



ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

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ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

CITY WIDE GARAGE SALE



CALL TO BE ADDED TO LIST
Ashley @ 515-290-6182 Brittany @ 641-295-5068

Sept 12th **8 AM - 2PM**
Ellsworth, Iowa

ellsworthcommunityassn@gmail.com

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Last Quarter: 4 New Moon: 10 First Quarter: 18 Full Moon: 26		1  Community Assoc 6:00 CommCenter	2  Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	3 	4 	5  Bingo Community Center 5:00
6  Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	7  Labor Day (USA) Labour Day (Canada)	8 	9  Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	10  Library Board meet 5:30	11  Patriot Day (USA)	12  Bingo Community Center 5:00
13  Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00 Grandparents Day	14  City Council 6:00	15  Community Assoc 6:00 CommCenter	16  Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	17  Firemen Meeting 7:00	18  Trivia Night 7:00 Comm Center	19  Bingo Community Center 5:00
20  Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	21  Yom Kippur	22  City Council 6:00 Autumn Begins	23  Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	24  Homewood Cemetery Meet 10:00 TLC	25 	26  Bingo Community Center 5:00
27  Trinity Lutheran Church 9:00	28 	29 	30  Farmers Market DeWitt Street 5:00-7:00	GUIDE TO BEST FISHING DAYS BEST  GOOD  FAIR  POOR 	AUGUST S M T W T F S 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	OCTOBER 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

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

LaVone Flygstad	2nd	Linda Bottorff	15th	Teri & Eldon Hill	2nd
Jessica Nelson	2nd	Brooklyn George	18th	Deb & Steve Senn	4th
Todd Hill	2nd	Matt Laube	18th	Linda & Kevin Bottorff	5th
Marty Naber	5th	Weston Uttect	20th	Marcy & Bob Olson	14th
Molly Henderson	6th	Karlie Hill	21st	Jan & Bruce Thompson	17th
Teri Hill	6th	Brandon Hill	23rd	Linda & Larry Barquist	25th
Stephanie Nicholson	7th	Preston Hill	23rd	Laura & Jon Rollefson	25th
Wyatt Gelder	10th	Carter Nelson	24th		
Britany Nicholson	12th	Katalina Solis	30th		



REMEMBERING THE PAST: AMERICAN CREAM DRAFT HORSE

The American Cream Draft Horse, the only draft horse breed originating in the United States, descends from a remarkable cream-colored draft mare.

The history of the American Creams began in 1911 in Lakin's Grove, Iowa, north of Ellsworth. Harry Lakin acquired a mare at auction in Story City and was captivated by her cream coat and temperament. He named her "Old Granny." Eventually, she became recognized as the first American Cream draft horse.

Over time, the American Creams have been developed, and today, they can be seen participating in various events and venues. Several farmers in the area are breeding and raising this offspring..

In recognition of their significance, a bill has been introduced in the Iowa Legislature to designate the American Cream Draft Horse as the "Iowa Horse".



SEPTEMBER, 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 SEPT 10,2026, at 5:15 pm here at the library.

. Alyssa Zimmerman is our new board member for the Ellsworth Public Library. We are excited to welcome her as a new member.

. Summer Reading has ended with many prizes given away this year! This year's BIG Prize winners were Waylen, Liam & Vivian Funk, Myka Nelson, Lincoln & Sophia Rozevink, Bridgett Jones, Remi Rassmussen, Mason & Sam.

. 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 12 - 6 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!

JULY 28TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 6:00 pm on July 28, 2026, at City Hall, with Mayor Anksorus presiding, and the following council members present: Sogard, Olson, Jensen, and Phipps. Also in attendance were Brian Zimmerman, Ashley Platte with the ECA, Brian Hill of Halls Backhoe and Tiling, and Jordan Walbaum.

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

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

Motion to approve July 13, 2026 council minutes.

Motion to approve July 28, 2026 payment of claims.

Motion to approve the August 1st fire truck payment of \$11,349.

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

PUBLIC FORUM: None

ACCESSORY BUILDING 546 DES MOINES AVE UPDATE AND DISCUSSION: Tabled

E-BIKES/SCOOTERS/ELECTRIC VEHICLES DISCUSSION: Tabled

CITIZEN COMMENT FORM: SIDEWALKS UPDATE: The Council and Clerk Eckers looked at the new Comprehensive Plan, and sidewalk maintenance is considered a high priority and in the 1-3 year timeline for the City.

LIQUOR LICENSE FOR CITY PARK AUGUST 1: Motion by Jensen and seconded by Phipps to approve Hanson event liquor license for the City Park on August 1st. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

CITY BRUSH SITE DISCUSSION: Mayor Anksorus made copies of the keys to the padlock for the access gate. They are numbered, and now Mayor, all City Council members, City staff, and adjoining property owner have a copy of the keys. Residents can request access to any one of these individuals Tuesday through Saturday, 8 am to 7 pm. Motion by Olson and seconded by Sogard to approve agreement with legal counsel Lynn Seaba to represent the City on the matter of the easement/property access and approved terms and agreement with the current adjoining property owner. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

POLICE BOARD UPDATE: Mayor Anksorus and Councilwoman Olson shared the updated Jewell Ellsworth Police Department shield and logo and new decal plans for the police vehicle. Discussion at the next Police Board meeting about hiring a part-time police officer will happen.

