

City of Elkhart, Iowa

Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 20, 2026 – 6:30 p.m. Elkhart Community Center 264 NW

Garfield Avenue, Elkhart, Iowa

1. Call to Order

Mayor John Kaczmarczyk called the regular meeting of the Elkhart City Council to order at **6:30 p.m.**

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Kaczmarczyk led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Council Members present were Ian Nichols (via telephone), Travis Warnke, Jill Edler, Brad Fordyce, and Angie Schaffer.

4. Approval of Agenda

5. Citizen Hearing and Other Communications

a. Polk County Sheriff's Report

The Sheriff's Office reported responding to **68 calls for service** during June 2026.

b. Fire Chief's Report

Fire Chief Scott Drey submitted a report via email indicating the Fire Department responded to **13 calls for service** during June 2026 and received a **\$15,000 grant from Prairie Meadows** to purchase bunker gear.

c. Public Comments (Items Not on the Agenda)

- Ron Adams, 365 NW Main Street, inquired about the status of the proposed gas station.
- Kenneth Kirby, 368 NW 9th Street, addressed a code enforcement concern.
- Keith Brown, 802 NE Elm Street, addressed recent basement flooding.
- Sarah Elizabeth, 212 NE Trent Avenue, addressed recent basement flooding.
- Seth Ruiters, 810 NE Elm Street, addressed recent basement flooding.
- Megan Bunn, 806 NE Elm Street, addressed recent basement flooding.
- Kelsie Steck, 706 NE Elm Street, addressed recent basement flooding.
- Jo Pietig, 109 NE Adams Street, addressed recent basement flooding.
- John Johnson, 814 NE Elm Street, addressed recent basement flooding.
- Allison Sorenson, 309 North Grant Avenue, addressed recent basement flooding.
- Chris Cowan, 602 NE Elm Street, addressed recent basement flooding.
- Jeff Burright, 406 NE Madison Avenue, addressed recent basement flooding.
- Pamela Polke, 710 NE Elm Street, addressed recent basement flooding.
- Dan Heinemann, 404 NE Madison Avenue, addressed recent basement flooding.

6. Consent Agenda

The following items were considered under the Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of the June 15, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of June and July Claims Submitted
- c. Receive and File – June 2026 Budget Report by Function
- d. Receive and File – June 2026 Treasurer's Report
- e. Receive and File – June 2026 Balance Sheet
- f. Receive and File – June 2026 Revenue and Expense Report
- g. Approval of Special Event Application for Mean Machine Cycles – Smalltown Throwdown (September 12, 2026)
- h. Resolution No. 2026-43, Setting a Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of the FY2027–FY2031 Capital Improvements Plan
- i. Resolution No. 2026-44, Designating the Official Locations for Posting Public Notices for the City of Elkhart

Council Member Edler moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Warnke seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Nichols, Warnke, Edler, Schaffer, Fordyce.

Motion carried.

7. Business Items

a. Appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission

Council Member Warnke moved to appoint Cameron Weaver to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Council Member Edler seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Nichols, Warnke, Edler, Schaffer, Fordyce.

Motion carried.

b. Resolution No. 2026-45 – Agreement with SVPA Architects for Professional Feasibility Study and Planning Services

Council Member Edler moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-45. Council Member Schaffer seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Nichols, Warnke, Edler, Schaffer, Fordyce.

Motion carried.

c. Resolution No. 2026-46 – Professional Services Agreement with Bolton & Menk, Inc. for Engineering Services Related to the Stormwater Improvements Project

Council Member Edler moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-46. Council Member Warnke seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Nichols, Warnke, Edler, Schaffer, Fordyce.

Motion carried.

d. Resolution No. 2026-47 – Agreement with Corrective Asphalt Materials for the FY2027 Street Improvements Project

Council Member Schaffer moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-47. Council Member Warnke seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Nichols, Warnke, Edler, Schaffer, Fordyce.

Motion carried.

e. Resolution No. 2026-48 – Nuisance Abatement

Council Member Fordyce moved, Schaffer seconded the motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-48 after pulling the property at 559 NW Maple from the resolution for future consideration at the August City Council meeting.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Nichols, Warnke, Edler, Schaffer, Fordyce.

Motion carried.

f. Resolution No. 2026-49 – Memorial Park Ball Diamonds Facility Use Policy

Council Member Schaffer moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-49. Council Member Edler seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Nichols, Warnke, Edler, Schaffer, Fordyce.

Motion carried.

g. Resolution No. 2026-50 – Elkhart Cemetery East Expansion Plan

Council Member Edler moved to approve Resolution No. 2026-50. Council Member Schaffer seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Nichols, Warnke, Edler, Schaffer, Fordyce.

Motion carried.

The Council recessed at **7:37 p.m.** and reconvened at **7:47 p.m.**

8. Discussion Items

a. Temporary Storage Containers

Staff reported that a proposed ordinance regarding temporary storage containers will be presented for Council consideration at the August meeting.

b. City Fees

The Council appointed Council Members Warnke and Edler to serve on a committee to review the City's fee schedule and provide recommendations.

9. Reports of Elected Officials, City Staff, and Standing Committees

Reports were submitted electronically and included in the Council packet.

10. Closed Session

Council Member Fordyce moved to enter closed session pursuant to **Iowa Code Chapter 21.5(1)(c)** to discuss strategy with legal counsel in matters presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent, and where disclosure would be likely to

prejudice or disadvantage the City's position. Council Member Schaffer seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Nichols, Warnke, Edler, Schaffer, Fordyce.

Motion carried.

The Council entered closed session at **7:54 p.m.**

The Council returned from closed session at **8:48 p.m.**

11. Action Following Closed Session

Following the closed session, Council Member Fordyce moved to proceed as discussed during closed session. Council Member Schaffer seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Nichols, Warnke, Edler, Schaffer, Fordyce.

Motion carried.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business, Mayor John Kaczmarczyk adjourned the meeting at **8:49 p.m.**

John Kaczmarczyk, Mayor

Attest:

Debra J. Nabity, City Clerk