

NOTES FROM CITY HALL – JANUARY 2022

Congratulations to the winners of the Chamber of Commerce Holiday Lighting Contest.

Residential: 1st – Mark & Peggy Hecht, 106 Third Street NE; 2nd – Steve & Marnie Schnoor, 205 Third Street NW; 3rd – Alvin & Doris Coon, 306 Main Street West.

Honorable Mentions: Mark Hermel, 206 Main Street West; Matt & Tiffany Olson, 11 Cedar Point Lane NW; Nick & Chelsie Johnson, 410 First Street N.

Commercial: 1st – City of Elysian, Street Light Decorations; 2nd – Trailside Trims, 107 Main Street West; 3rd - The Coop, 200 Main Street West.

Public Works will be picking up and disposing of live Christmas trees through the end of January. Please remove all decorations from the tree and place it at the curb for pick up.

The water rates are increasing effective January 1, 2022. The increase will be reflected on the February 2022 utility bill. The base charge has increased from \$17 to \$18 per month. The user charge has increased from \$4.50 per 1,000 gallons to \$7.00 per 1,000 gallons. As an example, the charge for a user of 3,000 gallons per month is currently \$30.50. The new rates will result in a charge of \$39. There will be no other changes to the utility rates for 2022.

Please note that there is not a requirement to license your dog / cat in 2022. The Council voted to discontinue annual animal licensing within the City. This will be reflected in a change to the ordinance later this year.

Reminder: Per City Ordinance § 70.01 – (B1) At 3 inches of snow accumulation or more, no parking or leaving cars on any street or avenue will be allowed between the hours of 5:00 am and 10:00 am. (2) Notwithstanding the above, parking in the Central Business District shall be prohibited between the hours of 2:00 am and 7:00 am between the dates of November 15th and April 15th.

UPCOMING ELYSIAN AREA LIBRARY & HERITAGE CENTER EVENTS:

The Book Blizzard Challenge has begun! Jan. 1st – Feb. 28th. Adults 18+ can read and win prizes. Sign up by stopping by the library.; *Winnie the Pooh Pack Grab n Go* are available for families to pick up and do at home. There are crafts, games, and more! Everything Winnie the Pooh. **Feb Events:** *Puzzle Derby* Feb. 2nd at 9 am--Grab your team of up to four and be the first to complete the 500 pc. puzzle. Complete first and your team wins the prize and bragging rights! *Book Talk* Feb. 7th at 6 pm-Pick up at copy of "Hudson Bay Bound: Two Women, One Dog, Two Thousand Miles to the Arctic" by Natalie Warren. Read the book and join in for the discussion on Feb. 7th. *Building Challenges* Feb. 14th at 6 pm. Geared for ages 7-12. Kids learn about the work of architects and engineers Zaha Hadid, Emily Roeblin, and Maya Lin. Then work out building challenges based on their work based on magnetic building blocks, connector sets, and more. Registration required! Questions about events or to register please call 507-267-4411 or email libtle@tds.lib.mn.us

The Elysian Area Foundation is looking for volunteers to join their Board of Directors. Please contact Jim Hansen at 507-327-5746 for more information.

There is no Bingo on Friday evenings at the Elysian American Legion Club the month of January 2022. Stay tuned for further developments. Volunteer help is needed. Please contact Pat Nusbaum at 507-317-0532 if you can help.

ELYSIAN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY JANUARY 10, 2022 AT 6:00 PM

Present: Mayor Tom McBroom; Councilmembers Bobby Houlihan, Dennis Schnoor and Bryan Suemnick; City Administrator Lorri Kopischke; Public Works Director Ron Greenwald; City Attorney Jason Moran. Absent: Councilmember Derek Westby.

Approved the minutes of the December 13, 2021 Regular Meeting and December 28, 2021 Special Year-End Meeting.

Le Sueur County Chief Deputy Nick Greenig reported the City has been quiet. One new deputy has been hired.

