Issue 2• March/April 2024

Elko New Market

Official Newsletter of the City of Elko New Market

Annual Egg Hunt

When	Saturday, March 23, 2024 @ 10:00 am
Where	Eagle View Elementary School 25600 Nevada Avenue
Whom	Children up to 5th grade
Cost	$3 Pre-registration Per Child $5 Day of Egg Hunt Per Child

The Civic & Community Events Committee (CCEC) will be hosting our annual 2024 Egg Hunt. This event is fun for toddlers through 5th graders. The Egg Hunt will be on the playground and outdoor fields. Dress warm and arrive early. (Alternate accommodation may need to be made in inclement weather). Bring your camera to take pictures with our special guest, the Easter Bunny! All kids will receive a gift bag filled with an assortment of candy and prizes.

Pre-register by mail through Friday, March 15, 2024. Wristbands will be mailed out Monday, March 18. Pre-register in person at City Hall through Friday, March 22, 2024. We strongly suggest pre-registering to avoid registration delays at the Egg Hunt. Registration forms available at City Hall or on the City's website at https://www.ci.enm.mn.us/events

Return completed form along with payment ($3.00 per child) to: City of Elko New Market, Attn: Egg Hunt, PO Box 99, Elko New Market, MN 55020.

Please contact Lynda Jirak at (952)461-2777 or email ljirak@ci.enm.mn.us if you have any questions.

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CITY OF ELKO NEW MARKET
SMALL-TOWN CULTURE. EMERGING POSSIBILITIES.

Private Party Firearm Transfer Laws Have Changed

Minnesota laws regarding private party buying, starting, trading, gifting or transferring firearms changed on January 1, 2024. Under Minnesota law 624.7134 it is illegal for private parties to sell, gift, or give away a firearm(s) to another party without both the seller and buyer having a Permit to Purchase a Firearm.

There are several exceptions to this requirement. Here is a partial list of several exemptions:
(1) a transfer by or to a federally licensed firearms dealer;
(2) a transfer by or to any law enforcement agency;
(3) to the extent the transferee is acting within the course and scope of employment and official duties, a transfer to;
(i) a peace officer, as defined in section 626.84, subdivision 1, paragraph (c);
(ii) a member of the United States armed forces, the National Guard, or the Reserves of the United States armed forces;
(iii) a federal law enforcement officer; or
(iv) a security guard employed by a protective agent licensed pursuant to chapter 326;
(4) a transfer between immediate family members, which for the purposes of this section means spouses, domestic partners, parents, children, siblings, grandparents, and grandchildren;
(5) a transfer to an executor, administrator, trustee, or personal representative of an estate or a trust that occurs by operation of law upon the death of the former owner of the firearm;
(6) a transfer of an antique firearm as defined in section 624.712, subdivision 3;

(For a complete list of the exemptions and to read the full law/statute, please see the link below): https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/624.7134

Under the new state law, unless a transfer is made through a firearms dealer, when two unlicensed persons complete the transfer of a pistol or semiautomatic military-style assault weapon, the transferor and transferee must complete a record of transfer on a form designed by the MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension or contain the information on the form. Each page of the record of transfer must be signed and dated by the transferor and the transferee and contain the serial number of the pistol or semiautomatic military-style assault weapon.

A copy of that form can be found at the Police Department Lobby or on the MN Department of Public Safety website (Link Below):
https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca/bca-divisions/administrative/Documents/Private-Party-Transfer-Form.pdf

If you are a citizen of Elko New Market, you are eligible to apply for the necessary permit to purchase or transfer a firearm at the Police Department during normal business hours. The applications are in the front lobby for filling out, or fillable and printable copies can be found online at the MN Department of Public Safety website. The Chief of Police will complete the permit in the statutory prescribed 30 or less days. Most permits are completed in just a few days.

Under the law, a Permit to Carry a Firearm is the same as a Permit to Purchase. Permits to Carry are valid for Five years whereas a Permit to Purchase/Transfer are only valid for one year.

If you have any questions about selling or transferring a firearm, feel free to call Chief Brady Juell at 952-461-6068 or go to the official website of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety.
(Portions of the above article are from the MN Revisor's Office)

Retirement of Police Officer Melissa Wirtz

In light of the recent hiring of a full-time Police Officer, the Elko New Market Police Department has made the decision to move exclusively to Full-Time Officers. Consequently, the retirement of Officer Wirtz, the remaining scheduled part-time officer, marks the conclusion of a long-standing tradition of relying on part-time officers to staff our department. While Officer Machaby, our department's Administrative Officer, remains part-time, his presence on the road will be sporadic, primarily addressing gaps in coverage and participating in grant-funded traffic enforcement shifts. This significant transition will bring greater stability to our work schedule.

