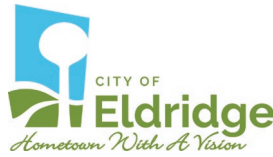


SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, August 12, 2026, 6:00 PM
Eldridge Community Center · 400 S 16th Avenue · Eldridge, IA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Public Comment
5. Old Business
 - A. Consideration to approve second reading of Ordinance 2026-11 Amendment adding Fire Chief and Title B Name to Public Safety
 - B. Consideration to approve second reading of Ordinance 2026-12 Establishing Fire Department
6. Board/Staff Activity Reports
 - A. Mayor's Report
7. Adjournment

Next Regular City Council Meeting: Monday, August 17th, 2026, at 7:00pm



ORDINANCE 2026-11

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE B NAME FROM PUBLIC ORDER TO PUBLIC SAFETY, ADDING FIRE CHIEF TO TITLE A DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS, REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT WITH THIS ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Section One.

Title B, Public Order is amended by removing the following language:

Public Order

Section Two.

Title B, Public Order is amended by removing the following language:

Public Safety

Section Three.

Title A § 5.00 Department Supervisors is amended by removing the following language:

The City Clerk, Chief of Police and Street Superintendent are considered as department heads. As such, they have broad operating responsibilities within their areas of concern. Section [5.02](#) defines their authority, § [5.01](#) defines those major responsibilities and § 5.03 deals with their roles and relationships to other officers and to the city employees.

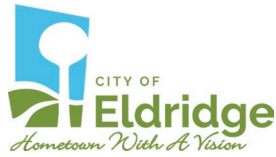
Section Four.

Title A § 5.00 Department Supervisors is amended by adding the following language:

The City Clerk, Chief of Police, Street Superintendent and Fire Chief are considered as department heads. As such, they have broad operating responsibilities within their areas of concern. Section [5.02](#) defines their authority, § [5.01](#) defines those major responsibilities and § 5.03 deals with their roles and relationships to other officers and to the city employees.

Section Five.

Title A § 5.01 Responsibilities is amended by adding the following language:



(D) *Fire Chief.* The Fire Chief is responsible for the broad area of public safety related to fire protection. As such, he or she supervises and directs fire department personnel, fire suppression, EMS activities, training, budgeting and record keeping

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 17TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2026.

Attest:

Mayor, Scott Campbell

Deputy City Clerk, Tabbitha Krammer

Ashcraft	☐ Yea	/	☐ Nay	/	☐ _____
Blackwell	☐ Yea	/	☐ Nay	/	☐ _____
Dockery	☐ Yea	/	☐ Nay	/	☐ _____
LaPlante	☐ Yea	/	☐ Nay	/	☐ _____
Iossi	☐ Yea	/	☐ Nay	/	☐ _____

ORDINANCE 2026-12

AN ORDINANCE ADDING TITLE B, CHAPTER 15 FIRE DEPARTMENT, REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT WITH THIS ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

CHAPTER 15 FIRE DEPARTMENT

15.01 Establishment and Purpose	15.08 Obedience to Fire Chief
15.02 Organization	15.09 Policies and Procedures
15.03 Appointment of Fire Chief, Officers, Members	15.10 Powers and Duties
15.04 Training	15.11 Response Outside City
15.05 Compensation	15.12 Charges for Services
15.06 Fire Chief Selection and Service	15.13 Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages
15.07 Duties of Fire Chief	15.14 Grants

15.01 ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.

A volunteer fire and rescue department is hereby established to prevent and extinguish fires, to protect lives and property against fires and other perils, to promote fire prevention and fire safety, and to answer all emergency calls for which there is no other established agency. The fire department may also provide rescue services.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.16)

15.02 ORGANIZATION.

The department shall consist of a permanent full-time Fire Chief and volunteer members. Additional permanent full-time, part-time staff, or volunteer paid-on-call members may be added as deemed necessary by resolution of the City Council.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])

15.03 APPOINTMENT OF FIRE CHIEF, OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

A. The Fire Chief shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Mayor, subject to the advice and approval of the City Council. This position will be supervised by the City Administrator. Fire Department Officers shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Fire Chief, subject to the approval of the City Administrator. The Fire Chief shall select and promote all other volunteer firefighters and has the authority to discharge volunteer firefighters who are found to be incompetent or derelict in their duties.

B. In case of absence of the Fire Chief the next officer in charge by rank, and so on, shall be in charge and have and exercise all the powers of Fire Chief.

C. The City Council shall also have the authority to remove members of the fire department for just cause. Notwithstanding, the Fire Chief shall be responsible for recruitment, appointment, and retention of members.

15.04 TRAINING.

All members of the department shall meet the minimum training standards established by the State Fire Marshal and attend and actively participate in regular or special training drills or programs as directed by the Fire Chief.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100B.2[4])

15.05 COMPENSATION.

The Fire Chief, staff, and members of the department shall be designated by rank and receive such compensation as shall be determined by resolution of the Council.

15.06 FIRE CHIEF SELECTION AND SERVICE.

The Fire Chief shall be recruited, selected, and appointed using a process similar to that used for other City department heads. The Fire Chief shall serve as an at-will employee under the general supervision and direction of the City Administrator.

15.07 DUTIES OF FIRE CHIEF.

The Fire Chief shall perform all duties required of the Fire Chief by law or ordinance, including (but not limited to) the following:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])

1. Enforce Laws. Enforce ordinances and laws regulating fire prevention and the investigation of the cause, origin, and circumstances of fires.
2. Technical Assistance. Upon request, give advice concerning private fire alarm systems, fire extinguishing equipment, fire escapes and exits, and development of fire emergency plans.
3. Authority at Fires. When in charge of a fire scene, direct an operation as necessary to extinguish or control a fire, perform a rescue operation, investigate the existence of a suspected or reported fire, gas leak, or other hazardous condition, or take any other action

deemed necessary in the reasonable performance of the department's duties.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 102.2)

4. Control of Scenes. Prohibit an individual, vehicle, or vessel from approaching a fire scene and remove from the scene any object, vehicle, vessel, or individual that may impede or interfere with the operation of the Fire Department.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 102.2)

5. Authority to Barricade. When in charge of a fire scene, place or erect ropes, guards, barricades or other obstructions across a street, alley, right-of-way, or private property near the location of the fire or emergency so as to prevent accidents or interference with the firefighting efforts of the Fire Department, to control the scene until any required investigation is complete, or to preserve evidence related to the fire or other emergency.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 102.3)

6. Command. Be charged with the duty of maintaining the efficiency, discipline, and control of the Fire Department. The members of the Fire Department shall, at all times, be subject to the direction of the Fire Chief.

7. Property. Exercise and have control over the use, maintenance, and operation of all fire apparatus, tools, equipment, and other property used by or belonging to the Fire Department. Establish controls and reports to ensure firefighting equipment is inspected and tested.

8. Notification. Whenever death, serious bodily injury, or property damage in excess of \$200,000.00 has occurred as a result of a fire, or if arson is suspected, notify the State Fire Marshal's Division, the City Administrator, and the Mayor immediately. For all other fires causing damage of \$50.00 or more, or emergency responses by the Fire Department, file a report with the State Fire Marshal's Division within 10 days following the end of the month. The report shall indicate all fire incidents occurring and state the name of the owners and occupants of the property at the time of the fire, the value of the property, the estimated total loss to the property, origin of the fire as determined by investigation, and other facts, statistics, and circumstances concerning the fire incidents.

9. Right of Entry. Have the right, during reasonable hours, to enter any building or premises within the Fire Chief's jurisdiction for the purpose of making such investigation or inspection that under law or ordinance may be necessary to be made and that is reasonably necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100.12)

10. Recommendation. Make such recommendations to owners, occupants, caretakers, or managers of buildings necessary to eliminate fire hazards.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100.13)

11. Assist State Fire Marshal. At the request of the State Fire Marshal, and as provided by law, aid said marshal in the performance of duties by investigating, preventing, and reporting data pertaining to fires.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100.4)

12. Records. Cause to be kept records of the Fire Department personnel, firefighting equipment, depreciation of all equipment and apparatus, the number of responses to alarms, their cause, and location, and an analysis of losses by value, type, and location of buildings.

13. Reports. Compile and submit to the Mayor and City Council an annual report of the status and activities of the Eldridge Fire Department as well as such other reports as may be requested by the Mayor, City Council or City Administrator.

14. Department Head. Be a City department head.

15. Budget. Assist the City Administrator in developing and administering the department's annual City budget and equipment revolving fund.

16. Purchasing Agent. Act as purchasing agent for the department in accordance with City purchasing policies and guidelines.

17. Represent Department. Represent the Fire Department in all matters relating to the department and attend any and all City meetings when so requested by the Mayor, City Council, or City Administrator.

18. Recruitment and Training. Recruit, train, hire, and direct the activities of fire fighters to ensure that an adequate number of trained firefighters are available in the event of a fire, medical, or other emergency response.

15.08 OBEDIENCE TO FIRE CHIEF.

No person shall willfully fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order or direction of the Fire Chief.

15.09 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.

The Fire Chief shall develop, adopt, periodically review, and amend such department policies and operating guidelines as they deem necessary to accomplish the object contemplated, and such policies and operating guidelines, and any change or amendment to the policies and guidelines, will take effect after reviewed and approved by the City Administrator. The Fire Chief may issue temporary operating guidelines at any time, and such operating guidelines shall be in effect until reviewed and approved by the City Administrator.

15.10 POWERS AND DUTIES.

The Fire Department, pursuant to the authority granted to the Fire Chief and the policies and procedures duly established by the

Department, shall have full, complete, and exclusive authority to expend for and on behalf of the City all sums of money appropriated to it, and to use and expend all gifts, donations, or payments, whatsoever which are received by the City specifically designated for department purposes.

15.11 RESPONSE OUTSIDE CITY.

The department may answer calls to fires and other emergencies outside the City limits if the Fire Chief determines that such an emergency exists and that such action will not endanger persons and property within the City limits. The department may answer all calls in accordance with the Benefited Fire District #3 Agreement, the **Scott County First Responder Agreement**, and in any other such mutual aid situation, as approved by the City Council.

15.12 CHARGES FOR SERVICES.

The City may cause to have charges billed for all services rendered by the department against individuals, businesses, or any other entities. Charges will not be billed (unless otherwise provided for herein) against residents/taxpayers of the County. Charges will be billed to any individuals, businesses, or any other entities where it is determined that: 1) it is conclusively determined by a conviction, admission of guilt, or through other indisputable evidence, that an illegal burn or any other illegal activity requiring the department’s services has taken place; 2) where a hazardous materials incident has occurred; 3) where arson has been found; or 4) to any entity where insurance recovery reimbursement options are available. The City shall initially determine (and periodically adjust) reasonable charges for the department’s services based upon current, industry-wide, standard practices for such activities, subject to the following criteria:

1. When charges are billed there shall be a base minimum charge of one hour with a minimum incremental charge of one-half hour thereafter.
2. Charges for services billed under this section involving activities or situations occurring on private property within the City, created by the property owner, or a regular resident of the property or with the property owner’s permission/knowledge may be assessed against the property pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 50 of this Code.
3. The charge for such services shall be computed to include a rate per hour, per vehicle, and per man-hour per firefighter responding to a call for assistance. An additional charge may be billed to reimburse the department for extraordinary expenses of materials used in rendering such services. No charge shall be made for services for which the total charge would be less than \$50.00.
4. Replacement cost of disposable equipment, equipment that is damaged or must be disposed of, will be added to the bill. An additional 25 percent will be added to cover the costs of replacement administration.
5. Any additional costs incurred by the City for cleanup or disposal will be billed to and must be paid by the responsible party.

15.13 CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

The consumption of alcoholic beverages (as defined by the *Code of Iowa*) is prohibited anywhere on the Fire Department property except within that area of the Fire Station building commonly known and referred to as the “community room” (including kitchen) and then only when done in conjunction with an authorized and approved rental or use of said area. The Fire Chief and all Fire Department members, employees, and staff are prohibited from responding to fire or emergency calls, participating in department training, or operating fire and emergency equipment following the consumption of alcoholic beverages.

15.14 GRANTS

The Fire Chief or the Chiefs designee may apply for grants, including grant applications offered by the state of Iowa or federal government. Grants with a cost share requirement shall be approved by the City Council prior to accepting an award.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 17TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2026.

Attest:

Mayor, Scott Campbell

Deputy City Clerk, Tabbitha Krammer

Ashcraft	☐ Yea	/	☐ Nay	/	☐ _____
Blackwell	☐ Yea	/	☐ Nay	/	☐ _____
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