

**ELYSIAN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 13, 2025**

The Elysian City Council met in regular session on Monday, October 13, 2025, at City Hall at 6:00 pm.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag.

Roll Call: Mayor Dennis Schnoor; Councilmembers Steve Hoppe (arrived and was sworn in at 6:05 pm), Paul Hunter, and Derek Westby; City Administrator Lorri Kopischke; Public Works Director Ron Greenwald; City Attorney Jason Moran. Absent: Councilmember Bobby Houlihan.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Hunter, all voting in favor, to approve the agenda of the October 13, 2025 Regular Meeting with the following change:

Removal of item 15b. Appoint Steve Hoppe to Economic Development Authority.

There was not representation from Le Sueur County Sheriff's Department at the meeting.

Public Comment: Mark Sybilrud, 514 Lake Avenue NW, thanked all six candidates who participated in the application process for Council. The biggest disappointment was that Wednesday was the interviews, and Monday was the Council meeting and three of the people who interviewed showed up and one left right after their name wasn't called, one left halfway through and one stayed until the end. And the one who is one tonight, Steve, wasn't able to be there, which is disappointing. Derek, you weren't here, and I think it went down with a 2-1 vote and if you were here, it would be 2-2 and then what would you do, start all over? It's really disappointing. And now Bobby's gone tonight. You guys know that its one meeting a month. The same one. If it's work, your work has to understand that you can't make it or else you have to resign. It shouldn't come down to 2-1 and sometimes when it comes down to talking about voting for the Fire Department, obviously you guys have to abstain from voting, conflict of interest, and now it's Paul that's going to make that decision. He's new here. He doesn't know what's going on. (The Mayor noted that he is retired from the Fire Department.) I am 100% for the Fire Department but concerned. And another thing that is disappointing is that Bryan Suemnick knew that he was moving out of the City and still ran for the position and won and it didn't make sense. And the last couple meetings the Council looks for City Attorney assistance and he has not been here. (Moran noted that he is under contract to attend meetings on an as needed basis.) The Council should be #1 transparency and #2 best interest of the community.

Steve Hopped arrived at 6:05 pm.

City Clerk/Administrator Kopischke administered the oath of office with Councilmember Steve Hoppe answering.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Hunter, all voting in favor, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the following items:

- Minutes Approval – September 8, 2025 Regular Meeting and September 20, 2025 Emerald Ash Borer Workshop Meeting
- Bills, Payroll, and Transfers in the amount of \$108,794.87
- Resolution No. 969/25 – Acknowledging and Accepting a Donation from the Elysian Volunteer Fire Department Charitable Gambling Account

- Resolution No. 970/25 – Request for Off Site Lawful Gambling Elysian Fire Department Relief Association
- Request to close streets for Spook Trail October 25, 2025 – Main Street from just east of the Fire Hall to Third Street NW and Second Street SE from Main Street south to State Hwy 60.

Councilmember Westby introduced the resolution and was seconded by Councilmember Hunter.

CITY OF ELYSIAN
LE SUEUR COUNTY, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION NO. 969/25
RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING AND ACCEPTING A DONATION
FROM ELYSIAN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
CHARITABLE GAMBLING ACCOUNT

WHEREAS, the City of Elysian has received a donation in the amount of \$30,000.00 from the Elysian Volunteer Fire Department Charitable Gambling Account (Tax Relief) toward the 2025 Fire Department General Budget.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ELYSIAN, MINNESOTA THAT: the City Council of the City of Elysian acknowledges and accepts a donation from the Elysian Volunteer Fire Department Charitable Gambling Account (Tax Relief) in the amount of \$30,000.00 toward the 2025 Fire Department General Budget.

Upon vote being taken:

Councilmembers voting in the affirmative: Hoppe, Hunter, Schnoor, Westby

Councilmembers voting in the negative: None

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Elysian this 13th day of October, 2025.

Approved:

Dennis Schnoor, Mayor

Attested:

Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

Councilmember Westby introduced the resolution and was seconded by Councilmember Hunter.

CITY OF ELYSIAN
LE SUEUR COUNTY, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION NO. 970/25
REQUEST FOR OFF SITE LAWFUL GAMBLING

WHEREAS: the Elysian City Council was presented with a request from the Elysian Fire Department Relief Association for one day off site lawful gambling, December 6, 2025.

