

Village of Elwood regular meeting minutes, October 8, 2025

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Elwood, Nebraska, was held at the Gosper County Senior Center, 406 Ripley Street in Elwood on Wednesday, October 8, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Board Chair Martin who acknowledged the Open Meetings Act which is posted and available for public inspection near both entry doors of the Senior Center. Present were Trustees Kleine, Townsend, and LaPrade. Trustee Borden was absent. Clerk Jauken was present to take minutes. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Valley Voice Newspaper on October 2, 2025 and by posted notices at Security First Bank, Pinnacle Bank, Elwood Post Office and the Village Office on September 29, 2025. All proceedings shown hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

A motion was made by Kleine, seconded by LaPrade, to approve the September 10, 2025 regular meeting minutes amending the Library claim paid to the Village from \$2,778.48 to \$2,722.10, the September 28, 2028 Budget Hearing minutes, and the September 28, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes as presented. There being no discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Townsend, LaPrade, Kleine, Martin; nays: none; absent: Borden; motion carried 4-0-1.

Trustee Borden arrived at 6:36 p.m. while the claims were being reviewed. Trustee Townsend inquired about the payment to Miller & Associates verifying that half of this payment will be reimbursed from the County. Clerk Jauken noted that the payment to Platte Valley Auto will be paid with sales tax funds. A motion was made by Kleine, seconded by LaPrade, to approve and pay the Village and Library claims as presented, with LaPrade abstaining from the claim of Lawn In Order. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote (with specified abstention due to disclosure) was: ayes: Kleine, Borden, LaPrade, Townsend, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

Claims are as follows:

Aflac	262.04	emp. pd. ins.
ATC Communications	5.00	website fee less credit
Aurora Cooperative	746.47	fuel, supplies
Bazzle, Gayle	60.00	UT Deposit refund
Black Hills Energy	177.89	utilities
Blue Cross Blue Shield of NE	3,623.76	emp. health ins.
Brell Realty	55.03	overpayment
CAMAS Publishing	99.00	publications
Community Redev. Authority	8,333.33	budget
Corder, Kirk	49.00	cell phone
Dawson Public Power District	4,460.42	utilities
Downey Drilling	879.50	water repair
Elan Financial Services - credit card	761.89	supplies
Elwood Care Center	2,325.00	budget
Elwood Library	8,625.00	qtrly budget
Elwood Public School	300.00	liquor fee income
Go Home Realty	60.00	UT Deposit refund
Gosper Co. Treasurer (Sheriff Support)	11,950.05	Sheriff qtrly pymt
Great Plains Communications	179.53	phone, dump internet

Guardian Life	20.40	emp life ins
Hart, Huyser & Miller P.C., L.L.O.	1,605.00	atty fees
Koenig, Steve	41.02	overpayment
Lawn In Order	420.00	cemetery trimming, mowing
Miller & Asso. Consulting Engineers	5,500.00	W Rush St engineering fee
MTL, Inc.	214.00	cleaning x 2
Municipal Pipe Services	8,756.50	fire hydrant
Municipal Supply, Inc. of Nebraska	3,817.08	water parts
NE Dept. of Revenue	337.63	sales tax
NE Dept. of Revenue	1,430.69	withholding
NE Municipal Clerk's Association	50.00	dues
NE Public Health Env. Lab	16.00	water testing
One Call Concepts, Inc.	18.35	811 locate fees
Pinnacle Bank	765.64	HSA
*Platte Valley Auto	9,162.60	transmission
RJ Meyer & Assoc, CPA	2,750.00	budget prep
Salisbury Farms Inc.	2,577.24	lagoon RE taxes
Schaben Sanitation - Roll-off	1,055.83	large dumpster
Schaben Sanitation Inc.	7,037.38	trash fees
Schutz, Shane	20.00	cell phone
T&T Lawn Care	1,487.20	ball fields grass treatment
U-Save Pharmacy	113.07	UPS fee
Ward Laboratories, Inc.	67.65	sewer pond testing
West Central NE Dev. Dist.	3,314.00	nuisance officer
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>93,530.19</b>	
<b>PREAPPROVED/PREPAID CLAIMS:</b>		
EFTPS	3,027.14	Sept. federal payroll taxes
Payroll	9,398.86	Sept. net pay
Schwab - retirement fund	337.51	Sept. company match
Tri-State Paving, LLC	56,300.00	street repairs
<b>TOTAL PREPAID</b>	<b>69,063.51</b>	
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS</b>	<b>162,593.70</b>	
*paid with sales tax funds		
<b>LIBRARY CLAIMS:</b>		
Black Hills Energy	113.26	utilities
Dawson Public Power District	113.26	utilities
MTL Inc	214.00	janitor
Village of Elwood	2,134.28	wages, ss/mc, utilities
Pinnacle Bank credit card	628.68	supplies
Jane Hilton	93.14	meeting, mileage
<b>TOTAL LIBRARY CLAIMS</b>	<b>3,303.60</b>	

