

Civic Connection

. . .A message from your City

City of Elkhorn

P.O. Box 920
9 S. Broad Street
Elkhorn, WI 53121

City Hall	723-2219
Public Works Dept.	723-2223
Parks & Rec. Dept.	723-2223
Light & Water	723-2910
Building Inspection	741-5115
Assessor	1-800-770-3927
Police Department	723-2210
Municipal Court	723-2340
Library	723-2678

Elected Officials

Mayor: Michael Roberts

City Council Districts:

- One: Howie Reynolds
- Two: John Karcher
- Three: Vacant
- Four: John Giese
- Five: Charles Van Dyke
- Six: Julie Taylor

Staff:

City Administrator

Sam Tapson

City Clerk

Nancy Jacobson

City Treasurer

Mary Hinske

Public Works

Terry Weter

Parks & Recreation

Jeff Simons

Electric Utility

Art Schmitz

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State Budget and City Property Taxes What is the Real Picture?

For the better part of the summer, the issues of State budget reductions and local property taxes have been subjects of intense debate. Unfortunately little of that debate had a true local focus. More often than not, the debate concerned itself with statewide averages and tax impact projection prepared by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau. Based on those discussions one would assume that local property tax increases have substantially exceeded the rate of inflation in recent years, and that taxes will inevitably increase by as much as 9% because of reductions in state shared revenue. While such "facts" may be applicable on a statewide basis, they do not accurately depict recent patterns in Elkhorn.

CITY TAX LEVY

Between 1996 and 2003 the City's general purpose tax levy has risen approximately 24%. This increase has not been a steady climb, in fact the levy has declined on two occasions and increased on four others. The net impact of this pattern however is an average (annualized) tax rate increase of slightly less than 4%. During this same 6-year period the equalized value of all taxable properties, excluding those located within tax increment districts (TIF) has increased approximately 37%, roughly 6% annually. In 1996 the City's tax (mil) rate was \$8.61; for the current tax year (2002) the rate was \$7.31. This means that a home valued at \$100,000.00 in 1996 paid taxes of \$861.00. This same home, which would now be valued at \$137,000.00, paid City property taxes of \$1,001.00 in 2002. This equates to a 16.3% increase over 6 tax years, or about 2.7% annually. Clearly, local property tax practices have not mirrored the runaway trends portrayed by

some legislators and media sources.

IMPACT OF GROWTH

Another factor to be considered in the property tax and government spending discussion is the impact of growth. During the 1990s Elkhorn was among the fastest growing communities in the State, adding nearly 2,000 residents. According to a recently published Department of Administration report that trend has continued, perhaps even accelerated the last 3 years. With growth comes added demands on services. And while population growth and spending does not increase at the same rate, the effects of an expanding population on City expenses cannot be ignored. Interestingly the City's "per capita" operating expenses have actually declined since 1999. This would seem to suggest that the City has absorbed the increased service demands without requiring significant spending increases.

MAJOR TAX INCREASE NOT LIKELY

As for a major tax increase being the inevitable response to a loss in state shared revenue, such is not likely to be the case in Elkhorn. Although it now appears that we will likely experience a reduction in shared revenue of \$100,000 to \$125,000, the City's 2004 budget will seek to maintain a tax levy increase of less than 4%. At this level, the City's levy increase would be consistent with the "freeze" that was contained in the Legislature's budget proposal. Unfortunately, it will also leave the City still facing a shortfall, requiring that cost reductions be made.

The need to exercise control over spending and taxing practices is clearly an issue. However, that control can be effectively exercised at a local level without a mandated levy freeze imposed by the State.



Employee spotlight

S. Lynn Schofield Dahl Library Director

Lynn has more than 20 years of experience working in public libraries



in Texas, Wisconsin, and Illinois, earning her masters degree in library science at Texas Woman's University. In Illinois she was head of Youth Services at Lake Villa District Library.

"As Matheson Memorial Library grows in size," Lynn said of the building project, "I would like to see it grow in services offered to the community with expanded programs for adult readers, as well as do my best to build the circulation collection to help meet the needs of a growing public."

Outside the library her interests include theatre and renaissance fairs. She closes out her 8th season at the Bristol Renaissance Faire, where she appears as Lady Elinor Fettiplace. This fall she is a member of the Lakeland Players cast for "Lend Me a Tenor."

She lives with her husband, a stepson, two cats and a nervous cockatiel in Kenosha. "I enjoy the drive," Lynn said. "Because, I can listen to the audio books I check out at the Library."

Lynn invites you to stop in at MML. Her door is always open. During construction, you may enter the library at the old entrance on N. Wisconsin Street.

FROM THE EDITOR . . .

Florida may be miles away, but we are experiencing the fallout from its Presidential Election. By January of 2006, all 51 states are mandated to be a part of a national voter registration. The City may have an advantage because the mandate is to have the proper hardware for voter registration. We have the equipment. A more immediate mandate from the State is Certified Election Inspectors. Each polling unit is required to have one Certified Inspector and an alternate. These inspectors must attend a class for certification at a cost of about \$1,200. Remember—this is a mandate

The additional mandated expenses and holding the line on the City budget has prompted my office to combine all districts at one polling place. There will be substantial savings due to reduced numbers of inspectors at certain elections, reduced number of voting machines and supplies. Going beyond the monetary ramifications, election day for the voter will be simplified. If you are confused about where to vote, our registrars can send you to the proper table across the room rather than across town.

February 17, 2004 marks the date for the first presidential preference primary (normally held in September). The location is planned for the new Recreation Center at Sunset Park. There would only be a change of venue if the Center is not completed by that date.

Dates to remember: December 1—First day to circulate nominations papers for the Mayor, District 3, District 4, and District 6; **January 6**—Last day to file nomination papers (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).

If you are interested in running for any of these positions and would like to take out papers, please contact me at 723-2219. If you would like to register to vote, you may do so at the City Clerk's office, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Nancy Jacobson



UNDER CONSTRUCTION

STH 67 SOUTH/S. WISCONSIN STREET/E. GENEVA STREET

Completion date: November 30, barring any slowdowns for weather, is the anticipated completion date for the STH 67 South road reconstruction.

Phase 2: South Wisconsin and one block of E. Geneva Street is closed to traffic until the completion of the project. Businesses will remain open with parking available off S. Washington Street and S. Broad Street.

When the project is complete: Traffic Lights will be installed at the E. Geneva/S. Lincoln street intersection. The four-way stop sign at the intersection of S. Wisconsin/E. Geneva streets will remain.

Pool House at Sunset Park

After 30 years, the first remodeling of the Sunset Park Pool House is among the fall projects. Those who enjoy the Municipal Pool will be greeted next year by a new entrance to the pool house, enclosed showers, and a new first aid room.

Recreation center

Sunset Park is the setting for the new Recreation Center. The 4,800 square-foot Center includes a large activity room, a meeting room and offices for the Parks and Recreation Director. Construction is expected to be completed by January 1, 2004. Anticipated activities will include summer and fall arts and crafts programs for all ages and senior citizen activities. Parks and recreation management will be based at the Center.



Fall Brush pickup scheduled

Mark your calendar! Get out your clippers! Fall Brush Collection begins October 7 and continues through November 25.

The day of collection is determined by which section of the City you live in with Wisconsin and Walworth streets creating four neighborhoods as described below.

Collection Schedule

Northeast neighborhood includes the area east of N. Wisconsin St. and north of E. Walworth St., including both sides of N. Wisconsin St. and E. Walworth St.—Tuesday, October 7 and Tuesday, November 4.

Southeast neighborhood includes the area east of S. Wisconsin St. and south of E. Walworth St., including both sides of S. Wisconsin St.—Tuesday, October 14 and Tuesday, November 11.

Southwest neighborhood includes the area west of S. Wisconsin and south of W. Walworth St., including both sides of W. Walworth St.—Tuesday, October 21 and Tuesday, November 18.

Northwest neighborhood includes residents within the area west of N. Wisconsin St. and north of W. Walworth St., but not including N. Wisconsin St. or W. Walworth St.—Tuesday, October 28 and November 25.

RULES TO FOLLOW

- Brush brought to the curbside no earlier than the Saturday preceding the designated pickup day before 7 a.m. on the pickup day;
- Brush left at the curbside after the designated pickup time will not be picked up by the City Crew until the next scheduled pickup for your neighborhood or you may call the Public Works Dept. for a special pickup;
- Cut ends must face the direction that traffic is traveling on the street;
- Must be a minimum diameter of $\frac{3}{4}$ inches and a maximum of 6 inches;
- Must be a minimum of 4 feet in length with a maximum of 12 feet;
- No vines, rakings or roots (handled through residential yard waste program).

Cost to resident

- **No charge** for brush set out on scheduled day by 7 a.m. or created by major storm damage.
- **Special Pickup** – Residents may call the Public Works office at 723-2223 to schedule an appointment for a special brush collection. A minimum fee of \$30 will be charged.



Onyx to collect fall leaves in City

The Fall Leaf Collection starts October 21 and ends December 12, 2003. The City's garbage/recycler, Onyx, is contracted to conduct the leaf collection. The City will be divided into two sections with four pickups during the Fall Leaf Collection period. The schedule is as follows:

East of Wisconsin Street

The weeks of October 21, November 4, November 18, December 3.

West of Wisconsin Street

The weeks of October 28, November 11, November 25 and December 10.

Please rake leaves into the gutter no earlier than Saturday and no later than 7 a.m. on the scheduled day. Do not place them in bags or boxes.

Onyx will pick up the leaves from the gutter.

If you have any questions concerning Fall Leaf Collection call Onyx Waste Services at (800) 248-2373.



BILLS REMAIN DURING WINTER MORATORIUM

November 1 marks the day that the State of Wisconsin winter moratorium begins.

Annually, the date marks the time when electric utilities cannot disconnect customers due to outstanding balances on their accounts. The State created the law to protect those who cannot pay their bills in full when temperatures may plummet.

Disconnections begin again after April 16. If customers continue to pay their light and water bills to the extent possible throughout the winter months, a large utility bill on April 16 could be avoided. The bill does not go away, it just accumulates

with penalties.

REMEMBER, that Elkhorn Light and Water works with Community Action to assist customers with bill payments when financial difficulties exist. Customers can apply annually Oct. 1 through Sept. 30 for assistance through this program at (262) 728-8296.

If you are a customer who does not make payments during the moratorium but has the ability to pay, Elkhorn Light and Water can take the customer to court. The court would require the customer to pay 3 times the balance at the time of judgment.

COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2002/2003

Elkhorn Light & Water began collecting Public Benefits program fees as mandated by the State from its customers in October 2000. For the fiscal year (July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003), the total Public Benefits fees collected were approximately \$63,637. This was spent on the following programs.

Low-income Customer Credit Program:

This program is intended to ease the energy burden facing our customers with limited financial resources. Customers may be eligible for the Customer Credit Program under which they can receive an account credit of up to \$150 of their annual electric costs. Customers may also qualify for an annual Crisis Assistance payment of up to \$150.

FUNDS PAID FOR CUSTOMERS = \$21,230.72
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS = \$7,240.00

NO. OF CUSTOMERS SERVED = 181
AVERAGE SIZE CREDIT = \$117.30

Energy Efficiency Programs:

This program focuses on electrical savings. Eligible savings include compact fluorescent light bulb installation, refrigerator replacement, and domestic hot water heating measures where homes have electric hot water heat (water heater tank wrap, pipe insulation, low-flow showerheads, and faucet flow restrictors.)

FUNDS SPENT = \$37,110.00 NO. OF CUSTOMERS SERVED = 115 REFRIGERATORS REPLACED = 19
NO. WITH CFL LIGHTBULBS = 490 NO. OF HOMES RECEIVING HOT WATER SAVING MEASURES = 36
NO. OF ELECTRIC HOT WATER HEATERS CONVERTED = 1

Community Action, Inc., Delavan, has been contracted to administer the programs. Interested customers should call 728-8296 to inquire about assistance available.

Customers may make voluntary contributions to either or both of these worthwhile programs. Donations will be accepted at City Hall. These funds are available to Elkhorn Customers only.

CITY OFFERS OPTIONS IN PAYING BILLS

In answer to many requests of customers, the City will soon offer two new methods of paying their utility and certain other City bills.

DIRECT PAYMENT

The Direct Payment Plan allows the customer to have their utility bill payment automatically deducted from their checking or savings account. It is a volunteer program with the customer signing up. A Debit

Authorization Agreement is available at City Hall. Just ask at the front desk for a form. The authority you give to charge your account will remain in effect until you notify the City in writing.

PAY BY CREDIT CARD

By December 2003, the City expects to begin accepting credit card payments through Official Payment Corporation. The customer may

charge their City bills and/or real estate taxes to their credit card by calling via



telephone or the internet directly to Official Payments Corp. There will be a nominal fee charged for this service. The City would still not be able to accept credit card payment at the counter. Further information will be provided prior to implementation of the program.

SEASONAL LEAF BURNING OCT. 1-NOV. 30

Leaf burning is permitted in the spring and fall to allow for the volume of leaves that require disposal. Starting Oct. 1 and running through Nov. 30, residents may burn their leaves provided they comply with the following standards:



1. Burn a minimum distance of 15 feet from any occupied dwelling.
2. Do not burn on streets, sidewalks, terraces or any other area within the public right-of-way.
3. Do not burn if wind is in excess of 10 mph.
4. Burning hours—after 8:00 a.m. and before 8:00 p.m. on any day.
5. Burn pile must be attended by an adult at all times until pile is extinguished.

A burning permit is not required for seasonal leaf burning, however, it is required for open burning. Open burning is described as a controlled, limited size, and open area fire (example: burn pit). Permit applications are available at City Hall and will be reviewed by the Fire Chief. The fee is \$10.00. An application must be filed with the City Clerk two (2) workdays in advance of the date for which the permit is requested. Open burning is allowed between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Commercially manufactured steel outdoor fireplaces, fire pits, fire hearths and clay fireplaces or chimeneas do not require a permit. Use of these fireplaces is limited to the hours between 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight.

Winter plowing: Why is my street last?

As the summer disappears and the nights grow longer everybody turns their attention to the upcoming winter months.

The city has been preparing its equipment and storing salt for the freezing temperatures and snowy days ahead. It may seem that the city crews are not responding to your street in a timely fashion, but the crews have a priority list of streets that must be maintained in a



fashion to allow emergency vehicles and school buses to get to their destinations.

Every year residents ask why is my street always last? Is it just because I live on a cul-de-sac or what? The Snow Plan has defined and prioritized the street network within the city. Those that receive priority are the main traffic routes, school bus routes and then the through residential and industrial routes. Cul-de-sacs are the last streets to be cleared because they take more time than a through street.

ALDERMAN SOUGHT FOR THIRD DISTRICT

An elector registered in the Third District is being sought to replace Doug Gallagher on the City of Elkhorn Common Council.

