



VILLAGE OF ELLSWORTH

Newsletter

SPRING 2022

HOURS
Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

CONTACT INFO
Village Administrator/
Clerk-Treasurer
(715) 273-4742

Police Department
(715) 273-3275

DROP BOX
Payments and/or pa-
perwork can be submit-
ted using the 24-hour
drop box on the front
side of the Village of
Ellsworth (130 N. Chest-
nut Street).

PAYMENTS
The Village accepts
cash, check and/or
Point and Pay pay-
ments. All checks should
be written out to the
Village of Ellsworth.

One Year In

Message from Becky Beissel, President, Village of Ellsworth

Dear fellow community members,

It's been about a year since I was elected to serve this community as Village President. We are still busy working on the foundational planning and processes but I think we can be proud of the progress we have made.

Our Comprehensive Plan update has taken a lot of our focus these last few months. I consider it time well spent as we'll have a more clear path forward (and based on community feedback) in the months and years to come. Look for a more in-depth update later in this newsletter.

As you might recall we launched our new Village website at the beginning of the year. We are still flushing out the hiccups, and have some more things in mind to make it a helpful and user-friendly resource for the community.



Becky Beissel
President

Our commissions and committees have been busy working projects—and with that comes the need for educating themselves. I'm proud of the individuals who have taken it upon themselves to attend webinars/trainings, read information online, or reach out to experts. As NBC says, "the more you know."

The Spring 2022 election brought about some change to our Board, as Mike Steele decided not to run again after serving many years as trustee. Mike has been a great resource this past year, acting a bit as our historian as questions arise. We thank Mike for his 11 years of service on the Board and wish him well in the future.

Now that COVID seems to be mostly behind us, and warmer temps are on the horizon, I hope to see many of you out and about. Don't be a stranger—I'd love to hear from you.

Friendly Reminder: Burning in the Village

Burning rubbish, garbage, or other household waste or hazardous materials is prohibited. An open fire or flame is allowed for outdoor fires used for cooking and/or recreational purposes. These are defined and limited to charcoal and gas grills, freestanding fireplaces (clay or metal), or fire pits. For more information, please see Village Ordinance 11.11.

To Serve and Protect

Meet our newest Ellsworth Police Department Officers

We've welcomed three new police officers to the Village of Ellsworth in the last year. While you've probably seen them out and about, we'd like to take this opportunity to formally introduce them.

"Hiring three new officers this past year has been an exciting experience. Each of these officers brings change and new ideas. They are striving to connect with our community and eager to begin their law enforcement careers," says Chief Eric Ladwig. "I'm happy

to have each officer as part of the Ellsworth Police Department," Chief Ladwig adds.

Officer Lucas McAlpine is originally from Somerset, WI but has relocated to Ellsworth since being hired. He's always had an interest in law enforcement and seeing how officers interact with their communities. He pursued a career in law enforcement because each day is different and he believes in holding people accountable for their actions. He appreciates the Ellsworth commu-

nity for how much support they give and how friendly people are—from waving to them on patrol to having a casual conversation at the gas station. In his free time he enjoys walking his dog, hanging out with friends and family, playing video games,



Officer Lucas McAlpine
Hired 4/2021

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Building Season

Permits, Building Codes, and Setbacks

All Croix Inspections, Corp. is a licensed building inspection agency contracted by the Village to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the community through regulation of municipal and state building and zoning codes. All Croix accomplishes this task by reviewing zoning and/or building permits, plans, and applications, issuing both residential and commercial permits and performing inspections to ensure compliance with local, state and national life safety codes.

For any questions on the interpretation of building or zoning codes, or permit applica-

tion and inspection processes, please visit the All Croix website at www.allcroix.com. Questions and concerns can also be emailed to office@allcroix.com. Calls are welcomed (press 4 to leave a message if the phone isn't answered) at 715-377-2152. Walk-in office hours are 1pm-4pm, Monday through Thursday or by scheduled appointment.

FUN FACT

THE ALL CROIX OFFICE IS STAFFED WITH AN IN-HOUSE LICENSED INSPECTOR FOR THE APPLICANT'S CONVENIENCE.

Spring Clean-Up!

Yard Clean-Up Week is April 16-23

The Village of Ellsworth Public Works Department crew will pick-up yard waste placed in biodegradable bags (bags purchased at the Village Hall for \$0.80 each) from residential streets on Monday, April 18, 2022; please have bags out at the curb by 6am. The village demo site will be open additional hours during clean-up week as follows: Monday thru Friday from 11am-7pm and Saturdays 8am-4pm.

Plan [2022] Continues

Updating the Village of Ellsworth Comprehensive Plan

We're about halfway through the process of updating the Village's Comprehensive Plan. The steering committee, Board of Trustees, Planning Commission, and Community Development Authority have been busy assisting in various meetings.

Community engagement/feedback kicked off with a community survey in

January. There were over 600 surveys submitted from all types of stakeholders of the community (residents, property owners, business owners, those who work here, etc.). Per Chris Holtkamp, UW-RF (who is leading this initiative) the biggest takeaways are: people who live both inside the village and outside the village had very similar feedback: The best things about Ellsworth are the schools and safety, and the biggest complaints were sidewalks and lack of business and housing.

The Board, Planning Commission, and Community Development Authority participated in a Land Use Workshop, deciding

the best future use of land in the Village.

The next step of the process will be focus group meetings during the month of April. Chris and his team will be setting meetings with groups such as the business

community, the Ellsworth E3, Ellsworth Trails, major employers, the school district, etc.

There should be a draft comprehensive plan ready for review in early summer, with the final plan being approved by the Village Board in August or September.

The final plan will include goals for each of the nine essential elements (Issues and Opportunities, Housing, Transportation, Utilities and Community Facilities, Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources, Economic Development, Intergovernmental Cooperation, Land Use, Implementation), along with steps on how to achieve them. A need for secondary plans may come out of the process (i.e. Complete Outdoor Recreation/Parks Plan, Down-

Meet our Newest Officers

Continued

and spending time outdoors.



Officer Mat Berg
Hired 6/2021

Officer Mat Berg is originally from Chippewa Falls, WI but has also relocated to Ellsworth since being hired. He decided to pursue a career in law enforcement because of a passion he has to be involved in a community in

a positive and beneficial way. When asked what he enjoys most about being an officer he shares that he likes the social aspect - interacting with members of the community. What he loves most about the Ellsworth community so far is the welcoming environment and how incredibly kind people are here. In his free time he enjoys hunting and fishing and going back home to Chippewa Falls to spend time with family.



Officer Doug Hamilton
Hired 11/2021

Officer Doug Hamilton is originally from Menomonie, WI but has relocated to Ellsworth since being hired here. He decided to pursue a career in law enforcement because he always looked up to police officers as he was growing up. His favorite part of being an officer is the relationships he's already made in the community. His favorite part about Ellsworth is how close it feels and how everyone cares for and looks out for one another. In his free time he likes to spend time with his family and taking his dog, Bullseye, for a walk.

town Design Guidelines, etc.)

Another benefit of having foundational plans is that they make us more competitive for future grant opportunities. With budgets being as tight as they are, this opens up additional funding opportunities for our community.

Updates on this project can be found on our website at: villageofellsworth.org/our-community/pages/plan-2022