter	21 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	22 Firemen Meeting 7:00	23 	24 Bingo Community Center 5:00
25 Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	26 	27 City Council 6:00	28 Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	29 Homewood Cemetery Meet 10:00 TLC	30 	31 Bingo Community Center 5:00 Halloween
OCTOBER			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

ANNIVERSARIES

Kristi Busch	2nd	Karsyn Lande	10th
Conner Hill	2nd	Preston Hocking	12th
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

Mary Kay & Sewlyn Rash	6th
Daniel & Kayla Kniippel	19th
Robin & Keith Hovick	21st

OCTOBER

FIRE PREVENTION MONTH

Thank an Ellsworth Volunteer Fireman.

REMEMBERING THE PAST: Ellsworth Sewer System

Initially, Ellsworth relied on outdoor toilets for sewage disposal. Residents later transitioned to the septic tank and cesspool system, which discharged into the local waterway, the Skunk River.

Between 1967 and 1968, a comprehensive new sewer system was constructed in Ellsworth, replacing the septic tank system. This provided the town with complete control over sewage disposal.

A site was purchased, located 1/2 mile southwest of Ellsworth, to serve as the lagoon system's location. The lagoon and the new collection system for the local sewer system were completed in June 1968 and put into operation on June 10, 1968. The lift station is situated near the west edge of the town on the north side of Highway 175.

The lagoon was designed to accommodate various operational patterns. The optimal method for winter and summer operation is determined through experience and laboratory tests.



OCTOBER, 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.

. **NEW DAY** FOR **Story Time for Children ages 0 to 5** is every **WEDNESDAY** 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.

. The library will be hosting a children's craft **Saturday on OCT. 10**, 2026 from 10 am till 11 am. We will be creating a Witch Craft and is geared for children ages 4 to 10 years of age.

. The City of Ellsworth & the Ellsworth Public Library will be hosting **"The MOMENTUM ON THE MOVE ART STUDIO"** from Des Moines they will be here at the library on Thursday Evening Oct. 22, 2026. This is a free art program which is for children ages 10 & up with a parent who can also participate. Bring out the true artist in you! All supplies are free and there will be refreshments served.

. Starting Oct. 5, 2026 the Ellsworth Public Library will be implementing new hours due to budget cuts. The library will be CLOSED on MONDAY & TUESDAY's – OPEN on WEDNESDAY's 10- 5 pm, THURSDAY's 10 am – 5 pm FRIDAY's 12 – 6 pm and SATURDAY's 9 am till Noon. Thank You for your patience and understanding!

. OCT. 29, 2026 the library will be hosting Cookies, Candy, & Craft event for all children. Stop in while you're out Trick or Treating. This event is from 5 pm till 7 pm.

. Please make sure and check Facebook, Instagram, or our library website for various Oct.2026, events happening at the library as I am still planning activities.

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

HAVE A HAPPY FALL!!!

AUGUST 25TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 6:00 pm on August 25, 2026, at City Hall, with Mayor Anksorus presiding, and the following council members present: Funk, Sogard, Olson, Jensen, and Phipps. Also in attendance were city staff Lee Knickerbocker, city staff Jordan Walbaum, Brittany Williams with the ECA and Ashley Platte with the ECA.

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

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Jensen and seconded by Olson to approve the following items listed on the consent agenda: a. Motion to approve August 10, 2026 council minutes. b. Motion to approve August 25, 2026 payment of claims. Roll call votes 5 -0. Motion carried, and claims hereby made a portion of these minutes

PUBLIC FORUM: None

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS: Mayor Anksorus appointed Clerk Eckers to the Board of Adjustments to act as Secretary for the Board.

PARKS BOARD UPDATE: Councilwoman and Parks Board Chair Olson reviewed the current Minutes from the Parks Board with the Council. The Board met on August 18th at the City Park. Discussion included the status of the Pickleball Court conversion, adding more benches and tables to the park as well as new playground equipment and adding more sand around the diggers. The Board discussed some fundraising options. Olson also discussed that at the next Board meeting, they will visit to create a mission statement.

LIBRARY: None present

FIRE/EMS: None present

ECA: Ashley Platte and Brittany Williams were present to update the Council on the recent benefit for EMS member Andrew Holden. ECA members also updated the Council on the upcoming citywide garage sales on September 12. Halloween/Beggar's Night was also discussed. Motion by Sogard and seconded by Funk to name Thursday, October 29th, Beggar's Night for Ellsworth. Hot dogs will be available at the fire station at 5 p.m., and trick-or-treating will be citywide from 6 pm to 8 pm. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS

A. WATER PLANT UPDATE: RO PUMP QUOTE – TABLED

B. WATER PLANT – LIFT STATION GENERATOR REPAIR QUOTE: Motion by Phipps and seconded by Olson to approve the quote by ACE Electric in the amount of \$1663.69. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried. Note: if this is to be an annual maintenance contract, a contract must still be presented and approved by the Council.

