

Village of Elmwood, Pierce County, WI

Community Survey
Final Report
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With Assistance from:

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Village of Elmwood Survey Results

Executive Summary

In order to gather public input for the Village of Elmwood Comprehensive Plan, a community survey was sent to 375 tax payers in the Village. The overall response rate was 40.5% (152 returned and recorded surveys). Such a response rate from this type of survey should accurately represent the opinions of the population of the Village of Elmwood.

In general, most of the respondents have lived in the Village for twenty-five years or more, are 65 years of age and older, and have two people in the household. They believe that the Village of Elmwood's small town atmosphere and being close to their friends and family are the most important reasons why they live in the Village. The biggest concerns are increasing taxes, declining school enrollment, and the economy.

The following rules were used when collecting, recording, and interpreting the survey results:

Rules when Collecting Survey Results:

1. Comments written regarding questions were put in with additional comments at the end, except questions with an "other" answer, and were not edited.
2. Comments written that were not directed towards any questions were added to additional comments at the end.
3. Questions left blank and multiple answers to one question were recorded as "no answer."
4. Illegible hand writing was recorded as best as possible and marked '{???' for words unable to interpret.
5. Check marks placed in between two answers were disregarded.

Methodology for Tabulating Results:

The tables that show the results use columns labeled response, frequency, and percent of frequency.

1. Response refers to the possible answers on the survey.
2. Frequency refers to the number of responses within that category.
3. Percent is the number of responses for that answer compared to the number of total answers for that question (frequency of answer divided by total frequency-rounded to the nearest tenth).

Community Survey Results

DEMOGRAPHICS

According to the survey, respondents were split equally between males and females, with the largest percentage being 65 years of age and older. The 18-44 ages demographic accounted for just 23.7% of total respondents. Approximately 80% of respondents were either employed full-time or retired. The largest percentages of respondents owned their residences, lived in 2 person households, and have lived in the Village for 25+ years.

1. Gender

Response	Frequency	Percent
Male	72	47.4%
Female	72	47.4%
No Answer	3	2.0%
Both	5	3.3%
Total	152	100.0%

2. Age

Response	Frequency	Percent
18-24	4	2.6%
25-34	17	11.2%
35-44	15	9.9%
45-54	18	11.8%
55-64	35	23.0%
65+	39	39.0%
No Answer	4	3.0%
Total	152	100.0%

3. Employment Status

Response	Frequency	Percent
Full-time	61	40.1%
Part-time	13	8.6%
Self employed	9	5.9%
Unemployed	2	1.3%
Retired	61	40.0%
Other	4	3.0%
Too Many	2	1.0%
Total	152	100.0%

4. Place of Residence

Response	Frequency	Percent
Own	123	81.0%
Rent	25	16.0%
Other	4	3.0%
Total	152	100.0%

5. Household Size

Response	Frequency	Percent
1	38	25.0%
2	66	43.4%
3	16	10.5%
4	21	14.0%
5+	4	3.0%
No Answer	7	5.0%
Total	152	100.0%

6. How many years have you lived in Elmwood?

Response	Frequency	Percent
<1	6	3.9%
1-4	10	6.6%
5-9	16	10.5%
10-24	52	34.0%
25+	66	43.0%
No Answer	2	1.0%
Total	152	100.0%

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

According to the survey, the largest numbers of respondents feel that the small town atmosphere and being near family/friends are the most important reasons to live in Elmwood. Approximately 73% of respondents feel the quality of life is very good or good. Issues relating to the economy, schools, lack of a grocery store, and taxes are common responses.

7. What are the most important reasons why you and your family choose to live in Elmwood?

Response	Frequency
Small town atmosphere	99
Near family/friends	92
Natural beauty	48
Cost of home	47
Near employment	38
Low crime rate	37
Quality schools	31
Quality neighborhood	20
Appearance of homes	11
Property taxes	11
Recreational opportunities	8
Community services	1

Other:

Was the only place where the in-laws owned an extra house.
Quiet neighborhoods.

8. Overall, how would you rate the quality of life in Elmwood?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Very good	35	23.0%
Good	76	50.0%
Average	35	23.0%
Poor	3	2.0%
Very poor	0	0.0%
No answer	3	2.0%
Total	152	100.0%

9. What is the biggest concern/issue facing Elmwood today?

Ability to operate school without additional burden on tax payers

Basically it's a boring place that needs to be cleaned up!

