

NOTES FROM CITY HALL – NOVEMBER 2024

Thank you to Jane Conroy and friends for decorating Main Street for the Autumn/Halloween Season! Thank you to the Elysian Area Chamber, Elysian Area Fire Department, businesses, City staff, and all the volunteers for a fun and spooky Halloween Event.

The City brush pile (located at the sanitary sewer pond off County Road 14) is open. The hours are Wednesdays from 2:00 to 5:00 pm and Saturdays from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The brush pile will close for the season on November 27th at 5:00 pm. Open only to citizens of the City of Elysian. Leaves, brush, and tree wood allowed – no building materials.

Hydrants will be flushed (weather permitting) on November 21st.

Uptown Cuts Open House – Saturday, November 23rd 9:00 am to 12 noon.

Small Business Saturday – November 30th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Shopping, Drawings, Raffles and Fun! Santa will be at the Main Street Venue. Contact Tasha for more information: 507-995-0687. The Elysian Legion Auxiliary will hold an All Holiday- Silent Auction Bake Sale Saturday, November 30th. Breakfast sandwiches or rolls and coffee for \$2.50.

Holiday Lighting Contest. The Elysian Area Chamber will again be sponsoring a Residential Holiday Lighting Contest. Judging will be held on December 20th and 21st. Contest winners will receive: First Place \$200; Second Place \$100; and Third Place \$50 in Elysian Dollars. Anyone living outside the City limits must call Uptown Cuts 507-267-4420 if they wish to be included in the contest.

WIN Elysian Dollars in Elysian Area Chamber Christmas Drawing 2024. Make a purchase at any Elysian business and your Christmas card will be stamped for the purchase amount in \$1, \$5, or \$10 amounts. When your card is filled, deposit each card with name, address and phone number filled in, at any Elysian business (no limit on cards used). Drawings held Fridays: November 29th, December 6th, December 13th. First prize \$40, Second prize \$20. And a final drawing on December 20th. (All prior entries will be included in the final drawing.) First prize 100, Second prize \$75, Third prize \$50.

Holiday Lights Parade and Winter Fun - Saturday, December 7th. Activities with Mrs. Claus and Pancake Breakfast 8:30 to 10:30 am. Fun activities for children up to 4th grade such as face painting, games, ornament decoration, and pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Breakfast, served by the Elysian Area Fire Department, for those participating in activities and their families. There will be a small bake sale and other items for purchase (donations to the sale are appreciated). Free will donations at the event are accepted and proceeds go to community activities and beautification. If you would like to volunteer at the event, please contact City Hall at 507-267-4708. There will also be a Christmas Sale-A-Thon, Bake Sale, and Luncheon at St. Andrews Church Hall 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. The Elysian Holidazzle Parade is at 6:30 pm on Main Street with Elysian Fire Relief Bingo immediately following at the Fire Hall. To participate in the parade contact Megan at 507-267-4200 or Megan@MeganJames.com

If anyone is in need or you know of anyone in need this holiday season or would like to donate/purchase a gift, please contact Pat Nusbaum 507-317-0532. All is kept confidential.

UPCOMING ELYSIAN AREA LIBRARY & HERITAGE CENTER EVENTS: Check out the Facebook Page or website for Upcoming Events!. For questions about events or to register call 507-267-4411 or email libtle@tds.lib.mn.us. Recycle Aluminum Cans for the Library & Heritage Ctr. – Collection trailer located on north side of Elysian Shop Building. Available 24 hours / 7 days a week.

The American Legion Post #311 Auxiliary will hold their Omelet Breakfast on the Second Sunday of the Month starting in September.

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 NOVEMBER 12, 2024 AT 6:00 PM

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

Approved the minutes of the October 14, 2024 Special and Regular Meeting, and October 24, 2024 Budget Workshop Meeting.

Steve Rohlifing, Le Sueur County Commissioner, reported County staff has checked the two culverts – Francis to Tustin Lake and Tustin to Ray's Lake and both are clean. The preliminary levy was certified at 6.8%. Commissioners are looking at using some reserves and lowering the levy increase to 3.5 to 4.5%. The County is negotiating a contract with two more bargaining units to resolve. Bolton & Menk has started the County Land Use Plan update with townships and cities involved. The City of Montgomery will not be taking any more septic. The Council again asked about the curve on County Road 11 by Glen's Beach Road. Rohlifing states a guard rail would not work there as it would impede snowplowing. The Council suggested the installation of flashing lights, flashing chevron, or rumble strips.

