

NOTES FROM CITY HALL – JANUARY 2024

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.

There is now a sharps container located in front of the Elysian Fire Hall, 202 Main Street E, available for the public to use to safely dispose of sharps such as contaminated syringes, needles, lancets, scalpels, infusion needle sets, connection needles, and auto-injectors. Thank you for safely disposing of these items.

The winners of the Elysian Area Chamber 2023 Residential Lighting Contest are: 1st Place Mark and Peggy Hecht – 106 Third Street NE, 2nd Place Doris Coon – 306 Main Street W, 3rd Place Steve and Marnie Schnoor – 205 Third Street NW. Honorable Mention: Kyle and Jessica Wesley – 629 Ridge Road and Mark Hermel – 206 Main Street W.

The water and sewer utility rates will not change in 2024. The residential environmental utility fund (EUF) will increase from \$5 to \$12.50 per month effective January 1, 2024. The commercial environmental utility fund will also increase. That rate is not fixed but is based on impervious surface and varies with each commercial property.

Please Note: 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. (B2) 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: *Wellness Saturday* – January 27th 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (Includes Meditation, Naturomedical Doctor, and Lifestyle Organization); *Puzzle Derby* – February 1st at 9:00 am; *Crochet and Conversation* – February 3rd at 10:00 am Ages Teen-Adult; *Screen Print Lego* – February 5th at 6:00 pm Ages 7+; *Story Time* – February 14th at 10:00 am; *Little Explorers* – February 20th Ages 3-5; *Book Talk* – February 21st at 10:00 am Adult (book available at Library); *Kindergarten Card Party* – February 24th; *Secret Science of Popcorn* – February 26th at 6:00 pm Age 7+. Book Blizzard adult reading program is January 1st – February 29th. Read and win prizes. This is for adult ages 18+. Register at the library. Prizes throughout the program and grand prize drawing at the end. For questions about events or to register please call 507-267-4411 or email libtle@tds.lib.mn.us Please note: The Library will be closed February 19th.

The Elysian Area Foundation is sponsoring Bingo on Friday evenings at the Elysian American Legion Club at 6:30 pm. Please contact Pat Nusbaum if you would like to volunteer – 507-317-0532.

ELYSIAN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY JANUARY 8, 2024 AT 6:00 PM

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

The meeting opened with a moment of silence for Elysian Business Owner Tom Graham. The meeting then continued with the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag.

Approved the minutes of the December 11, 2023 Regular Meeting.

Le Sueur County Captain Bruce Collins reported there has not been a lot of activity in the City.

Kristy and Mark Sybilrud presented a check in the amount of \$4,000 to the City of Elysian Park Board as a donation toward the cost of the Sports Courts renovation at Sunset Park. The Elysian Area Community Foundation donated \$2,000 and the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation matched that donation of \$2,000.

Steve Rohlfling, Le Sueur County Commissioner, reported progress on the remodel of the Government Center with completion expected in August. The final County levy was certified with a 4.9% increase, road projects are complete, and the County is fully staffed with the Sheriff's Office having two or three openings.

Public Comment: None.

Approved bills, payroll, and transfers through December 31, 2023 in the amount of \$426,099.33.

Approved a Supplemental Letter Agreement with SEH Engineering, Inc. for General Engineering Services provided through December 31, 2024 in a not-to-exceed amount of \$7,500.

Consensus for SEH Engineering to work with RO manufacturers to allow a spring start date for the reverse osmosis (RO) pilot study, and for the overall project design to proceed as scheduled.

Approved the regular Council meeting date and time to be the second Monday of each month at 6:00 pm unless otherwise designated.

Approved Appointments/Assignments as follows:

- Mayor Pro Tem – Dennis Schnoor
- Official Depository – Elysian Bank and Northland Securities
- Official Publication – MN South Lake Region Life Enterprise
- Legal Counsel – Jason Moran, Law Firm of Christian, Keogh, and Moran – Criminal and Civil
- Auditor – Burkhardt & Burkhardt, Ltd
- Planning and Zoning – Member from Council Tom McBroom (1 year term), Member from Public Paul Hunter (3 year term)
- EDA – Members from Council Bobby Houlihan and Derek Westby, Administrator Lorri Kopischke (all 1 year term)
- Park Board – Members from Council Tom McBroom and Bobby Houlihan, Members from Staff Ron Greenwald and Nicole Lamont, Members from Public Shayne Danielson-Copeland, Jane Lebert, Roger Quiram (all 1 year term)
- WEM Community Education Advisory Board – Tom McBroom - 1 year term
- Representative to the MVCOG General Assembly – Tom McBroom - 1 year term
- Fire Relief Association – Member from Council Dennis Schnoor, Member Appointed Lorri Kopischke (all 1 year term)
- Joint Fire Board Representative – Dennis Schnoor
- Emergency Management Director – Dennis Schnoor

Approved Fire Department Chief Appointments as follows: Chief – Jason James, First Assistant Chief – Jacob James, Second Assistant Chief – Justin Scheurer.

Approved Meeting/Monthly Payment Amounts as follows: Fire Chief - \$316.67 per month, P&Z Commissioner - \$50 meeting/training, EDA Commissioner/Administrator - \$40 month/special meeting/training, Park Board Member, Fire Relief and Joint Fire Board Representative - \$25 per meeting.

Repealed Ordinance #106/23 – An Interim Ordinance Prohibiting the Sale, Testing, Manufacturing, Cultivating, Growing, Transporting, Delivery, and Distribution of Cannabis Products in the City of Elysian.

Approved an estimate from Sweeper Services LLC in the amount of \$1,190.91 to replace water pump.

Approved removal of wooden sign at Elementary School and restoration of sign at wayside rest pending discussion with DNR.

Approved Resolution #882/24 – Setting Water and Sewer Utility Rates for 2024.

Approved Resolution #883/24 – Setting Environmental Utility Fund Rates for 2024.

Approved Resolution #884/24 – Accepting a Donation from Elysian Fire Relief Association – Gambling.

Approved Resolution #885/24 – Accepting a Donation from the Elysian Area Community Foundation and Matching from Southern MN Initiative Foundation.

Approved Resolution #886/24 – Request for Lawful Gambling Sons of the American Legion Post #311 Raffle.

Approved 2024 Fee Schedule. Approved Proposal from Plunkett's for 2024 General Pest Control City Hall and Fire Hall.

Acknowledged Receipt of MN Dept of Revenue Public Safety Aid in the amount of \$31,945.

Set Joint Meeting to Discuss Update to Comprehensive Land Use Plan for February 27, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Approved bills, payroll, and transfers in the amount of \$2,013.11. Public Comment: None. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.