WHEREAS: State Laws of Minnesota require approval be granted by the local governing body, thus the City of Elysian.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ELYSIAN, MINNESOTA THAT: the Elysian City Council grants approval for a one day off site lawful gambling license for December 6, 2025 to the Elysian Fire Department Relief Association.

Upon vote being taken:

Councilmembers voting in the affirmative: Hoppe, Hunter, Schnoor, Westby

Councilmembers voting in the negative: None

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Elysian this 13th day of October, 2025.

Approved:

Dennis Schnoor, Mayor

Attested:

Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

Jeremy Brown has submitted a request for a Planned Unit Development (PUD) to build a twin home on 308 Francis Circle North and a twin home on 312 Francis Circle North (adjoining lots). The lots are located in the R-2 Shoreland Zone and are 15,951 and 15,336 square feet in area. The proposed twin homes will meet all setback requirements.

The PUD application and all required documentation have been reviewed by the DNR, SEH Engineering, and the City Attorney.

The Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing on the request on October 7, 2025. There were two neighbors at the public hearing who expressed concern with the increased traffic, the compatibility with the single-family residential neighborhood, the rental aspect, and the effect on their home values.

The shoreland tier division has been calculated. The lots are located in Tier 3. The density allowed for the properties is up to six units. If the property meets the Maintenance and Design Criteria, the City may approve up to six units. The Criteria specific to these properties is:

1. Open space requirements: Planned unit developments must contain open space meeting the following criteria (a) At least 50% of the total project area must be preserved as open space. (f) The appearance of open space areas, including topography, vegetation and allowable uses, must be preserved by the use of restrictive deed covenants, permanent easements, public dedication and acceptance or other equally effective permanent means.

2. Open space preservation: Deed restrictions, covenants, permanent easements, public dedication and acceptance or other equally effective and permanent means must be provided to ensure long-term preservation and maintenance of open space.

Brown has submitted a site plan with the designated open space denoted. With regards to the formal mechanism to ensure that the open space remains protected and maintained over time, the applicant has requested the following:

“We intend to sell these units individually with a Common Interest Community (CIC) Plat. Required by MN State Statute the CIC plat will need to be filed with a CIC Declaration. We will include language leaving 50% of the lot as open space in the CIC Declaration (as noted on the attached plan). The CIC declaration is not yet prepared but will be prepared in the coming month. If allowed, we would like the City to consider allowing construction with the provision that we provide a copy of the CIC Declaration to the City for review and approval before the Certification of Occupation (CO) is issued.”

The Planning and Zoning Commission is recommending approval of the PUD to build a twin home on 308 Francis Circle N and a twin home on 312 Francis Circle N with the following conditions:

1. That four 4-6 foot either deciduous or evergreen trees or shrubs that will mature to 8-12 foot tall be planted on the side of each of these properties that abut a single-family residence with the intent to provide screening and breaking up the sight line.
2. That the City allows construction of the twin home on 308 Francis Circle N and 312 Francis Circle North with the provision that the builder will include language leaving 50% of the lot as open space in the Common Interest Community (CIC) Declaration. The builder will provide a copy of the CIC Declaration to the City for review and approval before the Certificate of Occupancy is issued.

Councilmember Hunter introduced the resolution and was seconded by Councilmember Westby.

CITY OF ELYSIAN
LE SUEUR COUNTY, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION NO. 972/25

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) TO ALLOW A TWIN HOME TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 308 FRANCIS CIRCLE N
PID#16.457.0150

WHEREAS, the City of Elysian has received an application from Jeremy Brown for approval of a Planned Unit Development (PUD) to allow a twin home to be constructed on the property known as 308 Francis Circle North.

WHEREAS, the subject property is known as Le Sueur County Parcel Identification R16.457.0150, and legally described as Lot 2, Block 2, Sakatah Trail Estates, Le Sueur County, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the proposed application and site plan have been reviewed by SEH Engineering Professional Engineer outlined several email correspondences dated September 23 – October 3, 2025, and by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in an email dated September 25, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Elysian Planning and Zoning Commission met and held a public hearing on October 7, 2025, to receive public comment on Brown PUD 308 Francis Circle application and plans; and

WHEREAS, upon Planning and Zoning Commission review of the application information, site plan and supplemental information, the Professional Engineer's comments, the DNR's comments, report of City Staff, testimony of applicant, and public comments and the criteria necessary to consider the request, the Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the Planned Unit Development, subject to conditions, as the proposed use is within the spirit of the City's Zoning ordinance, the use is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Land Use Plan, it is beneficial to the City's tax base, the use makes good use of the land in issue, the proposed use does comply with the City's existing Zoning Ordinance, and is in the best interest and general welfare of the City of Elysian; and

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Elysian met, discussed the recommendations of the Planning and Zoning Commission, reviewed the application for the Planned Unit Development; and

WHEREAS, considering all of the above:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elysian, Minnesota hereby finds that the proposed use is within the spirit of the City's Zoning ordinance, the use is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Land Use Plan, it is beneficial to the City's tax base, the use makes good use of the land in issue, the proposed use does comply with the City's existing Zoning Ordinances, and is in the best interest and general welfare of the City of Elysian, and therefore the City Council for the City of Elysian herein and hereby approves the Planned Unit Development in accordance with and subject to the following conditions:

- 1) The development will be constructed per the attached survey (Exhibit A).
- 2) That four 4-6 foot either deciduous or evergreen trees or shrubs that will mature to 8-12 foot tall be planted on the side of the property that abuts a single-family residence with the intent of providing screening and to break up the sight line.
- 3) That the City allows construction of the twin home on 308 Francis Circle North with the provision that the builder will include language leaving 50% of the lot as open space in the Common Interest Community (CIC) Declaration. The builder will provide a copy of the CIC Declaration to the City for review and approval before a Certificate of Occupancy (CO) is issued.

Upon vote being taken:

Council Members voting in the affirmative: Hoppe, Hunter, Schnoor, Westby

Council Members voting in the negative: None

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Elysian this 13th day of October 2025.

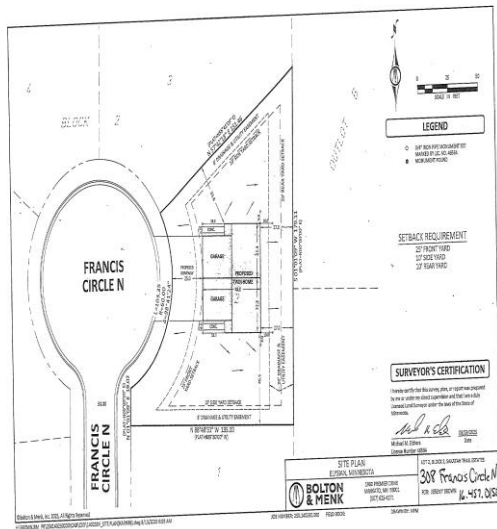
Approved:

Dennis Schnoor, Mayor

Attested:

Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

Resolution 972/25
Exhibit A



Councilmember Hunter introduced the resolution and was seconded by Councilmember Westby.

CITY OF ELYSIAN
LE SUEUR COUNTY, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION NO. 973/25

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) TO ALLOW A TWIN HOME TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 312 FRANCIS CIRCLE N
PID#16.457.0160

WHEREAS, the City of Elysian has received an application from Jeremy Brown for approval of a Planned Unit Development (PUD) to allow a twin home to be constructed on the property known as 312 Francis Circle North.

WHEREAS, the subject property is known as Le Sueur County Parcel Identification R16.457.0160, and legally described as Lot 3, Block 2, Sakatah Trail Estates, Le Sueur County, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the proposed application and site plan have been reviewed by SEH Engineering Professional Engineer outlined several email correspondences dated September 23 – October 3, 2025, and by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in an email dated September 25, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Elysian Planning and Zoning Commission met and held a public hearing on October 7, 2025, to receive public comment on Brown PUD 308 Francis Circle application and plans; and

WHEREAS, upon Planning and Zoning Commission review of the application information, site plan and supplemental information, the Professional Engineer's comments, the DNR's comments, report of City Staff, testimony of applicant, and public comments and the criteria necessary to consider the request, the Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the Planned Unit Development, subject to conditions, as the proposed use is within the spirit of the City's Zoning ordinance, the use is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Land Use Plan, it is beneficial to the City's tax base, the use makes good use of the land in issue, the proposed use does comply with the City's existing Zoning Ordinance, and is in the best interest and general welfare of the City of Elysian; and