Gallagher resigned from his position on the Council August 19 due to personal commitments. The Third District term is up in April 2004, however, the Mayor and Council may appoint an interim Alderman to finish out Gallagher's term.

If you are a registered voter in the Third District, you are eligible to apply for the position.

The boundary for District Three is any residents on the east side of Church Street from First Avenue to Geneva Street; south side of First Avenue to the east side of Hwy. 11 to the City Limits; and north of Geneva Street from Church Street east to the City limits. A map of the District is available at City Hall.

Please submit a letter of interest to the City Clerk by September 30, 2003.



Halloween
Trick or
Treat
Friday
October 31
5 – 7 p.m.

CRIME PREVENTION TIP

As the temperatures increase, so do thefts from vehicles. Below are some tips on how to protect yourself from becoming a victim of a theft from a motor vehicle.

Lock Your Vehicle - The overwhelming majority of thefts occur from vehicles that are left unlocked. No matter how long you intend on being away from your vehicle, lock it. It only takes a few seconds for a thief to rummage through an unlocked vehicle looking for items of value.

Keep Valuables Hidden - Remove items of value (cellular phones, radar detectors, handbags, etc.) from your vehicle and if you cannot remove items, keep them out of view from a potential thief.

Parking - If you do not have a garage, park in your driveway and park in areas that are well lit, such as under street lights. Thieves do not like to commit their crimes in lighted areas as it increases the likelihood that someone will see them and possibly be apprehended.

Remember that these are only recommendations that may reduce the likelihood of you becoming the victim of a crime but are not to be construed as a guarantee that a crime will not occur. If you observe what you believe to be suspicious activity, immediately call the Elkhorn Police Department at 723-2210.

Anyone with information about a crime or criminal activity is asked to contact either the Elkhorn Police Department at 723-2210 or Walworth County Crime Stoppers at 1-800-24-CRIME, callers may remain anonymous and may be eligible for a reward.

LEAD DRINKING WATER AND YOU!

Published by
Elkhorn Water Department
P.O. Box 920
Elkhorn, WI 53121

Lead in our environment is a public health issue about which we should all be concerned.

Lead is a soft metal, which is now known to be harmful to human health if consumed or inhaled. Since lead accumulates in the body, its potential for harm depends upon the level of exposure from all sources. There are three potential sources for lead to accumulate in the body. The major source is from food, and lead is also inhaled from the air. The other potential source of lead is from your drinking water.

To protect the public's health, public drinking water supplies are governed by the Safe Drinking Water Act under which the United States Environmental Protection Agency sets water standards.

Although there is a high level of compliance with drinking water standards throughout the United States, there is still reason for some concern about certain contaminants, which may get into public drinking water supplies, including lead.

As your supplier of drinking water, this information piece has been prepared to help educate you on this issue.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets drinking water standards and has determined that lead is a health concern at certain levels of exposure. There is currently a standard of 15 parts per billion.

Part of the purpose of this notice is to inform you of potential adverse health effects of lead. This is being done even though your water may not be in violation of the current standard.

The U.S. EPA and others are concerned about lead in drinking water. Too much lead in the human body can cause serious damage to the brain, the kidneys, the nervous

system, and red blood cells. The greatest risk, even with short term exposure, is to young children and pregnant women.

Lead levels in your drinking water are likely to be highest:

- If your home or water system has lead pipes, or
- If your home has copper pipes with lead solder, and
- If the home is less than five years old, or
- If you have soft or acidic water, or
- If water sits in the pipes for several hours.

Typically, if lead is present in drinking water, it enters after the water leaves the local water treatment plant. The most likely source for lead contamination is in the home or residence. The most common cause of lead entering drinking water is corrosion, a reaction between the water and the lead pipes or the lead-based solder.

When water stands in the pipes of a residence for several hours without use, there is a potential for lead to leach, or dissolve, into the water if a lead source is present. Soft water (water that makes soap suds easily) can be more corrosive and, therefore, have higher levels of dissolved lead. Some home water treatment devices may also make water more corrosive.

It was common practice in the United States through the early 1900s to use lead pipes for interior plumbing. Since the 1930s, copper pipe has been used for residential plumbing. Until 1986, however, lead-based solder was used widely to join copper pipes. Lead free solder and lead free materials are now required by federal law for use in new household plumbing and for plumbing repairs. To find out if the plumbing in a residence contains lead, try scratching the pipe with a key or screwdriver. Lead is a soft metal and is dull gray in color. If lead pipes are present they will scratch easily and will be shiny when scratched.

Dissolved lead cannot be seen in water.

Testing by a state approved laboratory is the only way to determine if drinking water has high levels of dissolved lead. Please contact your local utility or health department for the name of an approved laboratory. The lab will provide the correct procedures to be followed for a water test. The U.S. EPA estimates that a test should cost somewhere between \$20.00 and \$7,500.00.

If the drinking water is determined to have high levels of dissolved lead, or if there is an abiding suspicion of lead contamination because of the presence of soft water, lead pipes, lead solder, and other lead based plumbing materials, there are ways to minimize exposure.

One way is to "flush" each cold water faucet in a home when water stands more than a few hours. Flushing a cold water faucet means allowing the water to run until it gets as cold as it will get before each use. Normally this may take two or three minutes. Keep in mind that toilet and shower use or doing laundry with cold water will also move water through the plumbing system, and this will reduce the amount of time needed to flush the cold water faucet from five (5) to thirty (30) seconds.

Another way is one of avoidance: do not cook with or consume water from the hot water faucet. Hot water dissolves lead more quickly than cold water. Especially avoid using hot tap water for making baby formula. If hot water is needed for cooking or oral consumption, draw water from the cold water tap and heat it on the stove.

If plumbing repairs or other plumbing work is done, make certain that only lead free solder and other lead free materials are used. This is now a federal law.

There are other actions which can be taken by household users to reduce the risk of lead in drinking water. For additional information, contact your local utility, county or state health department or the U.S. EPA. The U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water department has a toll free hotline dedicated to this subject—1-

800-426-4791 and also has prepared a booklet on this issue.

This information has been approved by the U.S. EPA and meets EPA's lead public notice requirements under Section 1417 of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1986.

ELKHORN WATER DEPARTMENT

The average lead content from forty sample points within the water system is 8.9 parts per billion. This is well below the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water standard of fifteen parts per billion. However, the tap water in your home may be higher if lead plumbing materials have been used in the house.

The Elkhorn Water Department has a continuous water treatment process and adjustments are made to maintain a PH (alkalinity value) level of the water delivered to your home to be minimally corrosive, which dissolves lead more slowly than corrosive water.

If additional information is required, contact:

Elkhorn Water Department

P.O. Box 920

Elkhorn, WI 53121

Telephone (262) 723-7374

or

(262) 723-2223

ELKHORN LIGHT & WATER

WATER RATES

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 10, 2002

ELKHORN, WISCONSIN 53121

OFFICE HOURS:
 8 to 4:30 Monday thru Friday
 Office Phone (262) 723-2910
 After Office Hours Emergency
 Phone (262)723-3229

General Service - Metered -- Mg-1

Monthly Service Charge:

5/8 inch meter	\$3.86
3/4 inch meter	3.86
1 inch meter	7.36
1- 1/4 inch meter	9.01
1-1/2 inch meter	13.65
2 inch meter	20.60
3 inch meter	38.11
4 inch meter	84.46
6 inch meter	147.29
8 inch meter	181.28
10 inch meter	271.92
12 inch meter	373.89

Plus Volume Charge:

First 1,670 used each month	\$2.49 per 100 cubic feet
Next 5,000 used each month	\$2.29 per 100 cubic feet
Next 26,670 used each month	\$1.70 per 100 cubic feet
Over 33,340 used each month	\$1.37 per 100 cubic feet

Billing:

Bills for water service are rendered monthly and become due and payable upon issuance following the period for which service is rendered. A late payment charge of one percent will be added to bills not paid within 20 days of issuance. This late payment charge will be applied to the total unpaid balance for utility service, including unpaid late payment charges. This late payment charge is applicable to all customers. The utility customer may be given a written notice that the bill is overdue no sooner than 20 days after the bill is issued. Unless payment or satisfactory arrangement for payment is made within the next eight days, service may be disconnected pursuant to Wis. Adm. Code., ch. PSC 185.

Combined Metering:

Volumetric meter readings will be combined for billing if the utility for its own convenience places more than one meter on a single water service lateral. Multiple meters placed for the purpose of identifying water not discharged into the sanitary sewer are not considered for utility convenience and shall not be combined for billing. Meter readings from individually metered separate service laterals shall not be combined for billing purposes.

Buildings used in the same business, located on the same parcel and served by a single lateral may have the customer's water supply piping installed to a central point so that volume can be metered in one place.

Private Fire-Protection Service-Unmetered-- Upf-1

This service shall consist of unmetered connections to the main for the purpose of supplying water to private fire protection systems such as automatic sprinkler systems, standpipes, (where same are connected permanently or continuously to the mains) and private hydrants.

Monthly Demand Charges for Private Fire-Protection Service:

Size of Connection	Charge
2-inch	\$ 12.00
3-inch	21.00
4-inch	30.00
6-inch	57.00
8-inch	90.00
10-inch	135.00
12-inch	160.00

Billing: Same provisions as for general service.

Public Fire-Protection Service -- F-1

Under Wisconsin Statutes, Section 196.03(3)(b), the municipality has chosen to have the utility bill the retail general service customers for public fire-protection service.

This service shall include the use of hydrants for fire-protection service only and such quantities of water as may be demanded for the purpose of extinguishing fires within the service area. This service shall also include water used for testing equipment and training personnel. For all other purposes, the metered or other rates set forth, or as may be filed with the Public Service Commission shall apply.

Monthly Public Fire-Protection Service Charges:

5/8 inch meter	\$ 7.07
3/4 inch meter	7.07
1 inch meter	17.66
1 1/4 inch meter	26.14
1 1/2 inch meter	35.33
2 inch meter	56.52
3 inch meter	105.99
4 inch meter	176.62
6 inch meter	353.26
8 inch meter	565.20
10 inch meter	847.81
12 inch meter	1130.41

This rate is in addition to Schedules Mg-1, Ug-1, Mgt-1 and Mz-1.

Billing: Same provisions as for general service.

General Water Service - Unmetered -- Ug-1

Where the utility cannot immediately install its water meter, service may be supplied temporarily on an unmetered basis. Such service shall be billed at the rate of \$18.80 per billing period. This rate shall be applied only to single-family residential and small commercial customers and approximates the cost of 600 cubic feet of water per billing period under Schedule Mg-1. If it is determined by the utility that usage is in excess of 600 cubic feet per billing period, an additional charge per Schedule Mg-1 will be made for the estimated additional usage.

Billing: Same as Schedule Mg-1,

Reconnection Charges -- R-1

	During Normal Business Hours	After Normal Business Hours
Reinstallation of meter, including valving at curb stop	\$20.00	\$30.00
Valve turned on at curb stop	\$15.00	\$25.00

Note: no charge for disconnection.

Bulk Water -- BW-1

All bulk water supplied from the water system through hydrants or other connections shall be metered, or at the direction of the utility, estimated. Utility personnel or utility-approved party shall supervise the delivery of water.

Bulk water sales are:

1. Water supplied to the tank truck or from hydrant for the purpose of extinguishing fires outside the utility's immediate service area;

2. Water supplied by tank truck or from hydrant for purposes other than extinguishing fires such as irrigation or the filling of swimming pools; or,

3. Water supplied from hydrants or other temporary connections for general service type applications. (Water supplied for construction purposes - see Schedule Mz-1)

A charge for the volume of water used will be billed to the party using the water at \$2.49 per 100 cubic feet. A service charge, in addition to the volumetric charge, will be \$20.00.

A deposit for the meter and/or valve will be required. The deposit collected shall be \$20.00 and will be refunded upon return of the utility's equipment. Damaged or lost equipment will be repaired or replaced at the customer's expense.

Seasonal, Emergency or Temporary Service -- Mgt-1

Seasonal customers* shall be served at the general service rate (Schedule Mg-1) except that each customer served under this rate shall pay an annual seasonal service charge equal to twelve times the applicable service charge. Water use in any billing period shall be billed at the applicable volume schedule in Mg-1 and the charge added to the annual seasonal service charge.

Further, if service has been disconnected, a charge under Schedule R-1 is applied at the time of reconnection.

* Seasonal customers are general service customers whose use of water is normally for recurring periods of less than a year.

Building and Construction Water Service -- Mz-1

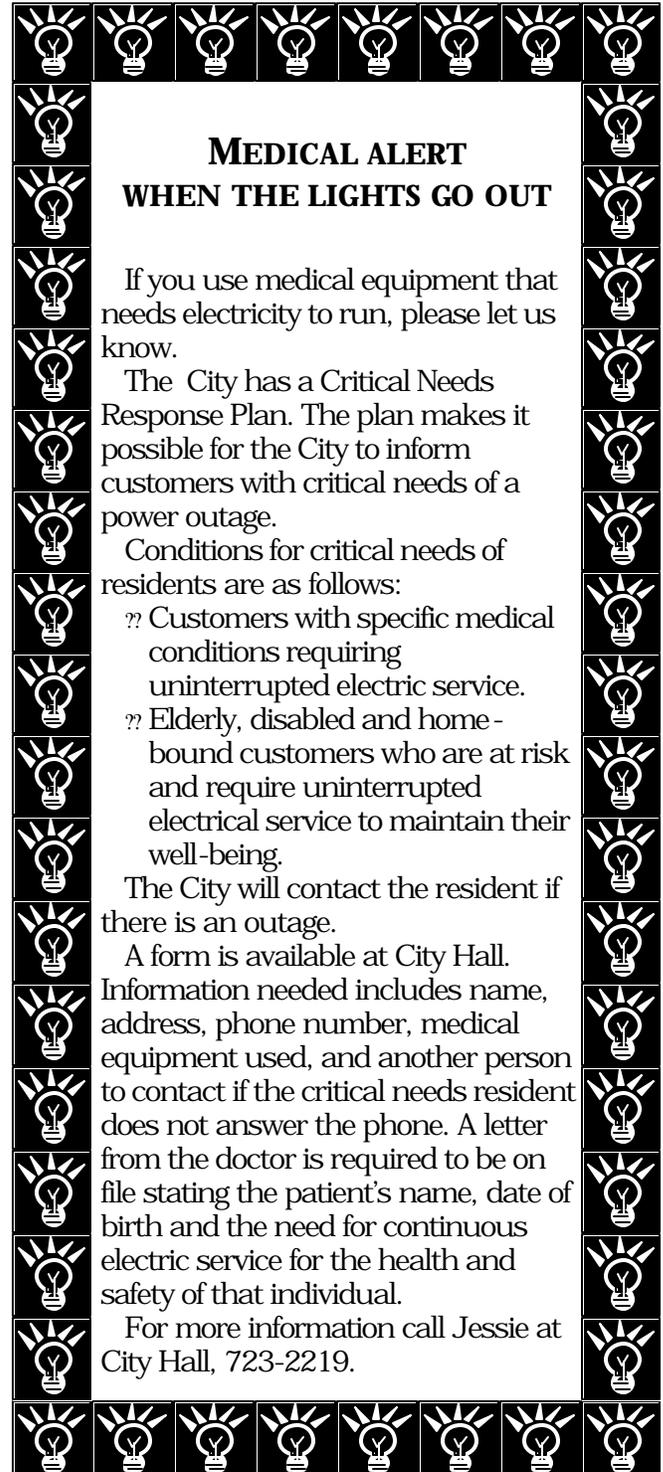
For single-family and small commercial buildings apply the unmetered rate, Schedule Ug-1.