Officer Wirtz will be deeply missed, and we extend our heartfelt appreciation for her dedicated service to our community over the past seven years. Prior to joining the PD, Officer Wirtz spent seven years as a Security Officer at HCMC, rising to the rank of Lieutenant. Upon her hiring in 2016, she became the department's first full-time female Peace Officer.

Despite transitioning to a part-time role in 2020 to pursue ownership of her own business, Officer Wirtz diligently maintained all necessary training and qualifications to uphold her full-time Peace Officer license—a testament to her commitment and professionalism. In her part-time capacity, Officer Wirtz worked weekends during the day and assisted with the schedule when needed, significantly facilitating patrol management. She also graciously extended her tenure with the department to ensure operational continuity. Her departure leaves a void that will be keenly felt by all.

For Officer Wirtz, departing from the Law Enforcement profession was undoubtedly a difficult decision. With a servant's heart, she dedicated herself to safeguarding communities for over 14 years in various capacities. However, she believes it is time to embrace new challenges and shift her focus to personal endeavors.

We extend our best wishes to Officer Wirtz in all her future endeavors. The City of Elko New Market is profoundly grateful for your unwavering commitment to serving and protecting our community.

Sincerely, Chief Brady Juell

Report Snowplow Damage

The Public Works Department strives to keep roads as safe as possible during the winter season; however, incidents can happen that may cause damage to resident's mailboxes and/or sod or lawns.

Residents are asked to report any damage to their mailbox and/or sod or lawn to the City by visiting the following link:

https://www.ci.enm.mn.us/cityforms

- Under Online Forms, you will find the "Report Snowplow Damage Online Form". You can complete this and submit it online.

- Under Citizen Forms, you will find the "Report Snowplow Damage Form" PDF. This can be completed and submitted to City Offices via email, fax, or USPS.

Any sod damage due to snowplowing will be addressed in the Spring by the Public Works Department.

Family Fun Nights Summer 2024

WAGNER PARK

6PM

JUNE 20

HUNGRY HIPPO & OBSTACLE COURSE

↘ Bouncy bungee battle showdown

JUNE 27

MAGIC NORM

↘ Get ready for a whirlwind of laughs, dazzling effects, and brain-teasing tricks

JULY 11

PARTY CRASHERS RC CARS

↘ Test your driving skills with RC racing action

JULY 18

COMEDY JUGGLING

↘ A sidesplitting juggling show that has wowed crowds at fairs, comedy hotspots, and beyond

JULY 25

KIDSDANCE

↘ A DJ extraordinaire will get both the little ones and grown-ups on their feet, busting moves

AUGUST 1

THE BIG FUN SHOW

↘ This one man circus show features comedy juggling, magic and big fun for the whole family

AUGUST 8

FOAM DANCE PARTY

↘ A bubbly blast of squeaky-clean excitement. where you"ll dance in a bubble wonderland

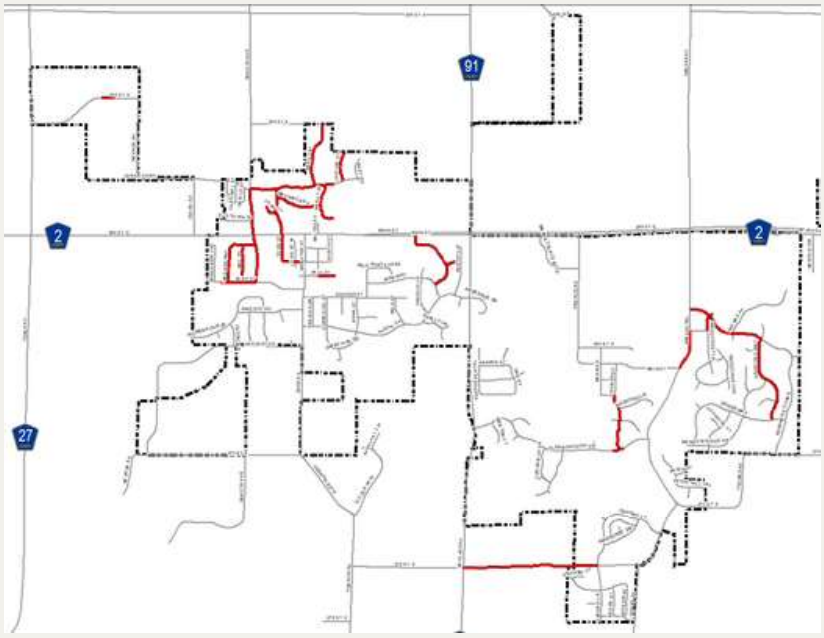
Free Events Sponsored by The City of Elko New Market

2024 Construction Projects

The City Council has conducted public hearings regarding two projects planned for 2024. The first project involves the full reconstruction of streets within the old downtown New Market area of the City, as shown on the map below.

The second project involves a pavement mill and overlay of several streets within the community as shown on the second map below.

For questions about either project contact City Engineer Rich Revering at 952-890-0509 or Senior Planner Renee Christianson at 952-461-2710.



March Calendar

City Council
Meeting - 14th @ 7:00 pm
Meeting - 28th @ 7:00 pm

All City Council meetings include a work session portion of the meeting, which occurs prior to the business meeting. If the work session is canceled, the business meeting will be moved to 6:00 p.m., except on dates Economic Development Authority (EDA) meetings are scheduled. On those dates, the business meeting will be moved to 7:00 p.m.

Economic Development Authority
Meeting - 28th @ 6:00 pm

Parks Commission
Meeting - 13th @ 6:00 pm

Planning Commission
Meeting - 26th @ 7:00 pm

April Calendar

City Council
Meeting - 11th @ 7:00 pm
Meeting - 25th @ 7:00 pm

All City Council meetings include a work session portion of the meeting, which occurs prior to the business meeting. If the work session is canceled, the business meeting will be moved to 6:00 p.m., except on dates Economic Development Authority (EDA) meetings are scheduled. On those dates, the business meeting will be moved to 7:00 p.m.

Parks Commission
Meeting - 10th @ 6:00 pm

Planning Commission
Meeting - 30th @ 7:00 pm

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MN 55020

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Elko New Market, MN

City Seeking Firefighters

The City of Elko New Market is accepting applications for Paid On-Call Fire Fighters. The individual will be responsible for performing fire prevention, protection, and medical service work involving response to fire alarms, medical, other emergency calls, and related work as required.

Minimum qualifications include 18 years of age, high school diploma or equivalent, ability to complete First Responder and Fire Fighter Certifications within 12 months of employment, a valid driver's license, and must be able to pass a pre-employment physical exam.

A City application is required. Application materials are available on the City's website at www.ci.enm.mn.us, and can be found under the Employment section. Submit completed application to the City of Elko New Market, Deputy Clerk, 601 Main Street, Elko New Market, MN, mail to City of Elko New Market, Deputy Clerk, PO Box 99, Elko New Market, MN 55020, or email ljirak@ci.enm.mn.us.The application deadline is 4:30 pm on March 29, 2024. For more information, call Elko New Market City Hall at (952)461-2777.

Cleaner Streets = Cleaner Water

Storm drains help keep our streets and neighborhoods from flooding, but they also connect to nearby lakes and streams. Litter, chemicals, and yard waste can pollute our waterways and cause algae blooms.

Keep Hard Surfaces Clean: Any debris on hard surfaces such as driveways and sidewalks washes off into storm drains. Ensure your gutters are directed to your lawn and not a hard surface to help prevent this. Keep leaves and grass clippings off hard surfaces. They may be natural, but excessive amounts running into storm drains pollute local waters. Sweep up leftover salt for reuse next winter.

Maintain a Healthy Lawn: Let your lawn grow a little longer. Grass has about the same depth of roots as shows above the ground. Using a higher setting on your lawn mower will encourage your lawn to have deeper roots. These roots take up rainwater and decrease the amount of storm water runoff. Your lawn will be healthier and withstand the wet/dry cycles of Minnesota weather with less lawn watering and chemicals.

Vehicle Care: Take your vehicle to a car wash so that soapy water doesn't flow into storm drains that connect to lakes and streams. If you wash at home, wash your car on the lawn so the water can soak into the ground. Look for non-toxic cleaners. Never dump oil or vehicle fluids into storm drains. If your vehicle is leaking oil, fix it quickly to help protect our waters.

2024 Community Events

Egg Hunt - March 23
City Wide Garage Sale - May 16-18
Fire Rescue Days - June 27-30
Night to Unite - August 6
Community Picnic - August 24
Halloween Party - October 26
Tree Lighting Ceremony - Dec. 7

Keep an eye on upcoming newsletters and the City website at www.ci.enm.mn.us for more community events as they are scheduled.

Facebook: bit.ly/ENMfacebook
Twitter (X): bit.ly/ENMtwitter

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