Le Sueur County Patrol Deputy Bryce Hermel introduced himself to the Council and reported that things have been pretty quiet. The Council again noted the disregard for the stop signs at the intersection of Main Street and County Road 11.

Held a public hearing and approved Ordinance No. 119/24 – Regulating Cannabinoid and Hemp Derived Products, Ordinance No. 120/24 - Amending §156.067 C-1 Central Commercial Business District Allowing Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Sales in Retail and Eating and Drinking Establishments as an accessory use, Ordinance No. 121/24 – Amending §156.068 C-2 Highway Commercial District Allowing Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Sales in Retail and Eating and Drinking Establishments as an accessory use, Ordinance No. 122/24 – Amending §156.069 C-3 Neighborhood Commercial Service District Allowing Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Sales at Gas Stations and Convenience Stores as an accessory use, and Ordinance No. 123/24 – Amending §156.070 I Industrial District to allow the Manufacture and Retail Sales of Cannabinoid and Hemp Derived Products as a conditional use.

Public Comment during the hearing (For complete comments please see approved City Council minutes.): Daniel Jarosz, 102 Fourth St NW, questioned why high-potency sales are restricted to the Industrial Zone and not allowed to be sold on Main St. He stated that hemp sales should be treated the same as liquor sales. This is legal and should not be culturally pushed away because we are a small rural town.

Consideration of proposed signs to honor two local residents was tabled to the December Council Meeting.

Approved Resolution #925/24 – Certifying the Results of the Tuesday, November 5, 2024 General Election: Mayor (2-year term) Tom McBroom, Sr.: 266 votes, Pat Nusbaum: 244 votes, Write-In: 7 votes; Council Member (4 year term) Derek Westby: 384 votes, Paul Hunter: 336 votes, Write In: 15 votes.

Approved Resolution #926/24 – Adopting Findings of Fact and Reasons for Approval for Variance Application of Brian and Melanie Burmeister at 6 Roots Beach Lane.

Set a Public Hearing for proposed Ordinance #124/24 – Amending Section 156.999; Penalty Provision of the Zone Code to Include an After-the-Fact Penalty for Variance Violations for December 9, 2024 at 6:15 pm.

Set a Public Hearing for proposed Ordinance #125/24 – Regulating Bed and Breakfast Facilities in the City of Elysian for December 9, 2024 at 6:25 pm.

Set a Public Hearing for proposed Ordinance #126/24 – Amending Ordinance #115/24 – Short Term Rental Ordinance for December 9, 2024 at 6:35 pm.

Pre-authorized an amount up to \$10,000 to Bargen Incorporated for Maxwell Gap Mastic repair on Willow Point Drive to protect City infrastructure only and any other areas in the City that will result in damage to City equipment.

Approved Resolution #927/24 – Approving a Split of Real Estate within the Corporate Limits of the City of Elysian, Le Sueur County, Minnesota.

Approved an updated Position Description for the City Administrator. Approved the Employment Agreement for the Position of City Administrator. Approved the 2025 Full-time Employee Insurance Monthly Contributions.

Considered a proposal from Hawk Alarm Services for security at City Hall. Will hold workshop to better understand.

Approved to close Main Street from 5th Street NW to the Fire Hall on December 7, 2024 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm for the Holiday Lights Parade.

Approved to proceed with the ordering of the Hewitt Docks fishing pier for Lake Francis Park to be reimbursed by the State of MN Get Out MORE funding.

Authorized City Attorney to proceed with enforcement action for the Zoning Code Violation at 205 Fifth Street SW.

Approved the City of Elysian City Attorney Employment Agreement between Jason L Moran and City of Elysian.

Approved bills, payroll, and transfers in the amount of \$236,830.66.

Public Comment (For complete comments please see approved City Council minutes.): Dennis Schnoor, 308 Maple Avenue SW, speaking as it relates to his position on the Elysian City Council. Schnoor responded to a comment that was made at the recent Meet the Candidates Event. He emphasized that most of the members of the Council have other jobs. That job is what puts food on the table to feed the family. At times, their jobs keep them from attending meetings or only allow them to come straight from work still in work clothes. He would rather see the Councilmembers come to a Council meeting with their work clothes on and get the job here done than to worry about the way they are dressed. He asked that anyone with questions, please call him. His number is in the book, or you can call City Hall and get his cell phone number.

The meeting adjourned to a closed session at 7:58 pm to develop an offer concerning purchase or sale of real estate per MN Statute 13D.05, Subd. 3(b) 3. The meeting reopened at 8:10 pm. Council summarized discussion to authorize the City Administrator and City Attorney to formulate an offer for land purchase for future city hall/fire hall. The meeting then adjourned at 8:15 pm.