C. MANATTS ROAD WORK QUOTE: After being presented with the quote and maps of potential road work projects, the Council discussed waiting until the next meeting to make any decisions. Tabled.

D. MID-IOWA ENTERPRISES QUOTE – PICKLEBALL COURT: Discussion about the need for a new surface rather than sealing. Clerk Eckers and the Parks Board will continue to pursue grant funding to help with the project.

E. SHOP INTERIOR BUILDOUT QUOTES: The Council was presented with three quotes requested from city staff for the interior work on the new shop building. Motion by Funk and seconded by Jensen to approve quote from AgForce of Jewell Iowa in the amount of \$42,719.28 with an allowance of \$5000 additional for the installment of gutters and downspouts totaling \$47,719.28. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

City Council minutes continued on page 6

CITY HALL: Clerk Eckers updated the Council.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Four applications have been received for the open position to date. The Personnel Committee will meet with city staff in the coming week to discuss potentially restructuring the City's staffing roles and responsibilities. The position remains open, and applicants are welcome to still apply.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Jensen and seconded by Olson to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 pm. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

/s/ Barry Anksorus, Mayor

/s/ Heidi Eckers, City Clerk

SEPTEMBER 14TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 6:01 pm on September 14, 2026, at City Hall, with Mayor Anksorus presiding, and the following council members present: Sogard, Olson, Jensen. Also in attendance were city staff Jordan Walbaum, ECA members Ashley Platte, Brittany Williams, and community member Brian Zimmerman.

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

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Sogard and seconded by Olson to approve the following items listed on the consent agenda: a. Motion to approve August 25, 2026 council minutes. b. Motion to approve September 14, 2026 payment of claims. Roll call votes 3 -0. Motion carried, and claims are hereby made a portion of these minutes

PUBLIC FORUM: Ashley Platte suggested that the Council hire at least one other Bingo employee so that, if one of the current employees is unable to attend, Bingo can still happen and not be canceled.

LIBRARY: None present

FIRE/EMS: None present

ECA: No items

PUBLIC WORKS

A. MANATTS ROAD WORK QUOTE: Sogard motioned to approve the following items from the presented Manatt's quote: Thoreson Ave Mill and 2.5" overlay, Thoreson Ave Manhole Boxout, Thoreson Ave Remove and Replace 5" HMA, Dewitt Street Patches 5" HMA, Mobilization, Traffic, Decora Ave Mill and 2.5" Overlay, Decora Ave Manhole Boxout totaling \$90,971 to paid out of Road Use Tax Funds. Seconded by Jensen, roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried.

B. WATER PLANT UPDATE: Tabled
City Council minutes continued on page 7

CITY HALL: Clerk Eckers updated the Council on progress in increasing the interest rate and revenue from interest on the city's monies. Proposals from both nearby banking branches will be prepared by the next Council session.

GYM USE FOR FALL/WINTER SPORTS: Motion by Olson and seconded by Jensen to approve the seasonal hire of Ashley Platte to tear down and set up the gym floor mats for the winter youth sports season until the end of February at a rate of \$150 per cycle. The city will approve use of the gym facility by local area youth coaches and teams at a rate of \$100 per team, which includes one weekly practice or use for each team. The city will evaluate the rate on a case-by-case basis if teams want additional access or time. The city will control the calendar, and if a private event is booked, it will take priority over practices for that specific day/time. Each team will be required to sign a liability release for use of the property as well as agree to rules and parameters concerning the facility and areas of access. The hours of use will be as follows: 1 pm Sunday through 6:30 pm Friday each week, with a blocked-off time on Sunday evenings from 5 pm to 8 pm for open gym for the community. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Sogard and seconded by Olson to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 pm. Roll call votes 3-0. Motion carried.

/s/ Barry Anksorus, Mayor /s/ Heidi Eckers, City Clerk

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ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY the following information for our records:

Name_____

Addres_____

Home Phone ()_____ - _____

Cell Phone ()_____ - _____

E Mail_____

Fill out if you want to be included on the Birthday/Anniversary calendar:

_____First Name_____Last Name_____Month / Day

B_____A_____ / _____

B_____A_____ / _____

B_____A_____ / _____

B_____A_____ / _____

Mail to: ECA, PO Box 272, Ellsworth, Iowa 50075 with \$20.00 for yearly dues.



RADON WORKSHOP

OCTOBER 20, MONTGOMERY PUBLIC LIBRARY, JEWELL

Worried about Radon at Home? Hamilton County Extension with Montgomery Public Library will be holding a Free informational meeting about Radon. Topics will include Radon Testing, The results of radon Tests and Mitigation strategies. Registration and attendance is Required to receive a Free Radon Test Kit.
October 20, 2026 | 7:00-8:30 pm.

Register at: 515-832-9597.
Sue Schmitz , Program Coordinator

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach