

## NOTES FROM CITY HALL – JANUARY 2025

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 the tree at the curb for pick up.

The winners of the Elysian Area Chamber 2024 Residential Lighting Contest are: 1<sup>st</sup> Place Doris Coon – 306 Main Street W, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Mark and Peggy Hecht – 106 Third Street NE, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Steve and Marnie Schnoor – 205 Third Street NW. Honorable Mention: Sally Schroer – 103 Second St NE and Mark Hermel – 206 Main Street W.

Roundtable discussions were conducted recently with Senator Rich Draheim, representatives of Senator Klobuchar and Senator Smith's office, MN House of Representative District 22B Terry Stier, and a representative of Representative Angie Craig's office to determine how to improve our applications for federal and state funding for the water treatment plant project. The representatives were very positive and supportive of Elysian's needs and requests.

The water utility rate will increase in 2025. Effective January 1, 2025 the water utility base charge will increase from \$19.00 to \$20.00, and the user charge will increase from \$9.50 per 1,000 gallons to \$10.00 per 1,000 gallons. The Janesville Township water utility base charge will increase from \$38.00 to \$40.00, and the user charge will increase from \$9.50 per 1,000 gallons to \$10.00 per 1,000 gallons. The sewer utility rate and the environmental utility fund (EUF) rate will not change.

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 15<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>.

UPCOMING ELYSIAN AREA LIBRARY & HERITAGE CENTER EVENTS: *Cook the Book* – January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm. For questions about events or to register call 507-267-4411 or email [libtle@tds.lib.mn.us](mailto: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. Please note: The Library is closed Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>.

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 13, 2025 AT 6:00 PM

City Clerk/Administrator Kopischke administered the oath of office with Mayor Tom McBroom, Sr. and Councilmember Paul Hunter answering.

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

Approved the minutes of the December 9, 2024 Regular Meeting and December 30, 2024 Special Year-End Meeting.

Le Sueur County Commissioner Steve Rohlring reported that he has been working with Holly Bushman, County Environmental Services, to get Lake Francis added to the priority list of the Cannon River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.

The Council asked Rohlring about getting the speed limit reduced on County Road 11 past the Lake Francis public access. Rohlring noted that MnDOT had recently looked at that and determined that it did not meet their criteria. He will discuss the issue with the County Engineer.

Le Sueur County Chief Deputy Nick Greenig reported that there has not been much happening in the City. There have been no issues on local area lakes.

Held a public hearing and approved Ordinance # 127/24 – Prohibiting Private Wells in the City of Elysian.

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 Paul Hunter (1 year term), Members from Public Kimberlynn Denn and Patrick Ely (3 year term)
- EDA – Members from Council Tom McBroom, Sr. and Derek Westby, Administrator Lorri Kopischke (all 1 year term) Member from Public Samantha Williams (6 year term)
- Park Board – Members from Council Tom McBroom, Sr. and Bryan Suemnick, Members from Staff Ron Greenwald and Nicole Lamont, Members from Public Shayne Danielson-Copeland, Jane Lebert, Roger Quiram (all 1 year term)
- Representative to the MVCOG General Assembly – Tom McBroom, Sr. - 1 year term
- Fire Relief Association – Member from Council Dennis Schnoor, Member Appointed Lorri Kopischke (both 1 year term)
- Joint Fire Board Representative – Dennis Schnoor
- Emergency Management Director – Dennis Schnoor

New Planning and Zoning Committee members Kim Denn and Patrick Ely, and new EDA member Samantha Williams attended the meeting to introduce themselves. The Council welcomed them and thanked them for making this commitment.

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.

Approved a Supplemental Letter Agreement with SEH Engineering, Inc. for General Engineering Services provided through December 31, 2025 in a not-to-exceed amount of \$10,000.

Approved Resolution # 937/25 – Authorizing the Purchase of Real Estate. This property is vacant and located at the intersection of Main Street W and Fifth Street NW. The purchase price is \$115,000 and the City will absorb the special assessments in the amount of \$17,220. The City has no plans for the parcel at the present time. In the future the real estate could be used for city infrastructure expansion such as fire hall or city shop or the property could be sold to a developer for residential or commercial purposes.

Approved Resolution # 938/25 – Accepting a Donation to the Fire Department from the Elysian Volunteer Fire Department Charitable Gambling Account toward the purchase of equipment (truck).

Approved Resolution # 939/25 – Accepting a Donation to the Fire Department from Loretta Johnson toward the purchase of equipment (truck).

Approved Resolution # 940/25 – Approving a Request for Lawful Gambling from the Sons of the American Legion Post #311 for Raffle with date of drawing March 22, 2025.

Approved Proposed Updates to the 2025 City Fee Schedule. (The fee schedule is posted on the City website [www.elysianmn.com](http://www.elysianmn.com).)

Approved an Amended Compliance Agreement between the Elysian Water System and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) regarding the correction of the water quality violation (combined radium 226 & 228).

Approved bills, payroll, and transfers in the amount of \$364,874.73.

Public Comment: Mark Sybilrud, 514 Lake Avenue NW, asked the price and zoning of the real estate approved for purchase this evening. He stated that the property owners there are expecting houses to go on that land not a Fire Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 pm.