Village of Elwood regular meeting minutes, September 9, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Elwood, Nebraska, was held at the Elwood Village Office, 304 Calvert Avenue in Elwood on Wednesday, September 9, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board Chair Martin who acknowledged the Open Meetings Act which is available for public inspection in the entryway of the village office meeting room. Present were Trustees Kleine, Townsend, LaPrade and Borden. Clerk Jauken was present to take minutes. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Valley Voice Newspaper on August 27, 2026 and by posted notices at Security First Bank, Pinnacle Bank, Elwood Post Office and the Village Office on August 24, 2026. All proceedings shown hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

A motion was made by Townsend, seconded by Kleine, to approve the August 12, 2026 regular meeting minutes and August 25, 2026 special meeting minutes as presented. There being no discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: LaPrade, Borden, Kleine, Townsend, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

After the clerk reviewed a few items on the claims list, a motion was made by Kleine, seconded by LaPrade, to approve and pay the Village and Library claims as presented. LaPrade abstained from the claim of Lawn In Order. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote (with specified abstention due to disclosure) was: ayes: Townsend, Borden, LaPrade, Kleine, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.
Claims are as follows:

Aflac	262.04 emp. pd. Ins.;
ATC Communications	10.95 website fee;
Aurora Cooperative	2,339.19 fuel/supplies;
Black Hills Energy	315.10 utilities;
Blue Cross Blue Shield of NE	4,179.28 employee ins.;
CAMAS Publishing	663.99 publications;
Community Redev. Authority	8,333.33 budget;
Corder, Kirk	49.00 cell phone;
Dawson Public Power District	6,054.55 utilities;
Eakes Office Plus	323.39 service agreement;
Elan Financial Services - credit card	412.64 supplies;
Elwood Care Center	2,325.00 budget;
Elwood Public School	300.00 liquor license fee income;
Great Plains Communications	179.49 internet/phones;
Guardian Life	20.40 employee ins.;
Hart, Huyser & Miller P.C., L.L.O.	590.00 attorney fees;
Lawn In Order	156.00 mowing/chemical;
Miller & Asso. Consulting Engineers	700.00 street plan;
Moonlight Electric	267.42 repairs due to lightning;
MTL, Inc.	119.00 cleaning;
Municipal Supply, Inc. of Nebraska	190.63 supplies;
NE Dept of Revenue	395.48 sales tax;
NE Dept of Revenue	25.00 waste & recycle fee;
Pinnacle Bank	984.38 HSA;

Platte Valley Auto Mart, Inc	78.29 parts;
Schaben Sanitation - Roll-off	1,375.99 large dumpster fee;
Schaben Sanitation Inc.	7,053.52 trash fee;
Schutz, Shane	20.00 cell phone;
Sunset Pool Supplies	1,170.75 pool chemicals;
Townsend, Ken	25.00 deputy zoning admin.;
U-Save Pharmacy	53.40 supplies;
West Central Nebr. Development Dist.	4,590.00 dues, nuisance fee;

TOTAL 43,563.21;

PREAPPROVED/PREPAID CLAIMS:

CenturyLink	62.37 Aug pool phone;
EFTPS	6,226.42 Aug federal payroll taxes;
Payroll	20,715.70 Aug net pay;
Schwab - retirement fund	520.00 Aug company match;

TOTAL PREPAID 27,524.49;

TOTAL CLAIMS 71,087.70;

LIBRARY CLAIMS:

Black Hills Energy	119.25 utilities;
Dawson Public Power District	192.40 utilities;
MTL Inc	297.50 janitor;
Village of Elwood	2,670.93 wages, ss/mc, utilities;
Pinnacle Bank credit card	469.57 books;

TOTAL LIBRARY CLAIMS 3,749.65.

After discussing rates for CDs, a motion was made by Townsend, seconded by LaPrade, to approve the treasurer's report as presented and renew the Certificates of Deposit for the best rate at new terms. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Kleine, LaPrade, Borden, Townsend, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

There was no report for the Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA).

Sheriff Richie reported the placement of a new system that can receive anonymous tips and they will inform the public on how to use it.

The nuisance abatement process was discussed along with placement of towed vehicles.

Utility Superintendent Corder spoke with Aurora Coop about the heater core in the black pickup, there was a pothole on east Rockford Street that was worked on, and repairs are completed on the dump truck. Corder stated that cameras were replaced and repairs made at the concession stand and park restrooms due to lightning. The board discussed changing the locks at the concession stand. Corder will be contacting someone for the well telemetry systems.

The trustees reviewed the budget items for next fiscal year and considered budget amounts for the CRA, library and care center. A motion was made by Kleine, seconded by LaPrade, to set a budget amount for the CRA at $40,000.00, $28,000.00 to the library, and to reserve $28,800.00 for strategic planning and any unexpected care center expenses. There being no further discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Townsend, Borden, LaPrade, Kleine, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Townsend, seconded by Borden, to pass Resolution 2026-05 which allows the Board Chair to sign the Municipal Annual Certification for Program Compliance for the Nebraska Department of Transportation. There being no discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: LaPrade, Townsend, Borden, Kleine, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Kleine, seconded by Borden to appoint Hayden Royal to finish serving the unexpired term of Brenda Sheets on the CRA Board and to reappoint Ed Houlden to serve a 5-year term. There being no discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: LaPrade, Townsend, Borden, Kleine, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

There were two building permits reviewed. Townsend discussed lot setbacks for a corner lot.

Ed Houlden reviewed the Village's insurance summary for the next fiscal year.

A motion was made by Kleine, seconded by Townsend, to go into closed session at 8:55 p.m. for the prevention of needless injury for the reputation of an individual to discuss employee evaluations. There being no discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: Townsend, Kleine, Borden, LaPrade, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

The Board concluded closed session at 9:10 p.m. Board Chair Martin declared the only items discussed during the closed session were employee evaluations. A motion was made by Townsend, seconded by Kleine, to give a 5% raise to all full-time employees. There being no discussion, the roll call vote was: ayes: LaPrade, Kleine, Borden, Townsend, Martin; nays: none; motion carried 5-0.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Board Chair Martin adjourned the meeting at 9:14 p.m.

Laurie Jauken, Clerk/Treasurer