

Generational cowbell rivalry

In the inexorable march of time, some traditions remain as vital as ever. The annual "cowbell" game between the Oakes Tornadoes and the Ellendale Cardinals is one of them. It now spans eight decades and six generations.

According to Grok, the most commonly accepted delineation between generations is as follows:

- Silent Generation (also called Traditionalists): Born 1928–1945
- Baby Boomers (or Boomers): Born 1946–1964
- Generation X (or Gen X): Born 1965–1980
- Millennials (or Generation Y/Gen Y): Born 1981–1996
- Generation Z (or Gen Z/Zoomers): Born 1997–2012
- Generation Alpha (or Gen Alpha): Born 2010–2024

Some who well remember the first cowbell game are still with us. Their memories, and those of students from all the eras, remain an important part of local identity. We hope and expect that the cowbell tradition will stay alive another 80 years and beyond.

The information below, and a short account of the tradition's origin, can be found on the Ellendale Public School website, at the following short link: bit.ly/epscowbell

ND schools show slight gain in student preparation

Data may not be available for some categories that have fewer than 10 students due to privacy concerns, the department said.

The department changed its test provider, platform and questions used to measure English, math and science proficiency for the 2024-25 assessment. The scores are:

- English: 40% advanced or proficient, 42% approaching proficiency and 18% novice level
- Math: 41% advanced or proficient, 29% approaching proficiency and 29% novice level
- Science: 38% advanced or proficient, 29% approaching proficiency and 32% novice level

Chronic absenteeism, students who missed more than 10% of school days during the year, remained flat at 20% of students, the same percentage since the 2022-23 school year.

North Dakota Monitor reporter Michael Achterling can be reached at machterling@northdakotamonitor.com.

OAKES – ELLENDALE COWBELL TRADITION LAWS AND BYLAWS		
Article I		
That the first basketball game of each yearly basketball season, played between Oakes High School and Ellendale High School, shall be known as the COWBELL GAME.		
That the winner of this basketball game, be at Oakes or Ellendale, shall take possession for one year, or until the next annual cowbell game is held; "Ye Oakes–Ellendale Cowbell"– (as described in article II).		
That this tradition shall start with the first Oakes-Ellendale basketball game held during the 1946–47 basketball season, and will continue with each Oakes-Ellendale cowbell game thereafter.		
This tradition shall not terminate until the world and its inhabitants have been reduced to dust.		
Article II		
That "Ye Oakes-Ellendale Cowbell" shall be respected and honored by each school, in keeping with the tradition.		
That "Ye Oakes-Ellendale Cowbell" shall be kept at all times in the trophy case of the respective		
Oakes E.A. Quam, Superintendent N.W. Cummings, Coach John Kootsikas	Ellendale E.C. Invasion, Superintendent C.M. Pickens, Coach Barton Slemmons	school having possession of it, except when it is carried to basketball and football games to assist in the pep squad proceedings of that respective school.