Board spending too much money

Bringing in business

Bringing more business into town

Businesses becoming scarce

Businesses closing

Children riding bikes & not caring whether or not even stopping to cross streets or looking. I nearly hit a child on Winter Ave last week.

Declining school enrollment

Drop in housing market

Drop in school enrollment

Dropping school enrollment

Economic growth

Economy

Economy/lack of jobs/lack of grocery/shopping

Employment

Empty homes and the appearance of many of our homes

Falling and/or Aging Population

Financing the school(taxes)

Getting more businesses in Elmwood

Getting rid of the Talfords

Grocery store

Grocery store

Grocery store

Growth

Growth or lack thereof

Have good leaders - keep expenses down

High prices, No Store

High property taxes

High Taxes - water cost

Houses along entry into town

Housing costs on the rise as well as property taxes
How junkie the town looks!

I think you have to get tough on people who let their homes look bad. It also
down grades the homes beside them
Improving negative attitudes
Increase in property taxes & industry

Jobs - local employment
Jobs for young people to keep them in the area
Keeping drugs out of the community & schools
Keeping existing business's strong & creating seasonal specialty stores
Keeping it clean to help people to want to move here
Keeping our school viable
Keeping the school open & property taxes

Lack of businesses - no drug store or grocery store
Lack of commercial facilities
Lack of employment opportunities & shopping
Lack of enthusiasm of residents
Lack of jobs for people
Lack of restaurant or coffee shop(that has appeal)
Lack of shopping(grocery)
Loss of businesses - attracting new people
Loss of student numbers to keep school going
Low cost housing is bringing in those that don't keep up their homes & property
Low school enrollment

Main Street business' going out of business
Maintaining K-12 school
Maintaining population to preserve school & businesses in town
Maintaining quality schools & businesses
Money
More young families, school kids
More young people

Need grocery store
Need grocery store
Need more business
Need more business!
Need more people
Need new businesses in town & make it more attractive for new businesses to come
Need trailer court for young people starting out
Negative attitudes
No business - groceries
No fluoride in water
No good jobs
No grocery No drug store etc
No grocery store
No grocery store

No Grocery store
No Grocery store
No grocery store
No grocery store or drug store
No growth of business and/or opportunity.
No Industry to bring people to towns. Fuel prices are driving people closer to their jobs.
With no good jobs here our home values are dropping as well as our quality of life.
No place to shop - groceries etc
No shopping, pharmacy, grocery, etc!
None
Not enough industry
Not keeping a policeman very long
Nothing to offer young people to stay, The school is the only reason to stay
Number of children in school - low
Number of people especially young families
Number of people leaving

People coming to town and making a mess of the neighborhood
People facing serious issues
People moving away
Poor growth/room to grow/affordable housing
Population decrease
Property taxes
Property Taxes & School enrollment
Property Taxes too high - school tax

Re-building downtown, grocery store
Renters should pay a tax to help others
Rising cost of providing good education to kids

School
School - taxes
School district - money & enrollment
School enrollment
School enrollment, availability for jobs
School, lack of new business opportunity, lack of decent apartments
Schools
Schools
Size of population
Small town's are going DOWN
Snow plowing - lawn care
Speeding

Talfords
Taxes
Taxes
Taxes
Taxes
Taxes & the school

Taxes and businesses
 Taxes went out of sight! No grocery store, no drug store, job choices are limited & no growth
 The appearance of people's yards, etc
 The loss of business' and not having a grocery store
 The loss of Main St. businesses
 The police department this village doesn't need
 The school
 The way the high school kids drive
 There is not much in Elmwood to attract young families
 Trashier looking yards, homes by newcomers who care nothing of quality of nice looking town

Unattractive business fronts

When you have new people move to town you need a welcoming committee

HOUSING

According to the survey, the majority of respondents feel that the Village has enough single-family homes, while duplexes/townhomes, apartment units, and senior housing are identified as having limited availability in the Village. Approximately 89% of respondents value the external appearance of their neighborhood, and approximately 76% feel that the Village needs to increase the enforcement of unsightly property ordinances.

