



President's Notes.... Ken Nelson

Thank you for your support in electing me Village President. I look forward to my new role and serving you, the residents of Ephraim.

Congratulations to Carly Mulliken on her re-election to her second term as Village Board Trustee and to newly elected Village Trustee, Rick Hoyerman.

I have received comments on the Board's use of Closed Meetings. Please read the accompanying article on that subject. I will use them only when required.

Over the past several years, the Village has been dealing with three projects constructed without a Building Permit. Your Plan Committee has wasted many hours trying to make these projects work after the fact. If you have **any** type of project coming up, always contact Brent Bristol first to understand the Village's review and permitting processes. In the future, projects built without the necessary permit, must be removed before the Plan Committee or Zoning Administrator Brent Bristol will consider the project.

A list of our Committee and Board members is included in the Newsletter. I appreciate all of those who have volunteered. Volunteerism is what makes our Village work. If interested in being considered to serve on a Village Committee contact the Village office at: (920) 854-5501 or office@ephraim.wi.gov

Thank You, Mike McCutcheon...

Now, on to a much happier note, do you all know that Mike was our 15th President, and the third longest serving at 12 years? I had the pleasure of serving on the Plan Committee with Mike for 12 years and on the Village Board for the past six years. When I thought of words to describe his leadership, transparent, consensus-builder, and facilitator came to mind. I watched Mike guide the community through our Streetscape Project, which at one point was not all that popular. He has a unique quality that made him an excellent Village President: the ability to seek input and listen. He would always poll the Board and the public on issues facing our Village. On the few times he offered his thoughts first, I knew it was "time to listen up".

I know Mike has a list of places to go and things to do, but I don't want to see the Village lose his knowledge from the past 12 years. Mike has agreed to chair the Anderson Dock Fundraising Focus Group.

Planning a Building or Remodeling Project?

Please remember that Ephraim requires a permit to build anything "over six inches" in height. If you're uncertain about permit requirements, please consult with Brent Bristol, Zoning Administrator **BEFORE** you start your project.

Phone: 920-854-5501

Email: bbristol@ephraim.wi.gov

Projects built without a permit will be subject to a 5x the normal permitting fee per day, and must be removed before the Plan Committee or Brent will consider the project. **No retroactive permits will be issued**

Many of the forms required can be found on the website: <https://ephraim.wi.gov/zoning-department/>

Open Meeting Law: Closed Session

The State Legislature has recognized that there are certain important interests that will be served by allowing certain governmental business to be conducted in Closed Session. The complete list of eleven (11) permissible reasons a body can go into Closed Session is listed in Wis. Stat. §19.85. The most common reasons for Closed Session include:

- Personnel-related issues.
- Deliberating or negotiating the purchase of properties or investment funds.
- Conferring with legal counsel who is rendering oral and written advice concerning strategy to be adopted regarding litigation in which the Board is or is likely to become involved.

Open meeting law also spells out the specific process to meet in Closed Session. Notices of Closed Session must contain the specific nature of the business, as well as the exemption(s) under which the Chief Presiding Officer believes a Closed Session is authorized.

Village Revaluation

Under state law, Wis. Stat. §70.05(5)(b), each municipality must assess all property within 10% of full value in the same year, at least once within a five-year period. With the increase in real estate values over the past few years, the Village along with many other Wisconsin municipalities, find themselves in non-compliance with provisions of state statute. Subsequently, the Village of Ephraim will be conducting a full evaluation of all taxable property in 2025.

Associated Appraisal Consultants "AAC" is the Village's contracted appraisal firm. You will see the AAC logo clearly displayed on their communication, vehicles, apparel their team wears, and their name tags as they commence the revaluation process. You can obtain more information on the progress of the revaluation on the village website: <https://ephraim.wi.gov/village-revaluation/>



Door County Ready

Door County Ready is a free service that allows individuals to receive notifications sent from state and local authorities. The notification will help residents to stay informed on potentially hazardous situations involving weather, traffic and other emergencies. Door County Ready uses a reliable platform that is trusted by thousands of institutions including state and local authorities, business and educational institutions.

