



CITY HALL CONNECTION

OCTOBER 2023

This newsletter is your connection to City of Ellsworth local government updates. Help us connect with people across the City; share the newsletter with your friends, your family and your community. Subscribe to the monthly newsletter at www.ellsworthmaine.gov

ON THE BALLOT FOR NOVEMBER - LOCAL CANDIDATES

Nomination papers, also known as candidate nomination forms or candidacy papers, are documents that individuals who wish to run for public office must complete and submit to officially declare their candidacy in an election. The open seats this year were for: two seats for City Council, two seats for Library Board of Trustees, and two seats for the School Board.

Ten individuals took out nomination papers for City Council and seven were returned and validated to the City Clerk.

Candidates on the ballot are:

Marc Blanchette

Patrick Lyons

Nancy Smith

John Linnehan

Ruth Moore

Gene Lyons, *incumbent*

Noah Robidoux

Two individuals took out nomination papers for Library Board of Trustees and two were returned and validated to the City Clerk.

Candidates on the ballot are:

Rain Perez

Kathleen Cravens, *incumbent*

Two individuals took out nomination papers for the School Board and two were returned and validated to the City Clerk.

Candidates on the ballot are:

Elizabeth Alteri, *incumbent*

Kelly McKenney, *incumbent*

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee Voting now open for all Ellsworth and Fletcher's Landing residents during regular City Hall business hours. Visit our [elections webpage](#) for sample ballots and details on how and where to vote. Polls will be open from 8AM to 8PM on election day.

MEET THE CANDIDATES 2023

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

THE GRAND THEATER

Presented by Ellsworth

American, Heart of

Ellsworth and sponsored
by Desert Harvest.

INTERESTED IN ELECTION WORK?

Citizens can assist the Clerk's office in state and local elections! The duties include welcoming voters, registering new voters, handling ballots and preparing end of night tally sheets. Election workers must be registered to vote. You can sign-up online on the Elections webpage! Reach out to the City Clerk's Office with questions.

CITY HALL HOURS

Monday - Friday
8am - 5pm

CITY HALL

1 City Hall Plaza
Ellsworth, ME 04605

RESTROOM FACILITIES CLOSURES

In preparation for the colder months ahead, the bathrooms at Knowlton Park and the Harbor Park will be closed for the winter season starting on Monday, October 9th, 2023. While we understand that this may be an inconvenience, the closure is essential to protect the plumbing and facilities from potential freezing and damage during the colder months. A port-a-potty will remain at Harbor Park year round. Additionally, the port-a-potties at the Green Lake and Branch Lake boat launches will be removed at the end of September. The port-a-potty at Branch Lake Public Forest will remain through the end of November.

FRANKLIN ST. PARKLET

The seasonal Franklin Street Parklet off of Main Street will be converted from the park in later October. After the barriers, tables, delineators, and plants are removed the road will again be available for traffic.

We hope you all enjoyed the Parklet this year!



Open House @ THE ELLSWORTH FIRE STATION



The Ellsworth Fire Department is excited to announce its upcoming Open House event, inviting residents of Ellsworth and surrounding areas to join us for an informative and entertaining open house at our fire station. This event is scheduled to take place at the end of National Fire Prevention Week on Saturday, October 14 from 11 AM to 2 PM at 1 City Hall Plaza, Ellsworth.

This event is a perfect opportunity for community members of all ages to get to know their local fire department, learn about fire safety, and interact with our dedicated firefighters and emergency personnel. Aligned with the spirit of National Fire Prevention Week, the Department's mission is to raise awareness about fire safety and empower residents with the knowledge to prevent fires. Refreshments have been generously donated by area businesses.

DOG REGISTRATION

2024 Dog Licenses will be available to purchase starting Monday October 16th, 2023. You may obtain your license in person at City Hall, online using the State of Maine service, or via mail. If you choose mail, please submit a copy of the rabies certificate with your payment.

To obtain a license for your dog you must:

- Present a current State of Maine Rabies Certificate obtained from a veterinarian to verify that your dog has received its rabies shot within the past two years.
- Bring a written certificate from a veterinarian stating the dog has been spayed or neutered. (This certificate is only required the first time the dog is licensed.)

The fees are \$6.00 for altered dogs and \$11.00 for non-altered dogs. All dogs must be registered by January 31, 2023 or an additional \$25 per dog late fee will apply.

TAX BILL REMINDER

Real Estate and Personal Property Tax bills were mailed in August. If you haven't received a bill yet this could be due to a change in your mailing address that hasn't been communicated to the Assessing Office. To ensure you receive your tax bills, please make sure your mailing address is current by contacting the Tax Collection Office in City Hall.

Please don't hesitate to contact the Tax Office staff at (207)667-2563. They will address any questions or concerns you may have regarding your bill.

Payments for both tax bills can be done in-person at City Hall with cash, check, or credit/debit card. Payments by credit/debit card have an additional 2.5% fee. Check payments can be mailed to the Tax Office at City Hall.

GRANT AWARDED TO SUPPORT ELLSWORTH'S VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

Ellsworth is among the 53 communities benefiting from the Community Resilience Partnership's \$2.4 million investment by Governor Janet Mills' Administration to tackle the challenges of climate change. This initiative, started in December 2021, has now expanded to include 174 towns, cities, and tribal governments in Maine, impacting nearly 60% of the state's population.

The recent announcement on September 29th revealed that Ellsworth received a grant award of \$32,000. This funding will play a crucial role in supporting the planning phase of the Village Partnership Initiative, a collaborative effort between the City of Ellsworth and the Maine Department of Transportation. The City was formally entered into the partnership in the winter of 2023, allowing the ability to apply and subsequently receive funding through this grant opportunity. The project, titled "Reducing Carbon Emissions & Vehicular Miles Traveled While Increasing Active Transportation in Ellsworth," aims to increase the City's climate resiliency by improving bicycle and pedestrian transportation within the City, particularly in the downtown core.

The project's goals include reducing miles traveled by automotive vehicles, minimizing wear and tear on roadways, and enhancing safety by reducing accidents. This strategic investment aligns with the broader mission of the Community Resilience Partnership while addressing the challenges posed by climate change.

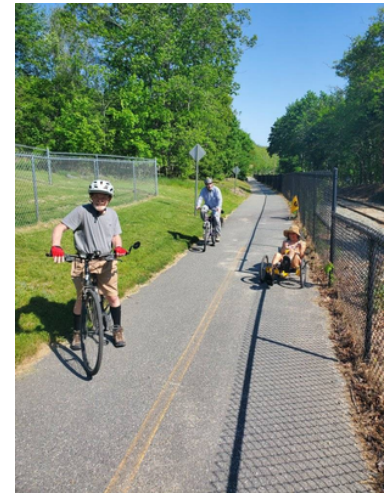


Photo courtesy of Ellsworth Bike Party

THE CITY OF ELLSWORTH SILENT AUCTION IS BACK FOR 2023

The City of Ellsworth would like to invite you to participate in a Silent Auction! The Auction will be held during the month of November; all proceeds will be used to replenish the City of Ellsworth's Christmas for Kids fund. Each year the City assists roughly 80-100 children who may not otherwise receive a gift and experience the Joy of the Holidays. We budget for \$60.00 per child. In recent years, many children have received most of their wish lists thanks to generous donations, and proceeds from events such as this.

The City is looking for local businesses who would like to donate a gift card, certificate, or an item(s) of choice from their business. The item donated would be on display for the entire month of November. This is a great way for local businesses to advertise their name during the busy Election month with the added bonus of an end of year tax-deductible donation. Local businesses can take part by donating an item of their choice or by placing a bid on an item, to benefit this worthy cause.

The public is welcome and encouraged to place bids on auction items during the entire month of November, which will include a high traffic day through City Hall for the November Election.

For more information please visit the City website at:

<https://www.ellsworthmaine.gov/2023-city-hall-silent-auction/>

SILENT AUCTION

COME ONE COME ALL.....
BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

THE CITY OF ELLSWORTH

WILL BE HOLDING A SILENT AUCTION TO
BENEFIT THE CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS FUND.

BIDDING STARTS

NOVEMBER 1ST- AND RUNS
THROUGH THE 30TH

ALL ITEMS SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO THE
CLERK'S OFFICE BY OCT. 31ST.

THE PUBLIC IS ENCOURAGED TO
DONATE AND BID!!

PUBLIC WORKS

Please drive safely through work zones and monitor your speed.
Contact the Public Works Department at 207-669-6619 if you have questions.

Branch Lake Public Forest Road Repair

The tropical system that came to Maine a few weekends ago caused a washout to form across the road into the Branch Lake Public Forest. The Public Works crew were able to get out later that week to fill and grade the section.



NOW OPEN! ELLSWORTH POLICE STATION @ 416 HIGH STREET

The Ellsworth Police Station is now operating out of 416 High Street. If you need to speak with an officer in-person please visit the new location. If you stop by the former location at City Hall and use the phone service, you may still be assisted however you may be asked to visit the new location or wait for an officer to arrive. Non-emergencies can call (207)667-2168 with any questions.

TAKE THE ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY SURVEY

The City of Ellsworth recognizes the importance of a thoughtful and engaged community in developing and implementing a successful Comprehensive Plan. The intent of this engagement process is to begin a conversation about the future of Ellsworth and develop a vision for the future that reflects the values and priorities of the community. The Ellsworth Community Survey is one of the ways you can easily get involved. Take a few minutes and complete the survey today! Those who complete the survey will be entered to win one of two \$100 gift cards!

Find the survey here:
berrydunn.mysocialpinpoint.com/ellsworth/get-involved



OCTOBER MEETINGS

Finance Committee

Every Friday at 7:15am in the Council Chamber

October 2nd - Arbor Commission; Communications Cmte.

8 AM; 5:30 PM respectively, both in the Council Chamber

October 3rd - HR Committee

6 PM in the Council Chamber

October 4th - Planning Board

5:30 PM in the Council Chamber

October 10th - School Board Meeting

6 PM in the Council Chamber

October 16th - City Council Meeting

6 PM in the Council Chamber

October 17th - Recreation Commission

8:30 AM in the Council Chamber

October 18th - Historic Preservation Commission

4:00 PM in the Council Chamber

October 19th - Harbor Commission

6 PM in the Council Chamber

October 23rd - Comp. Plan Steering Committee

5:30 PM in the Council Chamber

October 24th - School Board Workshop

6 PM in the Council Chamber

Visit the City of Ellsworth website or call City Hall for the most up-to-date information on meetings and to learn of changes or cancellations.