

Elma City Council

The Elma City Council meeting was opened by Mayor Thoren at 7:00 PM in the Elma community Complex meeting room. The meeting was opened with roll call. Laura Schroeder, present, Emily Placek, present, Myron Head, present, Josh Smith, present, Andrew Casler, absent. Laura moved the agenda be approved, seconded by Emily, carried. Laura moved the minutes of the July 14th meeting be approved, seconded by Emily, carried.

Emily moved the claims be approved, seconded by Laura, carried.

A representative of Camp Companion, based out of Southeast Minnesota was present to discuss the program that they run to help cities with feral cat populations. Camp Companion had been contacted by concerned individuals about feral cats in Elma. The program that they run is a trap, neuter, release program. Camp Companion will contract with cities to live trap feral cats, spray/neuter them, vaccinate and return the cats. The cats are returned because they just don't have enough people to adopt or space to keep cats waiting for adoption and the cats do help communities with rodent control. Most residents in attendance for this meeting pledged to donate should the City decide to participate in this program. The cost to spray is \$88.00 per cat and the cost to neuter is \$68.00 per cat. The contract would be for a one year time period. The Council will continue to discuss partnering with Camp Companion. Shannon explained to Council, that the reason for Resolution 20250811-2 was a mistake in the wage increase for Alyssa Crawford on the resolution in the July meeting. The wage increase was listed as a \$.50 per hour increase from \$9.00 to \$9.50 when it should have read a wage increase of \$1.00 per hour from \$8.25 to \$9.25. Laura moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Emily. Mayor Thoren requested a roll call vote. The vote is as follows: Laura, aye, Emily, aye, Myron, aye, Josh, aye, Andrew, absent. The vote passes.

The average usage of LP from Innovative Ag for the last 4 years was 11,221 gallons. Emily moved that the City book 12,000 gallons for this year with Innovative Ag, seconded by Josh, carried.

Randy read aloud Resolution 20250811. A resolution to approve a wage increase of \$.49 from \$25.21 to \$25.70 per hour for Brian Sigler, a wage increase of \$.50 from \$17.00 to \$17.50 per hour for Nick Dockendorf and a wage increase of \$1.86 from \$15.89 to \$17.75 per hour for Shannon Gebel. The last increase for these employees was 2 years ago. Josh moved the resolution be approved, seconded by Myron. Mayor Thoren requested a roll call vote. The vote is as follows: Laura, aye, Emily, aye, Myron, aye, Josh, aye, Andrew, absent. The vote passes.

Brian discussed with the Council that the car trailer that the city has to haul items is very worn on the underside to the point that

there is a possibility of losing an axle. Council asked Brian to get some pricing on a new trailer and fixing the current trailer. Mayor Thoren discussed that along Maple St, there are branches that are starting to hang lower over the road and we may need to be trimming some of them up. It was suggested that the City trim low hanging branches throughout town. Mayor Thoren had no further comments. Laura moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Emily, meeting adjourned.

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Income | |
| Local Option Tax | \$8,817.40 |
| Licenses and permits | \$378.53 |
| Interest/rent | \$1,553.37 |
| Charges for Services | \$45,194.96 |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | \$13,161.39 |
| Total Income | \$69,105.65 |

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|----------------------|--------------------|
| Expenses | |
| Public Works | \$4,800.03 |
| Culture and Rec. | \$4,498.87 |
| General Gov. | \$5,257.11 |
| Water | \$1,957.73 |
| Sewer | \$4,066.50 |
| Total Expense | \$20,580.24 |

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|-------------------|--------------------|
| Net Income | \$48,525.41 |
|-------------------|--------------------|

Claims Paid & Summary of Receipts

July 16 through August 12, 2025

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Deposit | 1,129.56 |
| Deposit | 791.39 |
| Deposit | 130.30 |
| Wellmark BC/BS | 1,473.96 |
| Alliant Energy, electric | 5,357.40 |
| Deposit | 679.23 |
| Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance | 2,830.81 |
| Deposit | 200.00 |
| Deposit | 864.22 |
| Sigler, Brian D. | 1,571.36 |
| Dockendorf, Nickolaus J | 486.39 |
| Gebel, Shannon | 1,050.02 |
| Dockendorf, Nathan R | 277.20 |
| Dundee, Linda M | 43.02 |
| Zweibohmer, Paula M. | 267.45 |
| Weber, Marlene F | 114.05 |
| Burke, Renee | 560.65 |
| Crawford, Alyssa | 115.41 |
| Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance | 533.51 |
| Windstream, phone | 121.81 |
| Deposit | 1,344.42 |
| Deposit | 50.00 |
| Capital One, supplies | 167.08 |
| Mediacom, internet | 89.22 |
| Deposit | 1,643.79 |
| Post Office, postage | 122.00 |
| Deposit | 12,310.00 |
| Deposit | 60.00 |
| Treasurer - State of Iowa, Local Option Sales Tax Deposit | 8,817.40 |
| Deposit | 1,001.46 |
| Interest | 278.37 |
| IPERS | 1,727.60 |
| Deposit | 1,013.25 |
| Deposit | 150.00 |
| Deposit | 3,737.37 |