Residents and travelers can sign up for free by scanning the code below:



Library Updates

The last year has brought a lot of changes and updates to the Ephraim Library! All of which are meant to enhance our patron's experience of our unique space. But most might be so subtle they go unnoticed!

One of our first improvements were freshly painted walls that brightened up our space. Next up was carpet to replace the well-used version that had served us well. Finally, we swapped out the windows that had been in place since the 60's. We made sure to match the look, but the functionality of the new windows will be enjoyed for years to come. Soon we will have a new door to match the beautiful windows.

We are in search of some comfortable chairs for visitors to use while enjoying our varied collection. Stop by and see what we've been up to on Monday (2-6pm), Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday (10am-2pm). Or at the 60th Annual Fyr Bal Festival for the Used Book Sale. Make sure to say hi to Suzanne, our knowledgeable and friendly librarian!

Capital Project Updates

Anderson Dock Graffiti

Discussions continue regarding ways for the Village to handle graffiti abatement without the need of outside contractors. The Village has moved forward with purchasing a high PSI, steam pressure washer to begin working towards a long term solution in partnership with testing preventative coatings for the concrete.

Anderson Dock

The Village continues to work with AECOM who is contracted to complete final design plans for Anderson Dock. The Village expects 90% drawings and cost estimates within the next 60 days.

As the Village looks ahead for funding options to complete the Anderson Dock Project, the Village intends to launch a fundraising campaign. The goal is to have final design plans by year end 2025.



Photo Credit: Tad Dukehart—Groundbreaking of new Public Works Garage

New Public Works Garage

The Ephraim Village Board awarded the Public Works Garage Project to Keller Inc. on Tuesday, April 1, 2025.

The Village Board will fund the cost of the Maintenance Garage Project with a 5-year loan from Nicolet National Bank at 5.925% for 1 million dollars. The balance of the project will be funded by using cash on hand, with funds coming from Room Tax (\$715,000) and PRAT (\$285,000).

Construction has commenced and the Maintenance Staff anticipates that they will be able to move into the building in late November.

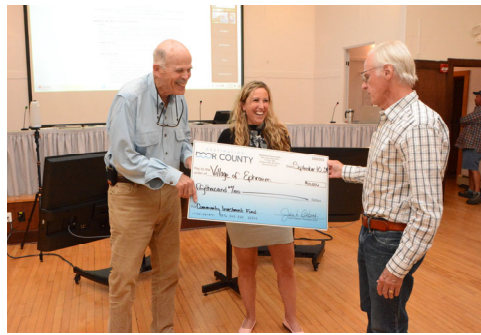


Photo Credit: Tad Dukehart—Village Trustees accepting the \$50,000 grant from the Door County Community Investment Fund.

North Ephraim Pedestrian Path

On April 8, 2025 the Village Board held a special meeting to consider approving contracts for the Public Works Maintenance Garage and the North Ephraim Pedestrian Path. The Village Board received only one bid for the construction of the North Path. That bid was \$193,000 over the engineer's estimate of \$238,500. The reason for the lack of bids can likely be attributed to the fact that the project was not ready for bidding until early March. Various changes and follow-up approvals caused the delay in posting the project for bidding. The Village Board voted to reject the only bid and came to a consensus to delay the project so that it could be rebid in the late fall for construction in Spring of 2026. The result of delaying the project should provide the Village with a more favorable response when the project is put out to bid.

We plan to work with our consultant AECOM to revise the plans and submit them to WisDOT for approval this summer. We will also work with AECOM to more aggressively talk to local contractors about the project. Finally, we will post the project for bidding late this year while contractors are still filling their schedules for 2026. We are all disappointed that we cannot move forward this spring. But we will proceed!

Anderson Dock Fundraising Campaign

On June 10, 2025 the Village Board established a focus group chaired by Dr. Michael McCutcheon with an initiative aimed at raising funds not only for the \$1.4 million Anderson Dock restoration project but to also set up an endowment to ensure long-term maintenance. The objective is to gather a diverse group of individuals willing to canvass, strategize, and implement effective fundraising actions. Stay tuned....

Our sincere appreciation to Dr. Michael E. McCutcheon for his 12 years of service to the Village of Ephraim.



In recognition of Dr. Michael E. “Doc” McCutcheon

Who led the Village of Ephraim from 2013 to 2025 with a steady, well-seasoned hand. Whether times were calm or chaotic, his guiding principle was always to ‘Keep Ephraim, Ephraim’. In his capacity as Village President, Doc honored that commitment by keeping close tabs on the pulse of the local community. Doc’s tireless dedication to public service and his keen ability to bring people together resulted in timeless achievements such as the Streetscape and Waterfront Projects. He set in motion future projects as part of the Capital Plan including the Anderson Dock Project.

Thank you, Doc, for passionately keeping us on a steady course that left the Village of Ephraim just as “Ephraim” was when you discovered it!

Presented by
The Village Trustees & Village Staff
April 8, 2025

Burn Permits

Per Chapter 5 of the Ephraim Code of Ordinances the Village Fire Chief issues burn permits. No burning shall occur until the Fire Chief has issued a permit.

Burn permits are issued for the following:

1. Brush piles and wooden construction debris under certain conditions.

Prohibited types of burning within the Village:

1. Garbage.
2. Asphalt and roofing materials.
3. Waste oil or other oily wastes.
4. Painted or treated wood including composite wood products.
5. All plastic or rubber products.
6. Leaf piles.

To obtain a burn permit, please contact Justin MacDonald, Village Fire Chief:

Cell: 920-495-0039

Email: jmacdonald@ephraim.wi.gov

Contacts for Emergencies

For emergencies in the Village which include power lines down, vehicles leaking fluids, fluid spills, car accidents, or smoke in an area from an unknown source, **dial 911**. This is the fastest way to have the correct emergency personnel respond to an incident.

For trees across roads, contact the Village Office Monday thru Friday, 8 AM - 4 PM at 920-854-5501. For instances outside business hours, please contact the Door County Sheriff's Office Non-Emergency number at 920-746-2400 and press 0 to speak with an On-Duty Dispatcher. They will gather your information and then contact the appropriate Village representative.

If you observe a tree or tree limb in contact with a power line please contact WPS directly: 1-800-450-7260

Water Testing

The Village of Ephraim offers water testing that meets all State requirements and is available to anyone. Fees are determined at the time of scheduling and is based on what tests you request. Water testing kits are available at the Ephraim Treatment Plant 24/7 located at 10285 Town Line Drive. Instructions and forms can be found on the Village website:

<https://ephraim.wi.gov/wellwater-testing/>

Polling Location

Village of Ephraim residents vote at the Village Administrative Office located at 10005 Norway Street, Ephraim WI 54211. Wisconsin municipalities have uniform polling hours beginning at 7:00 AM and ending at 8:00 PM.

2026 Election Dates

- February 17, 2026—Spring Primary
- April 7, 2026—Spring Election
- August 11, 2026—Partisan Primary
- November 3, 2026—General Election



- Check your registration status
- Register to vote (or update your address)
- Request an absentee ballot
- Track your absentee ballot
- Find your polling place
- See what's on your ballot

<https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/>

VILLAGE OF EPHRAIM 2025

ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICIALS

VILLAGE BOARD

Ken Nelson- President

Rick Hoyerman

Matt Meacham

Carly Mulliken

Tim Nelson

Airport Committee

Martin Franke - Chair
Gary Glojek
Tim Halbrook

Green Tier Ad-Hoc Committee:

Carly Mulliken- Chair
Jeff Lutsey
Lane Methner
Bruce Nelson
Cindy Nelson
Sophie Nelson

Marinas & Moorings Committee

Tim Nelson - Chair
John Held
Bruce Nelson
Bob Plansky
BD Thorp

Wastewater Committee

Karen McMurtry - Chair
Rick Hoyerman
Dennis Jewell
Bruce Nelson
Jim Peterman

Board of Appeals:

Karen McMurtry - Chair
Fred Bridenhagen
Sarah Glenn
Keith Krist
Steve Sauter
Duska Pearson—Alternate #1
Rob Moore—Alternate #2

Historic Preservation Committee:

BD Thorp - Chair
Marcia Ellis
Kathy Pentler
Amy Russell
Cody Schreck

Physical Facilities Committee

Matt Meacham - Chair
Fred Bridenhagen
Paul Flottman
Scott Lohman
Brian Reinhardt

Community Protection Committee:

Carly Mulliken - Chair
John Cox
Tad Dukehart
Laird Hart
Keith Krist

Library Committee

Carly Mulliken - Chair
Grace Held
Windsor McCutcheon
Cindy Nelson
Mary Wilson

Plan Committee

Ken Nelson- Chair
Andy Bartelt
Laird Hart
Grace Held
Rick Hoyerman
Monique McClean
BD Thorp

Village Bench Donations

There are three benches available for donation. Two benches are located at the tennis courts and one is located in front of the Administrative Building. For more information please contact the office at 920-854-5501.

Sewer Rate Increase

The 2025 Village Budget included an increase to sewer rates. Increased sewer rates allow the Village to plan for upgrades to the existing aging system as well as meet the rising inflationary costs of current operations.

Residential Equivalent Units (REU) went from \$124/REU to \$136/REU per quarter in 2025.

A large scale Facility Plan Amendment has been prepared by McMahon & Associates. McMahon is working on final engineering design for the upgrades and hopes to have the design portion of the project completed by year end 2025.

Village of Ephraim Community Portal

The Village of Ephraim is now able to accept online payments for sewer bills and pump-out invoices.

You can register by going to:

<https://ephraimwi.ourcommunityconnect.com/>

You will need your customer number, invoice number and invoice amount (all of which can be found on your sewer bill or by calling the Village office at 920-854-5501) to register. Please note that there is a convenience fee for making a payment on the portal.



The Village of Ephraim's Marinas have been approved for the Wisconsin Clean Marina Program. Certified "Clean Marinas" have been verified in meeting federal and state pollution and safety laws and have adopted best management practices that make Wisconsin's waterways cleaner and safer for boaters to enjoy.

Brush and Yard Waste & Boat Trailer Parking Relocated to 2683 German Road

Due to the construction of the new Public Works Garage at the Wastewater Treatment Facility Plant at 10285 Town Line Road, boat trailer parking and the brush and yard waste piles have been relocated to 2683 German Road. The two driveways are well marked with signs for trailer parking and brush and yard waste.

For Marina slip holders, mooring holders, and transient users (with reservations) boat trailer parking is available at 2683 German Road with a trailer sticker. Day parking (short-term) is available behind the Village Fire Station in the grass for those using marina facilities. **Trailer parking is NOT AVAILABLE at the Wastewater Treatment Plant located at 10285 Town Line Drive.**

No stumps or large logs should be placed in the brush pile. A good rule of thumb is nothing larger than 3" in diameter should be added to the brush pile and the brush shall be cut into 3' lengths. The yard waste pile is for grass, leaves, and garden clippings.

No lumber should ever be disposed of in either the Brush or Yard Waste Piles. Commercial haulers are prohibited.

Subscribe to updates

Help the Village move to a digital-only newsletter! Scan the QR code below to subscribe to updates. If you are not interested in meeting notifications, you can choose just to receive news and notices! This will likely be the last printed newsletter. Be an informed resident and subscribe today!



Scan me

CONTACT US:

Ephraim Administrative Office

Phone (920) 854-5501

Fax (920) 854-2072

Or visit us on the web at ephraim.wi.gov



E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Administrator/Zoning Administrator– Brent Bristol

bbristol@ephraim.wi.gov

Clerk/Treasurer – Andrea Collak

acollak@ephraim.wi.gov

Deputy Clerk/Utility Clerk – Kim Roberts

office@ephraim.wi.gov

Marina Harbormaster - Brent Bristol

bbristol@ephraim.wi.gov

Fire Department–Non Emergency/ Maintenance Manager - Justin MacDonald

jmacdonald@ephraim.wi.gov

Wastewater Manager OIC – Brad Rasmusson

brasmusson@ephraim.wi.gov

Village Board of Trustees - Ken Nelson, Rick Hoyerman, Matt Meacham, Carly Mulliken, and Tim Nelson

info@ephraim.wi.gov

Village of Ephraim

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