

Welcome to the Village of Ellsworth Zoning Board of Appeals!

We're glad to have you with us and thanks for your willingness to serve your community in this important role. Over the coming months you'll be gaining firsthand experience in how this board supports our community as it grows. But to get you started, check out the resources below for information on how the Zoning Board of Appeals operates and where you can get some basic training on topics related to your new role.

Basic/Legal Information

As members of the Zoning Board of Appeals, you are subject to the following statutes:

- **Michigan Zoning Enabling Act:**
https://www.canr.msu.edu/uploads/resources/pdfs/statute_1235.3801_mpea.pdf
- **Michigan Open Meetings Act:** <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/mcl/pdf/mcl-act-267-of-1976.pdf> and information sheet:
<https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/-/media/Project/Websites/libraryofmichigan/For-Libraries/Administration/Library-Law/Open-Meetings-Act/Open-Meetings-Act-Info-Sheet.pdf>
- **Michigan Freedom of Information Act:**
<https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/mcl/pdf/mcl-act-442-of-1976.pdf>

Village of Ellsworth Information

- **Zoning Board of Appeals Bylaws:** (copy provided by Village Clerk).
- **Zoning Ordinance:** <https://villageofellsworthmi.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Ellsworth-Zoning-Ordinance-ADOPTED-2020-08-10.pdf>
- **Master Plan:** <https://villageofellsworthmi.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/1803-EllsworthMasterPlan2017.pdf>

Planning and Zoning Essentials – Training Resources

Note: Zoning Board of Appeals members have access to funds for training – talk to the Village Clerk for details on how to use those funds.

- **MSU Extension Citizen Planner (online or in-person):**
<https://www.canr.msu.edu>
- **Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) Best Practice Training (online or in person)**
<https://www.miplace.org/rrctraining>

Other planning and zoning resources (general information)

- **Michigan Association of Planning:** www.planningmi.org
- **Michigan Municipal League:** www.mml.org
- **Michigan Economic Development Corporation - Community Development:** www.miplace.org
- **StrongTowns** (planning nonprofit): <https://www.strongtowns.org/>
- **Planetizen** (planning news): <https://www.planetizen.com/>
- **CityLab** (planning blog) - <https://www.citylab.com/>