10. How would you rate the availability of the following housing types in Elmwood?

Response	Too many	Right amount	Too few	No opinion	No answer
Single-family	7.2%	57.2%	5.9%	19.7%	9.9%
Duplexes/ Townhomes	0.7%	28.3%	24.3%	33.6%	13.2%
Apartment units	2.0%	42.1%	28.9%	16.4%	10.5%
Senior housing	1.3%	48.7%	22.4%	19.1%	8.6%
Assisted living facilities	0.0%	61.8%	8.6%	19.1%	10.5%
Nursing homes	0.0%	67.8%	3.9%	19.1%	9.2%

11. The external appearance of properties in my neighborhood is important to me.

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	80	52.6%
Agree	55	36.2%
Disagree	5	3.3%
Strongly disagree	2	1.3%
No opinion	4	2.6%
No answer	6	3.9%

12. Elmwood needs to increase the enforcement of unsightly property ordinances.

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	71	46.7%
Agree	44	28.9%
Disagree	13	8.6%
Strongly disagree	3	2.0%
No opinion	16	10.5%
No answer	5	3.3%

TRANSPORTATION

According to the survey, an overwhelming majority of respondents are satisfied with the road network in the Village. Approximately 41% of respondents feel that the off-street trail system is inadequate, while approximately 60% agree or strongly agree that more off-street trails are needed. Approximately 72% of respondents feel that the maintenance of local roads meets current needs.

13. The road network (roads, streets, and highways) in Elmwood meet current needs.

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	22	14.5%
Agree	106	69.7%
Disagree	10	6.6%
Strongly disagree	0	0.0%
No opinion	8	5.3%
No answer	6	3.9%

14. The off-street trail system (walking trails, sidewalks, bike paths) in Elmwood meets current needs.

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	13	8.6%
Agree	55	36.2%
Disagree	48	31.6%
Strongly disagree	14	9.2%
No opinion	18	11.8%
No answer	4	2.6%

15. Additional walking trails, bike lanes, walking lanes are needed in Elmwood.

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	30	19.7%
Agree	61	40.1%
Disagree	23	15.1%
Strongly disagree	9	5.9%
No opinion	24	15.8%
No answer	5	3.3%

16. The maintenance of local roads in Elmwood meets current needs.

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	18	11.8%
Agree	92	60.5%
Disagree	13	8.6%
Strongly disagree	4	2.6%
No opinion	12	7.9%
No answer	13	8.6%

17. Please list any streets, sidewalks, or intersections in Elmwood that are unsafe.

S. Main Street Sidewalks

Sidewalk SE corner of Scott & 72

None

Corner by Cenex & dealership

Partridge Ave. used as a walking trail

Curb & Sidewalk by Post Office
Across from WE Energies

Omaha St by Cenex

Pretty much all sidewalks

Partridge Ave. is used by many including MS & HS students. It would be nice to have a more pedestrian-friendly set-up esp. along 72, 128 & P

Sidewalks - some by houses on South Main(East side)

Public - going So.

Winter Ave. is a race track!!

Main as it crosses 72(by Cenex)

N/A

72 & Main near Ford garage/scary

Do not obey stop sign by school to Woodman St.

No one stops when entering 72 from Woodman St.

No yellow line when coming around 72 to Main St - people are cutting the corner too short

Sidewalk by vet

Corner of Clark & May Ave

County Rd P coming through town needs sidewalk

Take the stop signs out by Tony Binkowski's and Jon Maves' on Main Street

You can't walk downtown on the sidewalks on (most sidewalks) South Main Street in the winter time. They are never shoveled in front of most houses

Intersection between Quinn Motors & Cenex

The intersection by Cenex & Main/72 I feel is a serious accident waiting to happen

Sidewalk on Race Ave. Cracked or sloped & trees hanging over sidewalks there & Main St.

Intersection by funeral home

Many sidewalks need repairing

Race & Public
Partridge Ave

May Ave. & Clark St should have stop signed switched around to improve traffic flow to a more logical & safer design

Sidewalk laundromat & vet clinic

That tree on May Ave! Isn't our children's safety walking to/from school more important than an old tree.

May/Cty P in winter - always slippery. Snow piles up on south side of May – you have to take a run at it and then pull half way out onto "P" to see what's coming down the hill.

Center St/Cty P in winter either Center is VERY slick or sand build up makes you slide down hill out onto P.

Also snow is piled up on south side of Center and you cannot see what is coming down the hill.

Too many to list

Walking lane along Hwy 72 & P to connect with Partridge Ave.

Hwy 72 @ Quinn's/Cenex

Race Ave./Bad name

Alley behind south side of upper South Main

Hwy 72 & Main Street

Alley in back of T & S - needs a speed limit sign and no parking behind garages.

Also a stop sign at end of alley on south side.

UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

According to the survey, the majority of Village services are seen as very good to average by respondents. Services receiving the highest percentages of poor/very poor ratings were police protection, sidewalks, and youth programs.

18. Rate the following local services in Elmwood.

Response	Very good	Good	Average	Poor	Very poor	No opinion	No answer
Ambulance	43.4%	37.5%	9.2%	0.7%	0.0%	7.2%	2.0%
Fire Protection	44.7%	36.8%	10.5%	0.0%	0.0%	5.9%	2.0%
Garbage collection	34.9%	44.1%	12.5%	1.3%	0.7%	3.9%	2.6%
Health care	28.3%	36.8%	21.1%	0.7%	1.3%	5.9%	6.0%
High speed communications	17.1%	21.1%	26.3%	4.6%	2.0%	21.1%	7.9%
Municipal water system	18.4%	38.8%	25.7%	5.9%	0.7%	5.3%	5.3%
Park and recreation facilities	15.8%	47.4%	24.3%	5.3%	0.0%	3.9%	3.3%
Police protection	5.3%	28.3%	29.6%	16.4%	5.9%	7.2%	7.3%
Public Library	36.8%	40.8%	13.2%	0.7%	0.7%	4.6%	3.3%
Public school system	22.4%	37.5%	21.7%	3.3%	0.0%	11.2%	4.0%
Recycling programs	23.0%	46.7%	18.4%	3.3%	0.0%	5.3%	3.3%
Sanitary sewer system	18.4%	41.4%	25.0%	2.0%	0.0%	7.9%	5.3%
Senior housing	11.8%	34.2%	23.0%	5.3%	0.7%	17.1%	7.9%
Snow removal	27.6%	39.5%	16.4%	7.9%	2.0%	3.3%	3.3%
Storm water management	16.4%	41.4%	18.4%	4.6%	0.0%	13.2%	5.9%
Street and road maintenance	17.8%	48.7%	22.4%	2.6%	1.3%	2.6%	4.6%
Sidewalks	6.6%	43.4%	28.9%	11.8%	0.7%	3.3%	5.3%
Youth programs	2.6%	17.8%	21.7%	15.8%	7.2%	29.6%	5.3%

19. Within the next 20 years, Elmwood will need to build or expand the following facilities/services.

Response	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion	No answer
Village Hall	4.6%	17.1%	38.2%	13.8%	23.0%	3.3%
EMS/Fire Hall	1.3%	18.4%	40.8%	13.8%	18.4%	7.2%
Disabled and elderly transportation	18.4%	40.8%	12.5%	2.6%	19.1%	6.6%
Recycling center	6.6%	34.2%	29.6%	5.3%	17.1%	7.2%
Parks/open space	6.6%	25.0%	32.9%	8.6%	20.4%	6.6%
Ice skating rink	11.2%	30.3%	20.4%	8.6%	22.4%	7.3%
Picnic shelter	4.6%	26.3%	32.2%	5.3%	24.3%	7.3%
Tennis court(s)	7.2%	15.8%	33.6%	12.5%	28.3%	2.6%
Volleyball court(s)	3.3%	17.1%	33.6%	9.9%	29.6%	6.6%
Basketball court(s)	4.6%	21.1%	32.2%	8.6%	27.0%	6.6%
Athletic field(s)	3.3%	17.1%	36.2%	10.5%	25.7%	7.2%
Sledding hill	5.9%	23.7%	26.3%	11.2%	25.7%	7.2%
Dog park	8.6%	17.1%	31.6%	13.8%	22.4%	6.6%
Skateboard/rollerblade park	3.9%	17.8%	30.3%	14.5%	27.0%	6.6%

Other:

Village's nursing home in 20 yrs will likely need to be replaced, closed, or significantly upgraded. This may affect Red Cedar clinic.

People to keep their animals in their own yards

Maybe just something anything for the kids so they can have fun in their hometown

Activities for children

Just maintain and periodically replace what needs to be replaced in our parks and we will be just fine

Allow four wheelers on streets in the winter to plow snow

Four wheeler trail through village

Need a place to skate

The park on the end of town is nice - could be kept up a bit better

Public swimming pool. It would be nice to see more places for the kids to go locally in the summertime

Industrial park - Business expansion - Services to new homes

Need bike paths - Archery range

Park used little!

Recreation that motivates kids to enjoy the outdoors - swimming/golf

Sidewalks Curb & gutter

Community center for youth - a safe place for kids to hangout after school and during summer with youth oriented activities

Add an enclosed shelter that people can reserve

AGRICULTURAL, NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

According to the survey, respondents feel that preserving the cultural and historic sites and protecting groundwater are the highest priorities concerning natural resource protection.

20. Of the following actions listed, how important is it for Elmwood to take action to retain its natural resources?

Response	High priority	Medium priority	Low priority	No opinion	No answer
Enhance the gateways and entrances to the Village	15.8%	36.8%	25.0%	13.6%	8.6%
Restore the urban forest along the major roads and in the parks	17.8%	37.5%	24.3%	11.2%	9.2%
Preserve the cultural and historic sites within the Village	33.6%	33.6%	17.8%	7.2%	7.9%
Develop current Village property for parks/open space	15.1%	36.2%	28.3%	11.8%	8.6%
Restore the natural plant communities and wildlife habitat	15.1%	35.5%	27.6%	12.5%	9.2%
Protect groundwater by encouraging on-site retention	36.8%	34.9%	4.6%	14.5%	9.3%

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

According to the survey, respondents feel that development in the Village should be encouraged. Approximately 17% of respondents work less than 10 minutes from their residence, which is encouraging for attracting and supporting more development.

21. In the next 20 years, the Village needs...

Response	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion	No answer
Commercial and retail development	45.4%	33.6%	5.3%	3.3%	3.9%	8.6%
Light industrial development	38.8%	42.8%	4.6%	2.0%	4.6%	7.2%
Downtown development	38.2%	46.1%	2.0%	2.0%	5.9%	5.9%
Home-based businesses	17.1%	41.4%	17.1%	2.0%	16.4%	5.9%
Recreational businesses	17.1%	47.4%	11.2%	1.3%	13.8%	9.2%
Agricultural-based businesses	14.5%	53.9%	7.9%	0.7%	12.5%	10.5%
DSL/high speed internet	20.4%	34.9%	7.9%	0.7%	23.7%	12.5%
Tourism	23.7%	40.8%	7.2%	3.3%	14.5%	10.5%

Other:

Need a reason for the young to stay or move here

22. What is your average commute time to work (one-way)?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Under 10 min.	26	17.1%
10-19 min.	8	5.3%
20-34 min.	26	17.1%
35-59 min.	18	11.8%
over 1 hour	6	3.9%
No answer	19	12.5%

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

According to the survey, respondents feel that the Village has good working relationships with surrounding municipalities and agencies.

23. Elmwood has a good working relationship with the following...

Response	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion	No answer
Elmwood School District	17.8%	48.0%	4.6%	1.3%	23.0%	5.3%
Pierce County	12.5%	51.3%	1.3%	2.0%	26.3%	6.6%
Dunn County	7.2%	44.1%	4.6%	1.3%	36.2%	6.6%
Town of Spring Lake	7.2%	44.1%	2.0%	1.3%	38.2%	7.3%
Town of Rock Elm	6.6%	45.4%	2.6%	1.3%	36.8%	7.3%

LAND USE

According to the survey, the highest percentages of respondents feel that community commercial and industrial uses should be encouraged. Each use listed received well over 50% of agree and strongly agree responses. Approximately 42% of respondents feel that the Village is doing a good job of regulating and guiding development, while approximately 79% agree or strongly agree that the visual impact of developments should be considered and approximately 60% disagree or strongly disagree that landowners should be allowed to develop any way they want to. Approximately 50% of respondents prefer conventional residential development, while approximately 40% prefer clustered residential development.

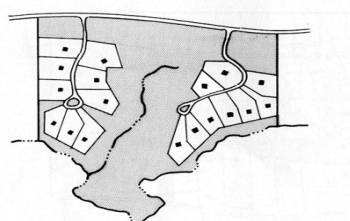
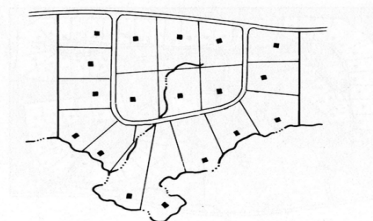
24. The Village should encourage development of the following uses:

Response	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion	No answer
Neighborhood commercial and office	30.3%	43.4%	6.6%	2.0%	7.2%	10.5%
Specialty stores	21.7%	44.7%	7.9%	1.3%	11.8%	12.5%
Community commercial uses	32.9%	43.4%	5.9%	0.7%	6.6%	10.5%
Industrial development	27.0%	47.4%	6.6%	1.3%	7.2%	10.5%
Offices	14.5%	41.4%	9.9%	0.7%	11.8%	21.7%

25. Please answer the following questions:

Response	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	No opinion	No answer
The Village does a good job of regulating and guiding development.	5.3%	36.8%	19.7%	3.9%	23.0%	11.2%
Landowners should be allowed to develop any way they want to.	7.2%	19.1%	39.5%	20.4%	5.3%	8.6%
The visual impact is an important consideration when evaluating proposed developments.	29.6%	49.3%	4.6%	2.0%	4.6%	9.9%

26. Do you prefer conventional residential development (OPTION A) or clustered development (OPTION B)?



OPTION A = 50.0%

OPTION B = 40.1%

No Answer = 9.9%

IMPLEMENTATION

According to the survey, approximately 59% of respondents agree or strongly agree that public information regarding meetings, events, or activities is available, while the largest number of respondents identified newspaper notices and newsletters as methods of communication that should be used more. The largest numbers of respondents feel that state/federal grants, user fees, and impact fees should be considered as means for future financing, while increasing taxes is the most unpopular method.

27. Public information regarding Village meetings, events, or activities are adequately available to residents.

Response	Frequency	Percent
Strongly agree	20	13.2%
Agree	69	45.4%
Disagree	31	20.4%
Strongly disagree	7	4.6%
No opinion	15	9.9%
No answer	10	6.6%

28. Please check the method(s) of communication that should be used more:

Response	Frequency
Newspaper notices	67
Newsletter	60
Website	45
Posting meeting notices/agendas	32
No answer	9

Other:

Newspaper notices – cheaper
 Newsletter – might get read more
 Public service T.V.
 Cable T.V.

29. The Village should consider these ways of financing future needs for public facilities, parks, utilities, and roads.

Response	Frequency
Tax increases	14
State/federal grants	119
Impact fees on new developments	50
User fees	57
Loans/bonding	40
No answer	10

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

User Fees are OK for only certain things

Get more industry to draw new residents. No community can be strictly a retirement community. When retirees die there is no one to replace them.

Jobs will create a growing population that will draw other investors. With more industry entertainment, people will need groceries, larger schools, etc.

Implement action for yard clean-up when junk piles up, notices given but nothing is done after notices sent. Possibly fines

Unsafe turn-around on Hwy 72/Winter/Race by motorists & Public St.

Within the next 5 years Elmwood will not be a town. It doesn't want to let any businesses in. It is run by "name" people only

We need more police protection. Police report put in paper.

Elmwood needs to do something other than sit around in a vegetative state except for one weekend a year. If we got into Elmwood all the time the way we get into UFO Days we would have a great little place to live.

Although we appreciate having a police patrol in town, we frequently see him driving at a speed higher than the posted limits. In particular, on several occasions, we have seen him speed down Springer Avenue, which has a posted speed limit of 15 mph. This is concerning due to the numerous children that live on this street, the nursing home and clinic traffic, and the fact that it is a dead end road. Please relay this feed back to him for the safety of our residents. Thank you!

Coffee shop! Clean. No Styrofoam. Strong coffee.

Please improve the visual appeal of the town, particularly entry to town.

Improve customer service - civility, manners

Keep litter picked up on roads. Impose fines for littering.

Require farmers to pick up plastic debris from their fields that blows all over and litters

Thanks for the opportunity to express opinion & make suggestions!

Without a grocery store it gets tough for seniors to live here

It's a shame to see all of the empty buildings and homes in town. Elmwood is becoming a town that has less & less to offer. We need more small businesses, possibly a drug store again and a small grocery store. People would rather drive to Spring Valley and support their community because they offer these

things. If we had more to offer in Elmwood maybe there would not be so many nice homes sitting empty that no one wants to buy. Wouldn't you rather live in a town that offers more than less.

I think more proposals to clean up yards & debris and only 2 vehicles (running) and (licensed) in the premises. It's beginning to be a disgrace to our town.

There should be no parking behind garages & buildings in alleys. And as I said speed limit in alley behind T & S.

I think this survey is a very good idea. What has happened with Elmwood? We used to be this neat village. We had ordinances that were a big part in keeping our village neat and clean. Many properties are a mess and property values have dropped because of it. The village is losing tax money because of the lowering of property values. How about having a clean-up week? If things are not cleaned in a certain time period – fine the property owners. Let's clean up this town so people will want to buy homes here. Let's get something done now and not wait until spring.

Unightly yards should be cleaned up. Recently a house on Shaw Avenue was sold to a family that moved in unsightly junk. There must be an ordinance to prohibit this and it must be enforced.

Certain buildings on Main Street need a face lift. Most of these buildings, particularly Podoll electric could be improved with very little expense(paint). Perhaps the village could have an incentive plan whereby a prize of \$1000 could be given for the most improved property on Main Street, \$500 for second, \$250 for 3rd. These could be lesser amounts such as \$500, \$250 and \$100.

Remember, when you drive into a town your first impression is the one that lasts! A good family restaurant would also be good. It would be a slow start by someone willing to stick it out.

Board members should do a "walkabout" town & have their ordinance book with them. And when someone has a legitimate complaint DO SOMETHING!

New Residents need "Welcome" letters that inform them of ordinances regarding pets AND NO BURNING. Many a beautiful (fall, summer, & spring) day is ruined by smoke in the air.

We were just about to retire to Elmwood. When we last the drug store. Elmwood needs a drug store, grocery store and even a café that is not a bar.

Lax enforcement of zoning reg. for several years has led to many real eyesores in our village. Many Village areas(village property)(sewer plant)(compost pile)(burn site)(signs)(weed cutting) areas along roadways need to be fixed, painted, cleaned up -plant shrubs, flowers, or neatened. Compost pile - driving in cow poop, smell, junky looking, can't get out of vehicle unless walking in manure sometimes.

Paying for police protection in the middle of the day when there isn't hardly a car moving is a waste. Also in the early evening. We need police 1am - 5am would be very adequate. Need grocery store and drug store we have been sold out on these luxuries.

Conserve more

The park downtown is not very pretty - reason - It is not kept up and looks second rate. There are no blooms and lots of weeds. It is an eyesore.

The park - Butternut - is not pretty either the bathrooms are broken & smell

The board needs to become familiar with the zoning ordinances and enforce them. We have several homes for sale and run down neighborhoods do not invite productive and working families. They need to be aggressive on this. If the present ordinances do not help or are too lax - create ordinances. There has to be a middle road somewhere where you don't have to be ashamed of your neighborhood.

Town eyesores - May and Main

Clark and Winter

Shaw Avenue has a couple

Alley by the beauty shop

There are others but I can't think of them now

UFO Days is nice

People need to cut their grass and shovel snow

Auditorium is nice

The school board and the village need to work together to find a successful resolution to the problem facing the Elmwood school in the near future. The school is the towns biggest asset. It would be nice to have more things for the kids to do locally year round. Ex. Swimming lessons, skating rink, roller blade/skate park. The kids need fun & constructive things to do. The new summer school program was great but once that is done there is nothing to do locally.

I think they need some instruction for these kids riding bikes. While crossing the street they never look for what is coming.

Need more police protection.

There are too many places that need cleaning up. Village is beginning to look like a DUMP!!

The focus here seems to be a development which is great. However, I would really like to see the village take a more active approach on cleaning up and fixing existing properties....encouraging people to clean up what they have. There are many properties that are "eye sores" and give the community an undesirable appearance.

Good job with the survey. It's nice to know the focus is trying to improve as a village. Your efforts are appreciated!!

Help keep school district open

Encourage new business to town

Encourage new home owners to live here

Encourage tourism

Plan for expansion - village growth. Annex more property to village

Plan water/sewer/fire/roads to enable growth

Keep police department - one full time officer

Keep working on the bike - cross-country ski trail from Elmwood to Spring Valley.
We need it. It would draw more people to the village and the area.

Enforce the laws the town has right now.

Mowing Lawns

Junk Cars

Just plain junk in yards

The town needs to be cleaned up better.

Enforce property appearance policies

No overnight parking of whatever vehicles on Main St. - year round

Please do not increase taxes, they are high enough for a small village