YEAR	SITE	SCORE	WON/TOTAL	1985 – 86	Oakes	57 – 48	Oakes – 18
1946 – 47	Ellendale	35 – 28	Oakes – 1	1986 – 87	Ellendale	54 – 47	Oakes – 19
1947 – 48	Oakes	30 – 13	Ellendale – 1	1987 – 88	Oakes	67 – 54	Oakes – 20
1948 – 49	Ellendale	30 – 29	Ellendale – 2	1988 – 89	Ellendale	58 – 44	Oakes – 21
1949 – 50	Oakes	41 – 39	Ellendale – 3	1989 – 90	Oakes	61 – 56, OT	Oakes – 22
1950 – 51	Ellendale	57 – 39	Ellendale – 4	1990 – 91	Ellendale	60 – 57, OT	Ellendale – 23
1951 – 52	Oakes	57 – 31	Ellendale – 5	1991 – 92	Oakes	67 – 52	Oakes – 23
1952 – 53	Ellendale	53 – 48	Oakes – 2	1992 – 93	Ellendale	70 – 31	Oakes – 24
1953 – 54	Oakes	65 – 42	Ellendale – 6	1993 – 94	Oakes	73 – 59	Oakes – 25
1954 – 55	Ellendale	56 – 47	Oakes – 3	1994 – 95	Ellendale	76 – 50	Oakes – 26
1955 – 56	Oakes	62 – 50	Ellendale – 7	1995 – 96	Oakes	62 – 57	Ellendale – 24
1956 – 57	Ellendale	54 – 48	Ellendale – 8	1996 – 97	Ellendale	71 – 54	Oakes – 27
1957 – 58	Oakes	57 – 36	Ellendale – 9	1997 – 98	Oakes	70 – 50	Oakes – 28
1958 – 59	Ellendale	52 – 41	Ellendale – 10	1998 – 99	Ellendale	67 – 59	Ellendale – 25
1959 – 60	Oakes	85 – 52	Ellendale – 11	1999 – 00	Oakes	58 – 41	Oakes – 29
1960 – 61	Ellendale	66 – 35	Ellendale – 12	2000 – 01	Ellendale	52 – 46	Ellendale – 26
1961 – 62	Oakes	60 – 54	Ellendale – 13	2001 – 02	Oakes	40 – 51	Oakes – 30
1962 – 63	Ellendale	60 – 51	Oakes – 4	2002 – 03	Ellendale	59 – 54	Ellendale – 27
1963 – 64	Oakes	52 – 39	Oakes – 5	2003 – 04	Oakes	78 – 45	Ellendale – 28
1964 – 65	Ellendale	62 – 60	Oakes – 6	2004 – 05	Ellendale	57 – 43	Ellendale – 29
1965 – 66	Oakes	56 – 55	Oakes – 7	2005 – 06	Oakes	57 – 46	Ellendale – 30
1966 – 67	Ellendale	78 – 44	Ellendale – 14	2006 – 07	Ellendale	71 – 66, 2OT	Ellendale – 31
1967 – 68	Oakes	69 – 56	Ellendale 15	2007 – 08	Oakes	36 – 52	Oakes – 31
1968 – 69	Ellendale	67 – 55	Ellendale – 16	2008 – 09	Ellendale	70 – 46	Ellendale – 32
1969 – 70	Oakes	68 – 59	Oakes – 8	2009 – 10	Oakes	65 – 63	Ellendale – 33
1970 – 71	Ellendale	57 – 51	Oakes – 9	2010 – 11	Ellendale	75 – 49	Ellendale – 34
1971 – 72	Oakes	71 – 54	Oakes – 10	2011 – 12	Oakes	51 – 52, OT	Oakes – 32
1972 – 73	Ellendale	64 – 63	Oakes – 11	2012 – 13	Ellendale	54 – 51	Ellendale – 35
1973 – 74	Oakes	55 – 41	Ellendale – 17	2013 – 14	Oakes	62 – 49	Ellendale – 36
1974 – 75	Ellendale	59 – 50	Ellendale – 18	2014 – 15	Ellendale	57 – 56	Ellendale – 37
1975 – 76	Oakes	50 – 44	Oakes – 12	2015 – 16	Oakes	64 – 38	Ellendale – 38
1976 – 77	Ellendale	53 – 45	Oakes – 13	2016 – 17	Ellendale	66 – 46	Ellendale – 39
1977 – 78	Oakes	48 – 21	Ellendale – 19	2017 – 18	Oakes	53 – 51	Ellendale – 40
1978 – 79	Ellendale	51 – 40	Ellendale – 20	2018 – 19	Ellendale	68 – 54	Ellendale – 41
1979 – 80	Oakes	79 – 46	Oakes – 14	2019 – 20	Oakes	56 – 47	Ellendale – 42
1980 – 81	Ellendale	55 – 43	Oakes – 15	2020 – 21	Ellendale	58 – 53	Ellendale – 43
1981 – 82	Oakes	57 – 55	Oakes – 16	2021 – 22	Oakes	64 – 38	Ellendale – 44
1982 – 83	Ellendale	35 – 33	Oakes – 17	2022 – 23	Ellendale	58 – 44	Ellendale – 45
1983 – 84	Oakes	71 – 66, 3OT	Ellendale – 21	2023 – 24	Oakes	69 – 36	Oakes – 33
1984 – 85	Ellendale	50 – 35	Ellendale – 22	2024 – 25			

Public Notices: City of Ellendale -- Special Nov. 24 Meeting & 3 Ordinance Revisions

CITY OF ELLENDALE

Special Meeting
City Council
November 24, 2025
6:00 pm – City Hall and Zoom Virtual

This meeting was held at City Hall and virtual Zoom Meeting option was also available.

Mayor Flaherty called the special zoning and planning hearing/meeting hearing to order at 6:00 PM with Council members in attendance: Lee, Meidinger, Crabtree, and Denison. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Absent: Langeliers, and Belgarde

City Employees present: Deputy Auditor Schmidt, Attorney Kelly via zoom.

Others attending: Separate sign-in sheet available.

Public Comment: None

Ellendale City Council to meet as our zoning and planning board for consideration of zoning topics.

Plat Approvals: Applied Digital plat approval. No public comments. Lee moves, Denison seconds to recommend approval of this plat to the city council. The grounds on which this plat is approved is in line with the functions of what is located at this plat. No concerns to public health or safety. Roll call vote: Meidinger, Denison, Lee, and Crabtree- yes. Absent: Langeliers, Belgarde. Motion carries. Denison moves, Lee seconds to direct city attorney draft the findings for the discussion on the plat approval for Applied Digital. All in favor, aye. Absent: Langeliers, & Belgarde. Motion carries.

Cotter Plat Approval: Replat of Lots 1-5 of Block 12, Original Plat, Ellendale to make into two separate lots. Currently all lots are commercial. Meidinger moves, Denison seconds to recommend this for approval to city council. No zoning change, just a change in classification needed, and no concerns to public health or safety. Roll Call vote: Lee, Crabtree, Meidinger, Denison- yes. Absent: Langeliers, Belgarde. Motion carries. Denison moves Crabtree seconds to direct city attorney to draft the findings for the discussion on the plat approval for Replat of Lots 1-5, Block 12, Original Plat, Ellendale. Motion carries.

Industrial Zoning: Adjustments discussed that should be changed. Lee moves, Crabtree seconds to recommend the proposed industrial ordinance be passed with the discussed changes. All in favor, aye. Motion carries. Denison moves, Crabtree seconds that city attorney develop findings based on their discussion. All in favor, aye. Motion carries. Zoning Commission Meeting closed. City Council Public Hearing: Meidinger leaves at 7 pm. Plat Approvals: No public comments. Industrial Zoning: No public comments. Some amendments made by zoning board. Crabtree moves, Denison seconds to approve the zoning changes for Light Industrial. Absent: Meidinger, Langeliers, Belgarde. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.

Applied to Industrial: No public comments.

Special City Public Hearing Closed. Special Council Meeting: Public Comment: No public comments received.

Storage Container Permit: Lee moves, Denison seconds to approve storage container permits for Custom Touch Homes at Westside Mobile Home Court and for Doug Muckey at 315 5th St S. All in favor, aye. Absent: Meidinger, Langeliers, Belgarde. Motion carries.

Building Permits: Crabtree moves, Lee seconds to approve the following building permits: Custom Touch Homes for a pre-built storage shed at Westside Mobile Home Court; and Jay's Furniture to place a sign on South side of Hwy 11 west across from Westside Mobile Home Court for advertising purposes. Custom Touch Homes, Bell's Addn: to put temporary housing up for a short-term solution, then once construction workers leave turn those lots into permanent single-family homes. Council chooses option number 5 from the options they provided. Formal building permits to follow.

Ag Use/Regulated Animal Permit: Request submitted for regulated animal in conjunction with ag use permit. Lee moves, Denison seconds to approve regulated animal permit and ag use permit for Jeff Ringstad at 1711 1st St N. All in favor, aye. Absent: Meidinger, Langeliers, Belgarde. Motion carries.

Second Readings: Lee moves, Crabtree seconds to approve Late Filing Fee Ordinance. Roll call vote: Denison, Lee, Crabtree- aye. Absent: Meidinger, Langeliers, Belgarde. Motion carries. Lee moves, Denison seconds motion to amend the second reading to have this ordinance go into effect January 1, 2026. All in favor, aye. Absent: Meidinger, Langeliers, Belgarde. Motion carries. Mobile Food Ordinance: Lee moves, Crabtree seconds to approve Mobile Food Ordinance Second Reading with the amendment that it goes into effect January 1, 2026. Roll call vote: Denison, Crabtree, Lee-Aye. Absent: Meidinger, Langeliers, Belgarde. Motion carries. Hawkers/Peddlers Ordinance: Crabtree moves, Lee seconds to approve second reading of Hawkers/Peddlers Ordinance Second Reading with the amendment it goes into effect January 1, 2026. Roll call vote: Lee, Crabtree, Denison- aye. Absent: Meidinger, Langeliers, Belgarde. Motion carries. Industrial Zoning Ordinance 2nd Reading: Motion by Denison, second by Lee to adopt the Industrial Zoning Ordinance as recommended by the Zoning/Planning Committee to include modifying C-1 to Light Industrial as applied to Applied Digital. Roll call vote: Lee, Denison, Crabtree- Yes. Absent: Langeliers, Meidinger, Belgarde. Motion carries.

Plat Filings: Lee moves, Crabtree seconds to approve plat filing for Applied Digital Plat as presented and recommended by Planning Board. Roll call Denison, Lee, Crabtree- yes. Absent: Meidinger, Langeliers, Belgarde. Motion carries. Meidinger moves, Lee seconds to approve plat filing for Cotter plat as presented and recommended by Planning board. Roll call: Meidinger, Lee, Denison, Crabtree- yes. Absent: Langeliers, Belgarde. Motion carries. Meidinger arrives at 7:47 PM

Midwest Inspection Contract Review: Contract sent to city attorney for review and there were some questions on the contract before approving. City attorney to make discussed changes to send back to Midwest for review.

Crushed Concrete: Motion by Lee, seconded by Meidinger to adopt the recommendation by City Legal Council to pay Headwaters invoice, after some negotiations. Roll call vote: Crabtree, Denison, Meidinger, Lee- yes. Absent: Langeliers, Belgarde. Motion carries. Meidinger moves, to have city auditor to cut check for the amended invoice. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.

December Meeting: Due to scheduling several council members for the December 8, 2025, regular meeting, the council is wanting to move the regular

meeting date to Thursday December 11, 2025.

Correspondence: None

Holiday Schedule: Motion by Lee, seconded by Crabtree to approve city workers having the day after Christmas off as a paid holiday given that Christmas falls on a Thursday this year. All in favor, aye. Motion carries.

Next meeting: Regular meeting/hearing December 11, 2025, at 6 PM. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM

Donald Flaherty, Mayor
Nicole Gunn, Auditor

(Minutes subject to corrections and approval at next regular meeting.)

(December 18, 2025)

CITY OF ELLENDALE

Amendment of Chapter 7
Ellendale Revised Ordinances
Amendment by Addition of Article 3.1
WE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELLENDALE, NORTH DAKOTA, do hereby amend Chapter 7 of the Ellendale Ordinances by addition of article 3.1. Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Ellendale, Dickey County, North Dakota, that the Ordinances be amended by amending Chapter 7 by addition of Article 3.1 to read as follows:

ARTICLE 3.1
7.03.1-01—Mobile Food Regulations
WITH RESPECT TO MOBILE FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS as defined by the referenced state and federal codes hereinafter cited, there is hereby adopted by reference by the City Council, for the purpose of prescribing regulations governing standards, relative only to mobile food establishments in the city of Ellendale, those relevant portions of that certain code known as the North Dakota Food Code recommended and compiled by the North Dakota Department of Health, chapter 33-33-04.1 of the North Dakota Administrative Code, which incorporates by reference the U.S. Food and Drug Administration 2022 Food Code, as amended or updated from time to time, as well as all other applicable chapters or sections of the North Dakota Century Code and the same is hereby adopted and incorporated as fully as if set out in length herein WITH RESPECT ONLY TO MOBILE FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS and from the date on which this ordinance shall take effect, the provisions thereof shall be controlling within the limits of the city. Any Mobile Food Establishment shall obtain a permit from the City prior to carrying out any Mobile Food Establishment activities within city limits by submitting an application provide by the city conforming to the requirements of the city, including without limitation a current and valid copy of applicant's state sales and use tax permit, and shall pay a permit fee as set by the city council from time to time, but not less than \$5 per day, \$20 per week, \$50 per month, \$100 per three months, and/or \$300 per year, and the city council or its designee shall have the sole discretion of approving or disapproving any permit application. Any Mobile Food Establishment that obtains a permit pursuant to this ordinance shall not be required to also obtain a hawker and peddler permit from the city. The city council or its designee may waive the requirements of submitting the permit application and paying the permit fee otherwise required by this ordinance for special events such as the county fair or

street fairs, in the city's sole discretion. Any such waiver for an application and/or fee shall in no manner be a waiver of complying with all other Mobile Food Establishment regulations including without limitation full compliance with the applicable food codes.

7.03.1-02—Penalties

Any person, firm, corporation or association violating any of the provisions of this article

shall upon conviction thereof, be subject to a fine of not to exceed a warning for the first offense, \$25 for a second offense, \$50 for a third offense, \$100 for a fourth offense, and a class B Misdemeanor for a fifth or more offense. In addition to such penalties, all powers, right and privileges given by any license granted under the terms of this article may be terminated or revoked and the offending person and/or business may immediately be ordered by any city official, including without limitation law enforcement, to immediately cease all operations, and failure to so immediately cease all operations shall be deemed a class B Misdemeanor.

Be it so ordained this 24th day of November, 2025

CITY OF ELLENDALE

By: _____
Donald Flaherty, Mayor
ATTEST:

Nicole Gunn, Auditor
First Reading: November 10, 2024
Second Reading: November 24, 2025

(December 18, 2025)

CITY OF ELLENDALE

Amendment of Chapter 1
Ellendale Revised Ordinances
Addition of Article 12-Timely Submission to Council for Decision Consideration (Late Fees)

WE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELLENDALE, NORTH DAKOTA, do hereby amend Chapter 1 of the Ellendale Ordinances by addition of Article 12 as follows:

ARTICLE 12--Timely Submission to Council for Decision

1.1201Late Fees

Any person or entity submitting a request or application for a permit or license of any kind or nature ("application") from the City of Ellendale pursuant to any ordinance of the city, any resolution of the city, and/or any established practice of the city, who does not submit their application for such permit or license in writing at least 5 business days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council shall be subject to a late application administrative fee set by the City Council by resolution from time to time and such application shall be deemed late. Any person or entity asking the City Council to consider application for such a permit or license at a special meeting shall be deemed to have submitted their application late.

Be it so ordained this 24th day of November 2025.

CITY OF ELLENDALE

By: _____

Donald Flaherty, Mayor
ATTEST:

Nicole Gunn, Auditor
First Reading: November 10, 2025
Second Reading: November 24, 2025

(December 18, 2025)

CITY OF ELLENDALE

Amendment of Chapter 7
ARTICLE 3, Hawkers and Peddlers
Ellendale Revised Ordinances

WE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELLENDALE, NORTH DAKOTA, DO HEREBY AMEND CHAPTER 7, ARTICLE 3 as follows:

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Ellendale, Dickey County, North Dakota, that the Revised Ordinances of the City of Ellendale be amended by changing Chapter 7 to, ARTICLE 3, Hawkers and Peddlers, to read as follows:

7.0301 Definitions

The word "person" as used herein shall include the singular and the plural and shall also mean and include any person, firm or corporation, association, club, co-partnership or society or any other organization. The words "hawker" and "peddler" as used herein shall include any person, whether a resident of the City or not, traveling by foot, wagon, automotive vehicle or any other type of conveyance from place to place, from house to house, or from street to street, carrying, conveying or transporting goods, wares or merchandise, offering and exposing the same for sale, or making sales and delivering articles to purchasers and/or offering or performing any services related to such activities. The words "hawker" and "peddler" also include any person who, without traveling from place to place, shall sell or offer the same for sale, or sell or offer for sale any services relating to the such activities from an automotive vehicle, railroad car or other vehicle or conveyance. One who solicits as a part of a scheme or design to evade the provisions of this article shall be deemed a hawker or peddler subject to the provisions of this article. The location of those who operate as a "hawker" or "peddler" must be in conformity to the existing zoning for such location.

7.0302 License Required

It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the business of hawker or peddler of any merchandise, article or thing without having first secured a license therefore.

7.0303Reserved.

7.0304License - Application for

Applicants for license under this article must file with the City Auditor a sworn application in writing, which shall give the following information:

- 1.Name, age and sex of the applicant;
- 2.Address (legal and local);
- 3.A brief description of the nature of the business and the goods to be sold;
- 4.If employed, the name and address of the employer, together with credentials establishing the exact relationship;
- 5.The length of time for which the right to do business is desired;
- 6.If a vehicle is to be used, a description of the same, together with license number; and
- 7.A statement as to whether or not the applicant has been convicted of any crimes, misdemeanors or violations of any municipal ordinance, the nature of the offense and the punishment or

penalty assessed therefore.

8.Provide a copy of applicant's current and valid state sales and use tax permit.

7.0305Fees

The license fee to be required of all hawkers and peddlers for the transaction of business within the City shall be in the sum of \$5.00 per day, \$20.00 per week, \$50.00 per month, \$100.00 per three months, and/or \$300.00 per year, all subject to change by resolution of the City Council, for each applicable time period which any such hawker or peddler shall transact business in the City.

7.0306 Exhibition of License

Hawkers and peddlers are required to exhibit their licenses at the request of any citizen.

7.0307Transfer

No license issued under the provisions of this article shall be transferred or used at any time by any person other than the one to whom it was issued.

7.0308Use of Streets

No hawker or peddler shall have any exclusive right to any location in the public streets nor shall any be permitted to a stationary location nor shall he be permitted to operate in any congested area where his operations might impede or inconvenience the public. For the purpose of this article, the judgment of a police officer, exercised in good faith, shall be deemed conclusive as to whether the area is congested or the public impeded or inconvenienced.

7.0309Enforcement

It shall be the duty of any police officer of this City to require any person seen hawking or peddling, and who is not known by such officer to be duly licensed, to produce his license and to enforce the provisions of this article against any person found to be violating the same.

7.0310Revocation

1.Licenses issued under the provisions of this article may be revoked by the City Council after notice and hearing for any of the following causes:

- a.Fraud, misrepresentation or false statement contained in the application for license;
- b.Fraud, misrepresentation or false statement made in the course of carrying on his business;
- c.Any violation of this article;
- d.Conviction of any crime or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;
- e.Conducting the business of hawking or peddling in an unlawful manner or in such a manner as to constitute a breach of peace or constitute a menace to the health, safety or general welfare of the public.

2. Notice of a hearing for revocation of a license shall be given in writing, setting forth specifically the grounds of complaint and the time and place of hearing. Such notice shall be mailed, postage prepaid, to the licensee at his last known address at least five (5) days prior to the date set for the hearing.

Be it ordained this 24th day of November, 2025.

By: _____
Donald Flaherty, Mayor
ATTEST:

Nicole Gunn, Auditor
First reading: November 11, 2024
Second Reading November 24, 2025

Publication Date: December 18, 2025

(December 18, 2025)