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|--|------------------|
| Deposit | 553.53 |
| Brad Wilkening, programming | 150.00 |
| Sigler, Brian D. | 1,438.31 |
| Dockendorf, Nickolaus J | 313.55 |
| Deposit | 1,594.89 |
| Deposit | 800.00 |
| Deposit | 50.00 |
| Burke, Renee | 726.11 |
| Zweibohmer, Paula M. | 267.45 |
| Weber, Marlene F | 228.11 |
| Dockendorf, Nathan R | 277.20 |
| Dundee, Linda M | 43.02 |
| Gebel, Shannon | 1,032.54 |
| Deposit | 7,933.00 |
| Deposit | 350.00 |
| Baker And Taylor, books | 11.39 |
| Center Point LP, books | 49.14 |
| Elm USA, supplies | 215.94 |
| Computer Parker, LLC, computer work | 1,414.35 |
| LJP Waste Solutions, garbage | 3,692.86 |
| ProEdge Building Solutions, supplies | 2.29 |
| Innovative Ag Services (v), LP | 524.35 |
| Farmland Hardware, supplies | 405.36 |
| Farmers Feed and Grain, dust control | 365.51 |
| E And E Welding, repairs | 43.15 |
| Howard County Treasurer (v), property taxes | 1,262.00 |
| MARC, supplies | 625.00 |
| Auto Value Parts Store, parts | 248.51 |
| Cummins Sales and Service, sewer plant | 1,055.57 |
| JCJDW Investments LLC, solar july | 1,238.43 |
| Mead Creek IA, LLC, solar | 2,952.58 |
| Elma Express (v), fuel | 375.85 |
| Barco Municipal Products, supplies | 1,243.35 |
| Smith Ag, Inc, pump sludge | 9,540.80 |
| Microbac Laboratories, Inc, testing | 933.05 |
| Iowa Dept Of Natural Resources, sewer permit | 210.00 |
| Northeast Iowa Community Action, yearly contribution | 505.00 |
| Howard Cemetary Association, cemetery dues | 900.00 |
| Iowa One Call, one call | 21.60 |
| Shannon Gebel (v), supplies/mileage | 48.87 |
| EO Johnson, print services | 48.93 |
| Marian McGee, supplies | 40.04 |
| Upper Explorerland RPC, clerk's association | 25.00 |
| Wilson Custom Tree, tree removal | 4,025.00 |
| O'Brien Plumbing and Heating, park toilet | 100.00 |
| Bodensteiner Implement Company, supplies | 100.42 |
| Popp Excavating, jet 5th st | 1,312.50 |
| Deposit | 2,073.73 |
| Deposit | 1,458.37 |
| Total Operating | -5,907.79 |
| TOTAL | -5,907.79 |

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Trust Notice

IN THE MATTER OF THE TRUST:

ROSE E. GOODER TRUST

To all persons regarding Rose E. Gooder, deceased, who died on or about August 6, 2025:

You are hereby notified that Michael Gooder is the Trustee of the Donald and Rose Gooder Family Trust dated April 4, 2019.

Any action to contest the validity of the trust must be brought in the District Court of Howard County, Iowa, within the later to occur of four (4) months from the date of second publication of this notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this notice to the spouse of the decedent settlor, and to all heirs of the decedent settlor whose identities are reasonably ascertainable. Any suit not filed within this period shall be forever barred.

Notice is further given that any person or entity possessing a claim against the trust must mail proof of the claim to the trustee at the address listed below via certified mail, return receipt requested, by the later to occur of four (4) months from the second publication of this notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this notice if required or the claim shall be forever barred unless paid or otherwise satisfied.

Dated this 18th day of August, 2025.

Donald and Rose Gooder Family Trust
Dated April 4, 2019

Michael Gooder, Trustee
530 2nd Avenue S.W.
Cresco, IA 52136

ATTORNEY FOR TRUST:

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City/School Election Important Dates

August 25, 2025: City/School candidate filing begins

September 18, 2025: Last day to file nomination papers for the regular city election by 5:00 p.m. in the Auditor's office

September 18, 2025: Last day to file nomination papers for the school election by 5:00 p.m. with the school secretary

October 15, 2025: First day absentee ballots may be mailed. First day to vote in person at the auditor's office

October 20, 2025: Last day to have

an absentee ballot mailed. Deadline to pre-register to vote for the upcoming city/school election. Auditor's Office open until 5:00 p.m.

November 3, 2025: Last day to vote in person absentee ballots

November 4, 2025: Regular city/school election. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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Photo highlights from Pickleball games



Above and below: Several people of all ages enjoyed playing in the Pickleball Round Robin games on Aug. 22 in Cresco.



LSFD receives \$10,000 Grant from State Farm

LIME SPRINGS - A Donation was made in collaboration with the National Volunteer Fire Council and announced in time for Volunteer Firefighters Recognition Day.

Lime Springs Fire Department is excited to announce that it is one of 150 volunteer fire departments across the nation to receive a \$10,000 grant through State Farm Good Neighbor Safety Program. In collaboration with the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), State Farm has awarded \$1.5 million in grants to help local fire departments obtain needed equipment to increase their responders' safety, effectiveness and ability to serve their community.

With this grant Lime Springs FD will be able to purchase new and updated thermal imaging equipment to help in all

kinds of situations.

Lime Springs Fire is staffed by 20 trained firefighters covering the City of Lime Springs (pop 467) and surrounding area and responds to all kinds of emergency's from structure fires to accident calls or as needed at anytime to help.

Our firefighters are dedicated to answering the call, no matter the hour or circumstance, said Chief Scott Osmondson. Ensuring they have the right equipment and tools is essential to keeping them safe and effective on the job.

The generous support from State Farm and the National Volunteer Fire Council will help us better protect both our responders and our community. This is the second year of the State Farm Good Neighbor Firefighter Safety program.

Volunteer fire departments

are essential to public safety, especially in rural and small-town communities. However, many operate with limited budgets and struggle to secure the funding for critical equipment. These grants are a lifeline for local departments to obtain equipment that will increase safety, efficiency and effectiveness.

In addition to the grants, State Farm also provided the first 2,000 applicants with a one-year membership to the NVFC-the leading association representing the volunteer fire, Ems, and rescue services-so they have access to additional tools, resources, and training to support their continued success.

Learn more about the State Farm Good Neighbor Firefighter Safety Program at www.nvfc.org/statefarm.

Library Lines

Winners of the fairy tale contest are as follows: Kindergarten - 5th grade: Cyler Wilson, Adults: Mary Bielefeld and Peggy Walker. Please stop in the library to get your prize.

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month. If you do not have your own library card, now would be a perfect time to come in and register for one.

School is back in session. The library has six computers with high-speed internet and wireless service. Printing is available for a small fee. There are reference books for your use.

The "Monday Morning Coffee Group" meets at 9:30 a.m. every Monday at the Library. Also, the "Coffee Connections" group meets every Thursday afternoon from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Enjoy a cup of coffee or hot chocolate and socialize with friends. Everyone welcome. The Library will be closed September 1 in observance of Labor Day.

The Library will begin the Outreach Program to local daycares in Lime Springs on September 2. The Staff is excited about this program as it allows us to introduce toddlers to

books and familiarizes the children with the Library.

Preschool children ages three to five are invited to come to the Library's Preschool Story Hour on September 3. The group meets every Wednesday from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. This is a good way to introduce your children to the magic and fun of books. Bring your child to share in the fun-filled hour with stories, crafts, music, games and finger plays.

The library has a youth Makerspace Section with educational and creative items. This is a workspace inside the library for making, learning, exploring and sharing ideas in a safe controlled environment.

Adult Games Night is Saturday, September 6 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Bring your favorite game and a friend. We have a lot of fun and welcome new people.

The next Book Discussion will be September 9 at 7:00 p.m. when we will be sharing thoughts about the book For The Love of Summer by Susan Mallory. Please come in and register so we can have enough books for everyone to read.

The Library will be showing


a special movie for Kindergarten through 6th grade. They are invited to come September 15 to have a fun time at the library. The movie will start at 2:30 p.m. and finish at 4:00 p.m. A snack and drink will be provided during the movie.

Bingo night on September 20 at 7:00 p.m. All players must bring a new \$2.00 gift wrapped which will be used for prizes. Snacks will be served. Bring a friend as we look forward to having a fun evening.

The library has a Pickleball set, a tennis racket set, badminton set, a basketball, volleyball, and soccer ball available to check out and use at Browns Park and the Volleyball court near the pool. Check out the items and return it the next day during library hours or in the evenings. The library is open until 8:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday. Questions call 566-2207.

The Library has a game collection for children, teen and adults. The games can be checked out for two weeks. Stop in the library to view the variety of games.

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2025 Minnesota Renaissance Festival

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