After reviewing the treasurer's report, noting an upcoming maturing Certificate of Deposit, a motion was made by Kleine, seconded by Borden, to approve said report renewing the CD for the best rate. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: LaPrade, Townsend, Borden, Kleine, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

Ed Houlden with Security First Insurance reviewed the insurance summary for fiscal year 2025-2026. The new telemetry estimates will be send to Houlden. A motion was made by Kleine, seconded by Townsend, to approve the insurance proposal for fiscal year 2025-2026. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Borden, LaPrade, Townsend, Kleine, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

Jay Edwards was present and asked to hear the care center presentation before discussing economic development.

Sheriff Richie reported that flex cameras will be in use soon and he is working on the emergency management plan with our emergency manager.

Andy Edeburn with Elder Dynamics presented a summary of the growing need for senior care in Nebraska as well as work-force challenges. He has been working with the leadership at the Elwood Care Center, Assisted Living, & Rehabilitation over the last year. He provided a strategic framework the community can consider to create a shared, forward-focused vision to meet the rapidly changing needs of our population. Next steps include developing a community-wide taskforce to participate in a senior housing development process, outlining aspirational services or products to offer, completing a market analysis, and determining where the development could be built; identifying a potential site through partnership, donation, or transfer are all considerations.

Utility Superintendent Corder reported speaking with a contractor who would be available to work on the riprap at the sewer lagoon. Corder will contact the current contractor to check on their status for the job.

The Community Redevelopment Authority minutes and the project report were reviewed.

The bid by Nielsen Contracting LLC for the West Rush Street project, which was approved by the County Commissioners, was reviewed. A motion was made by Kleine, seconded by Townsend, to approve the \$169,219.00 bid from Nielson for the paving and related improvements for West Rush Street between First and Second Avenues. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Borden, LaPrade, Townsend, Kleine, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

School Superintendent Daren Hatch was present to discuss changing First Avenue into a one-way street. Safety concerns, parking, and traffic flow were addressed. A notice will be developed and posted before the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the overgrown ditch east of the fire hall. The State will be contacted about its care as this may be within the State right of way.

Further discussion with the Sheriff involved unlicensed, junk, and inoperable vehicles. A proposed ordinance updating the current nuisance ordinance regarding said vehicles was reviewed. Costs related to towing and impounding vehicles was also discussed. A motion was made by Kleine, seconded by LaPrade, to waive the required three readings of an ordinance. There being no discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Borden, Townsend, LaPrade, Kleine, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0. A motion was made by Kleine, seconded by Borden, to pass and adopt Ordinance 2025-02 amending Chapter 132, section 03 of the municipal code to change the length of time allowed for an unlicensed motor vehicle to 30 days and adding Chapter 132, Section 04 to provide a penalty provision. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was:

eyes: LaPrade, Townsend, Kleine, Borden, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0. Ordinance 2025-02 was published on Thursday, October 16, 2025.

There were no further comments regarding the final draft of the Comprehensive Plan. A public hearing and final passage will be considered for the next meeting.

Resolution 2025-12 was reviewed. A motion was made by Kleine, seconded by Townsend, to approve Resolution 2025-12 allowing prepayment of certain claims including payroll and payroll related items, utility bills, insurance and bond payments that may become due prior to the next regular meeting of the Board. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: LaPrade, Borden, Townsend, Kleine, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

The Trustees discussed a 5% increase to water and sewer rates to be considered for approval at the next meeting. Dump fees were also discussed and it was agreed to maintain the \$1.50 fee.

There were no building permits to review.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 12, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Board Chair Martin adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Laurie Jauken, Clerk/Treasurer