Council Minutes continued on page 6

BUILDING CODE INSPECTOR DISCUSSION: Clerk Eckers has reached out to the City Manager for Webster City to discuss their process for both building inspections for building permits and also code enforcement for nuisance properties in violation of the maintenance ordinances. Clerk Eckers will set a meeting with Webster City staff and Mayor Anksorus to discuss further prior to bringing a proposed plan of action to the Council.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS APPOINTMENT: Tabled

LIBRARY: Mayor Anksorus appointed Alyssa Zimmerman of Ellsworth to fill a vacancy on the Library Board.

FIRE/EMS: None present

ECA: No items

PUBLIC WORKS

a. **WATER PLANT UPDATE:** The RO system has been running without issue and operating as it should. Affidavit operator Danny Anderson, staff Jordan Walbaum and staff Lee Knickerbocker continue to do testing, plant updates and improvements and monitoring.

b. **WATER MAIN LEAK DEWITT AND HWY 175 UPDATE:** Two quotes from Hall's Backhoe and Tiling were presented to the Council; as they were not on the agenda, no action could be taken at this time. Owner Brian Hill was present to answer any questions the Council had about the scope of the proposed improvements. Hill recommended Jim Leiding of Bolton and Menk to file the required DNR permits for the water main replacement if the Council was going to move forward with the project.

c. **PUBLIC WORKS POSTED POSITION UPDATE:** Clerk Eckers updated the Council on the status of the job posting. To date, three applications have been received and forwarded to the Personnel Committee.

CITY HALL:

a. **ACCOUNTING ASSOCIATE POSITION UPDATE AND POSSIBLE HIRE ACTION:** Clerk Eckers updated the Council on the receipt of three applications for the posted position. Personnel Committee will be meeting with the candidate for interviews on August 4th. Motion by Olson to approve hire of an individual to fill the position at the discretion of the Personnel Committee on August 4th, considered probationary until final Council decision at the August 10th meeting. Seconded by Sogard. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

Clerk Eckers shared the final mural design by Siriaco Garcia for the side of the City Hall building abutting the City downtown greenspace.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Jensen and seconded by Olson to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 pm. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

/s/ Barry Anksorus, Mayor

/s/ Heidi Eckers, City Clerk

AUGUST 10TH COUNCIL MEETING

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 6:00 pm on August 10, 2026, at City Hall, with Mayor Anksorus presiding, and the following council members present: Funk (virtually), Olson, Jensen, and Phipps arriving at 6:09 pm. Also in attendance were city staff Lee Knickerbocker, city staff Jordan Walbaum, and Judith Greve.

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

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

Motion to approve July 28, 2026 council minutes.

Motion to approve August 10, 2026 payment of claims.

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

PUBLIC FORUM: None

ACCESSORY BUILDING 546 DES MOINES AVE UPDATE AND DISCUSSION: Motion by Funk to grant 1 year timeline for accessory building to be moved to allow the appropriate easement to be compliant with local ordinance, with a 6 month check in by the property owner on progress of the project following written notification of violation, compliance by August 10 of 2027. Seconded by Phipps. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

E-BIKES/SCOOTERS/ELECTRIC VEHICLES DISCUSSION: Clerk Eckers will reach out to Jewell City Clerk to collaborate on fee schedule and parameters listed in the proposed Ordinance.

CITY BRUSH SITE DISCUSSION: Clerk Eckers updated the Council. No actions were taken at this time.

RALLY SUNDAY SEPT 13, 2026 ROAD CLOSURE: Motion by Olson and seconded by Jensen to allow road closure for Trinity Church's rally Sunday on September 13 from 8am to 2pm. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

LIBRARY: None present

FIRE/EMS: None present

ECA: None present

PUBLIC WORKS

WATER PLANT UPDATE: The RO system has been running without issue and operating as it should. Affidavit operator Danny Anderson, staff Jordan Walbaum and staff Lee Knickerbocker continue to do testing, plant updates and improvements and monitoring.

HALL TILING AND BACKHOE QUOTE FOR WATER MAIN PROJECT AND STORM WATER PROJECT: Motion by Funk and seconded by Olson to approve the quote to repair the storm water drainage issue on Park Ave in the amount of \$31,335.48. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried. Motion by Jensen and seconded by Olson to approve the quote for the replacement of the water main from Park Ave going north to the end of city limits on Ubben Ave by Hall's in the amount of \$76,326.84 using electric sinking funds. Clerk Eckers will prepare a Resolution for the Council to vote on at the next Council session approving the interfund loan. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

CITY HALL: Clerk Eckers updated the Council.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: Motion by Phipps and seconded by Jensen to approve the hire of Lynda Law to fill the new roll of Accounting Associate for the City of Ellsworth. Roll call votes 4-0 Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Olson and seconded by Phipps to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 pm. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

/s/ Barry Anksorus, Mayor

/s/ Heidi Eckers, City Clerk



NEW TO MAIN STREET:

To the left, you'll find a new mural on the north wall of the City Hall.

Below, you'll see the construction of the new Ellsworth Coop Telephone Association office and utility building. This building is being built at the corner of the former United Methodist Church.