For large commercial, industrial or multiple apartment buildings, a temporary metered installation shall be made and general, metered rates (Schedule Mg-1) applied.

Additional Meter Rental Charge -- Am-1

If a customer requests the installation of an additional meter to receive credit for clear water not discharged into the sanitary sewer system, or if a sewerage service customer who is not a customer of the water utility requests the installation of a meter to determine the volume of sewage discharged into the sanitary sewer system, the utility shall furnish and install this additional meter. This rate shall be applied only to single-family residential and small commercial customers. A rental fee shall be charged for the use of this meter and the following rates shall apply. Billing period same as in Schedule Mg-1.

5/8 inch meter	.....	\$2.10 per billing period
3/4 inch meter	.....	\$2.10 per billing period
1 inch meter	.....	\$3.20 per billing period
1-1/4 inch meter	.....	\$4.25 per billing period
1-1/2 inch meter	.....	\$6.50 per billing period
Initial Meter Installation Charge -		\$20.00



MEDICAL ALERT
WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT

If you use medical equipment that needs electricity to run, please let us know.

The City has a Critical Needs Response Plan. The plan makes it possible for the City to inform customers with critical needs of a power outage.

Conditions for critical needs of residents are as follows:

- ?? Customers with specific medical conditions requiring uninterrupted electric service.
- ?? Elderly, disabled and home-bound customers who are at risk and require uninterrupted electrical service to maintain their well-being.

The City will contact the resident if there is an outage.

A form is available at City Hall. Information needed includes name, address, phone number, medical equipment used, and another person to contact if the critical needs resident does not answer the phone. A letter from the doctor is required to be on file stating the patient's name, date of birth and the need for continuous electric service for the health and safety of that individual.

For more information call Jessie at City Hall, 723-2219.

WHEN THE LEAVES FALL . . . AND THE SNOW FLIES



After a season of mowing grass, painting strips on parking lots, and street repairs, the City joins its residents in preparing for the winter season.

FLUSHING FIRE HYDRANTS

During the months of November and December the Water Utility will be flushing fire hydrants. The city will be sectionalized into four parts: Northeast, Northwest, Southeast and Southwest. The dividing line for the city is Wisconsin Street for east and west, and Walworth Street for north and south.

The third week of November the Northeast and Southeast sections will be flushed. The next week is a short week with the holiday so we will continue the first week of December to flush the Northwest and Southwest portions.

You may experience at times some rusty looking water. You should allow the water to run a few minutes to clear up. If you have any concerns or problems call 723-2223.



WINTER PARKING

A reminder that during the winter months snow shall not be plowed, pushed, thrown or shoveled onto the streets. This causes problems for vehicle traffic and requires extra time for the street crew to clear the streets.

December 1, 2003, marks the beginning of winter rules for parking on City streets. When the snow flies, cooperation is needed to allow the snow plows to do their job.

The rules are enforced as follows:

- ? Parking will be permitted on the even numbered sides of the street on even number calendar days; and,
- ? On the odd numbered sides of the street on odd numbered days.
- ? The day will be a 24-hour period beginning the preceding day at 5:01 p.m. and ending at 5:00 p.m. that calendar day.
- ? If tomorrow is the 15th, an odd numbered day, the odd numbered side parking begins at 5:01 this evening, the 14th
- ? All posted no parking zones will remain in effect.

Residents should be patient with the snow removal crews because they are attempting to have the major streets cleared by the time school starts and then they concentrate on the secondary streets. The streets that seem to always be last are the cul-de-sacs because they take the most time to clear. It may seem that your street is always last. The crews alternate routes after every storm to alleviate the problem that one area has their snow removal completed first every time, with the exception of the school routes and downtown.

KEEP SIDEWALKS CLEAN

Residents and business operators are reminded that the sidewalks are required to be kept clean and clear of snow and ice. It is still early, but we can expect occasional freezing rain or heavy frost, which can cause the sidewalks to be slippery. It is recommended to use a de-icing agent that will not harm the grass or concrete, these are sold at the local stores.



Tips for SAFE WINTER DRIVING

The Three P's of Safe Winter Driving:

PREPARE for the trip; **PROTECT** yourself; and **PREVENT** crashes on the road.

PREPARE

Maintain Your Car: Check battery and tire tread, keep your windows clear, put no-freeze fluid in the washer reservoir, check your antifreeze.