Held Public Hearing and approved Ordinance #100/22 – Granting a Franchise to CMN-RUS, Inc. (MetroNet) to construct, operate, and maintain a Cable System in the City of Elysian.

Public Comment: None.

Approved the 2022 Designations as follows:

- a. Regular Council meeting date and time: Second Monday of each month at 6:00 pm unless otherwise designated.
- b. Appointments / Assignments:
 - i. Mayor Pro Tem – Dennis Schnoor
 - ii. Official Depository – Elysian Bank and Northland Securities
 - iii. Official Publication – MN South Lake Region Life Enterprise
 - iv. Legal Counsel – Jason Moran, Law Firm of Christian, Keogh, Moran & King – Criminal and Civil
 - v. Auditor – Burkhardt & Burkhardt, Ltd
 - vi. Planning and Zoning - Member from Council – Tom McBroom – 1 year term, Member from Public – Dan Engebretson - 3 year term, Member from Public – Al Linse – 3 year term
 - vii. EDA - Member from Council – Bobby Houlihan – 1 year term, Member from Council – Derek Westby – 1 year term, Administrator – Lorri Kopischke – 1 year term
 - viii. Park Committee - Member from Council – Tom McBroom - 1 year term, Member from Council – Bobby Houlihan - 1 year term, Member from Staff – Ron Greenwald - 1 year term, Member from Staff – Nicole Lamont – 1 year term
 - ix. WEM Community Education Advisory Board – Tom McBroom - 1 year term
 - x. Representative to the MVCOG General Assembly – Tom McBroom - 1 year term
 - xi. Fire Relief Association - Member from Council – Dennis Schnoor – 1 year term, Member Appointed – City Administrator Lorri Kopischke – 1 year term
 - xii. Joint Fire Board Representative – Dennis Schnoor
 - xiii. Emergency Management - Director – Brian Rutt

Approved Fire Department Chief Appointments as follows: Chief – Jason James, First Assistant Chief – Richard Droog, Second Assistant Chief – Jacob James

Approved the Fire Chief Pay of \$3,800 per year. Approved \$50 per meeting / training for P&Z Commission, \$25 per meeting / training for Park Committee, WEM Community Education Advisory Board, Representative to MVCOG General Assembly, Fire Relief Association, Joint Fire Board, and \$40 per month and \$40 per special meeting / training for EDA.

Approved quote from MacQueen Equipment in the amount of \$1,816.19 for repair of the conveyor of the street sweeper.

Received report of availability of John Deere tractor. Will review contract and payment terms at February meeting.

Discussed options for the tennis courts at the Elementary School. City Attorney Moran will contact WEM Superintendent Whitehurst to discuss the details of an agreement and Greenwald will obtain estimates for blacktop and other surface overlays to the courts.

Discussed the blacktopping of the alley north of the businesses on Main Street East and the alley north of DNR Trail on State Hwy 60 between County Road #11 and Second Street SE. Scheduled a workshop meeting on February 14, 2022 at 5:30 pm to discuss options for blacktopping the alley north of Main Street East with the adjoining property owners.

Reviewed a draft compliance agreement with Minnesota Department of Health with regard to Contaminant: Combined Radium 226 & 228 Corrective Actions Required and will request that item A. Complete Preliminary Design Review be extended to July 31, 2022 and Item B. These actions will be used to create a new compliance agreement be extended to November 30, 2022.

Approved Resolution #744/22 – Approving an Interfund Loan in the amount of \$113,900 to Fund the Project described as: New Water Treatment Plant – Preliminary Design Phase Services.

Reminder of the Le Sueur County Officials Association Meeting January 26, 2022 at El Molino's Waterville at 7:00 pm.

Received report regarding the status of the property with the nuisance structure at 402 Frank Avenue NW.

Approved bills, payroll, and transfers in the amount of \$278,114.44.

Public Comment: None.

The meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm.