

Village of Elsie
Council Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2026

President Jason Freeman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Members Present: President Jason Freeman; Council Members: Dorothy Ornelas, Mark Helt, Sam Frink, Joe Ondrusek and Todd Carroll; Absent: Kory Witt.

Ex-Officios: Present: Village Manager/Police Chief Destinee Bryce, DPW Supervisor Chris Ormes, Clerk/Treasurer Kelsey Kelly.

AGENDA CORRECTIONS, ADDITIONS, OR DELETIONS: T. Carroll motioned to approve the agenda as written, M. Helt seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

MINUTES:

Approval of the minutes from the March 10, 2026 meeting was postponed until the next regular meeting to allow for review.

INVOICES:

T. Carroll moved, D. Ornelas seconded to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$82,400.24 MOTION CARRIED.

SPECIAL REPORTS:

-Clinton County update from Commissioner Nicole Fickes presented by President J. Freeman.

-Elsie Park Update from Ed White. Posts that were donated by Dobie Construction along with tennis nets and another pickleball net, are planned to be installed this year. The leaf bag pile is planned to be pushed back to free up the access road. Tree trimming and flood cleanup have begun.

PRESIDENT:

No updates were provided by President Jason Freeman

CLERK/TREASURER REPORT:

On April 1, 2026, BS&A increased detailed record searches by \$0.60 per search. Past due utility accounts above a certain threshold will be sent shut off notices. 16 shut off notices were sent out in March with a shut-off date of April 29, 2026. Free leaf bags will be available again in September 2026. Residents are encouraged to purchase their own leaf bags through the warmer months. The DPW will be picking up leaf bags and brush throughout the week as time allows. 113 water meter upgrade appointment notices were sent through the most recent utility bills in April. These meter upgrades are at no cost to the customer. The Elsie.org website changes are ongoing to meet the April 2027 compliance deadline. M. Helt motioned to approve the Clerk/Treasurer Report, D. Ornelas seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

POLICE/CODE ENFORCEMENT:

In March 2026, there were 36 calls for service. The Elsie Police Department conducted 8 traffic stops, issuing 1 citation. A total of 166 hours were worked at the Elsie Police Department. Police activity consisted of traffic enforcement, motor carrier enforcement, one check subject/suspicious, one assist SJPd, several ordinance violations, multiple community policing events. The annual Clinton County School Safety Meeting was attended by EPD on March 20, 2026, where the county emergency operations and school safety legislation were reviewed. The American Red Cross is presenting a "Battle of the Badges" blood drive at Dewitt Township Board Room on May 11, 2026. The Elsie Police Department will be assisting with an ORV Safety Certificate class in Maple Rapids on May 9, 2026. Village residents are encouraged to come into the office and receive a new golf cart permit which will expire March 31, 2027. The Elsie Police Department is currently working on approximately 14 code enforcement violations. Three certified letters have been issued for these matters. T. Carroll motioned to approve the police/code enforcement report, J. Ondrusek seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

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VILLAGE MANAGER:

All CDS submissions have been submitted to Senator Kelly and Senator Slotkin's offices for the Elsie Water Infrastructure Project. A DWSRF Project public meeting will be held on May 12, 2026, presented by FV Engineering. Village Manager Destinee Bryce will graduate from the Michigan Infrastructure Council Asset Management Program by April 26, 2026, giving the Village of Elsie 5 extra points towards the DWSRF application that is due on June 1, 2026. SLFRF (Covid Relief Funding) compliance reporting has been completed. Meeting with Treasury on April 22, 2026, the Deficit Elimination Reporting (DEP) will continue until our financial audit is submitted to the state (no later than September 30, 2026). The Ordinance Committee will present Ordinance amendments at a Public Hearing on June 9, 2026, 6:00 PM. Bids were opened for the 2011 Case Backhoe on March 18, 2026, and closed on March 26, 2026, with a minimum bid of \$10,000. J. Ondrusek motioned to approve the Village Manager Report, D. Ornelas seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

DPW REPORT:

Consumers Energy is replacing copper gas lines throughout the Village with Kaltz Excavating as the contractor. Frontier/Verizon is installing fiber throughout the Village. Pothole patching used roughly 2 tons of cold patch in March. Requested a quote from McKearney to fix the "main break" areas, repairing W. Pine Street between the school and gas station, and possibly sealing the cracks on E. Pine Street from Ovid Street to Second Street. One lagoon lift station pump takes twice as long to pump and is being evaluated. The E. Island lift station is working as it should. The S. Ovid lift station is still being pumped using the trash pump until the new motors arrive and are installed. The Well 1 roof is leaking and being evaluated. 161 new meters have been installed since initially receiving them, 42 of them installed in March 2026, bringing us to roughly 70% completion. 1 burial was held at the Riverside Cemetery in March. Cemetery cleanup is April 18, 2026 at 10:00 AM. Meeting with FV Engineering regarding Well #1. T. Carroll motioned to approve the DPW report, M. Helt seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION STEPS:

- J. Ondrusek motioned to approve the presented Budget Amendments, S. Frink seconded. MOTION CARRIED. Roll Call, all ayes. MOTION CARRIED.
- D. Ornelas moved to approve the highest sealed bid for the backhoe for \$10,101.50 to Joe Fabus, S. Frink seconded. MOTION CARRIED.
- Ordinance Committee Public Hearing Date set for June 9, 2026, 6:00 PM
- M. Helt motioned to approve placement of stop signs at E. Elm/Second and Knowlton/W. Elm, S. Frink seconded. MOTION CARRIED.
- Fabus/White zoning appeal meeting set for June 9, 2026, 6:30 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Duplain Township Resident gave an update on the Elsie Dam, County Planning Commission, and upcoming Village Election.
- Village Resident requested zoning variance for fence.

ADJOURNMENT:

M. Helt motioned to adjourn the April 14, 2026, council meeting at 7:58 PM, S. Frink seconded. MOTION CARRIED.