Have On Hand: flashlight, jumper cables, abrasive material (sand, kitty litter, even floor mats), shovel, snow brush and ice scraper, warning devices (like flares) and blankets. For long trips, add food and water, medication and cell phone.

Stopped or Stalled? Stay with your car, don't over exert, put bright markers on antenna or windows and shine dome light, and, if you run your car, clear exhaust pipe and run it just enough to stay warm.

Plan Your Route: Allow plenty of time (check the weather and leave early if necessary), be familiar with the maps/directions, and let others know your route and arrival time.

Practice Cold Weather Driving! During daylight, rehearse maneuvers slowly on the ice or snow in an empty lot ; Steer into a skid ; Know what your brakes will do: stomp on antilock brakes, pump non-antilock brakes ; Stopping distances are longer on water-covered ice and ice ; Don't idle for a long time with the windows up or in an enclosed space.

PROTECT YOURSELF

Buckle up and use child safety seats properly
Never place a rear-facing infant seat in front of an air bag
Children 12 and under are much safer in the back seat
Sit back 10 inches from an air bag .

PREVENT CRASHES

Drugs and alcohol never mix with driving
Slow down and increase distances between cars
Keep your eyes open for pedestrians walking in the road
Avoid fatigue— Get plenty of rest before the trip, stop at least every three hours, and rotate drivers if possible.

LIBRARY/COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT

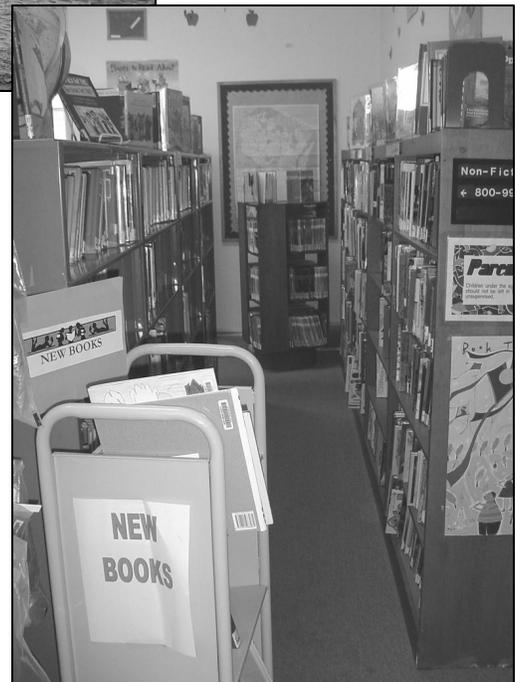
The renovations of the Matheson Memorial Library and the Community Center are well underway. Structural steel has been put into place giving the community visual idea of the size. The curved portion the building (at left) is the new story hour room which will give the youngsters a chance to use their imagination. The story hour room will look like a castle with local artists creating murals from the days of knighthood.

Below is the foundation for the Community Center and atrium connecting the library and center. The Community Center will be used for Parks and Recreation programs, Library programs and rentals by the public and civic organizations. It will provide space for groups ranging from 25 to 125 people. A retractable curtain will allow for one or two groups to



OPENING DAY IS SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 15

THE NEW PORTION WILL BE OPEN IN MID-SPRING AT WHICH TIME THE OLD LIBRARY WILL BE RENOVATED.



A need for space in the Library, due to the City and surrounding towns' growth in population, and improvements to an outdated Community Center was the impetus for the \$3.4 million project. The present staff room (above, left) and the Children's Library (right) are prime examples.



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HARVEST DINNER & SILENT AUCTION HONORS RETIRED LIBRARY DIRECTOR

November 6th marks the second annual Harvest Dinner & Silent Auction. The event will again be held at the Elkhorn Armory with Stohl's catering the turkey dinner complete with dessert. Dinner hours are 4:30 to 7 p.m.

The event will honor Valerie Lapicola, who retired as Library Director July 5th after 35 years of service to MML and the City. A special recognition will take place at 5:30 p.m. during the dinner.

Tickets go on sale October 6th at \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors/kids ages 6 to 12; and, \$5 for kids 5 and under (advance sales). Tickets at the door will be \$12, \$10, and \$5. Last year's event was so successful that organizers ran out of at-the-door tickets, so buy your tickets early. Tickets will be available at the library and other locations to be announced. The silent auction features a variety of items including the Grand Champion steer packaged and auctioned in quarters donated by People' Bank and a golf outing from Evergreen Country Club.

Proceeds from the dinner and auction will benefit the Library/Community Center expansion and renovation project. The City of Elkhorn has committed \$2.8 million to the project and the Library has pledged through fundraising \$860,000 plus interest towards the project. To date \$500,000 has been raised through donations and pledges.

The completion date of the project is mid June 2004 with the new portion open in March. If you are interested in participating in the fundraising or would like to donate, please contact the library at 723-2678.



Christmas Card Town Celebrates the season
November 22: Home for the Holidays House Walk
December 5: Community Tree Lighting Ceremony—6:30 p.m.
December 6: 22nd Annual Christmas Parade, 1:30 p.m.