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Elysian met, discussed the recommendations of the Planning and Zoning Commission, reviewed the application for the Planned Unit Development; and

WHEREAS, considering all of the above:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Elysian, Minnesota hereby finds that the proposed use is within the spirit of the City's Zoning ordinance, the use is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Land Use Plan, it is beneficial to the City's tax base, the use makes good use of the land in issue, the proposed use does comply with the City's existing Zoning Ordinances, and is in the best interest and general welfare of the City of Elysian, and therefore the City Council for the City of Elysian herein and hereby approves the Planned Unit Development in accordance with and subject to the following conditions:

- 1) The development will be constructed per the attached survey (Exhibit A).
- 2) That four 4-6 foot either deciduous or evergreen trees or shrubs that will mature to 8-12 foot tall be planted on the side of the property that abuts a single-family residence with the intent of providing screening and to break up the sight line.
- 3) That the City allows construction of the twin home on 308 Francis Circle North with the provision that the builder will include language leaving 50% of the lot as open space in the Common Interest Community (CIC) Declaration. The builder will provide a copy of the CIC Declaration to the City for review and approval before a Certificate of Occupancy (CO) is issued.

Upon vote being taken:

Council Members voting in the affirmative: Hoppe, Hunter, Schnoor, Westby

Council Members voting in the negative: None

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Elysian this 13th day of October 2025.

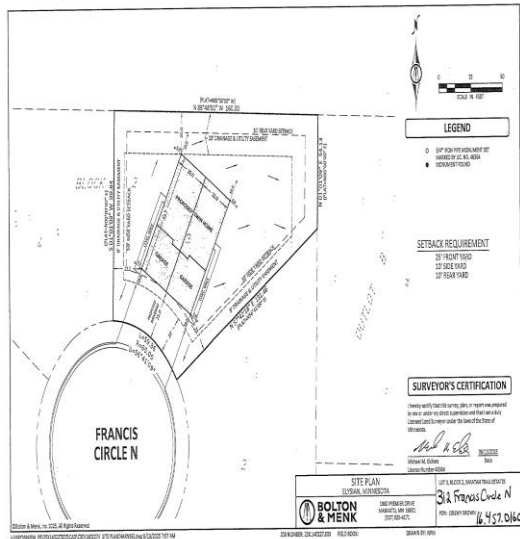
Approved:

Dennis Schnoor, Mayor

Attested:

Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

Resolution 973/25
Exhibit A



On motion by Westby, seconded by Hoppe, all voting in favor, to close the Regular Meeting and open the Public Hearing at 6:15 pm.

The purpose of the hearing is to allow public input from citizens on proposed Ordinance No. 131/25 – An Ordinance Amending Elysian City Code §153.01 – Driveways (H) Surfacing Requirements.

This Ordinance will give the City Council more options when considering impervious surface coverage and variance requests. There are new products available for surfacing driveways and addressing the required 24 feet that are pervious and are as effective as concrete, bituminous and pavers. The amendment to (H) will allow the Council to consider different options and look at other products. The amendment to (I) changes what will trigger the requirement for a non-compliant driveway to become compliant. The amendment will require the first 24 feet of an existing driveway to be brought into compliance in conjunction with any new building permit for an existing building addition or an additional building being constructed on the property.

There were no public comments. No written comments were received.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Hunter, all voting in favor, to close the Public Hearing and open the Regular Meeting at 6:19 pm.

Councilmember Westby introduced the ordinance and was seconded by Councilmember Hunter.

CITY OF ELYSIAN
LE SUEUR COUNTY, MINNESOTA
ORDINANCE NO. 131/25
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ELYSIAN CITY CODE §153.01 – DRIVEWAYS
(H) SURFACING REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, the City of Elysian has a Zoning Code in place; and

WHEREAS, at §153.01, the requirements for all driveways and off-street parking spaces surfacing are specifically defined; and

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Elysian, does hereby and herein Ordain that the requirements for all driveways and off-street parking spaces surfacing shall be defined as follows:

(H) All driveways and required off-street parking spaces shall be surfaced with concrete, bituminous, or pavers, unless otherwise approved by the City Council. Any property owner requesting an exception from the requirements of this section shall apply to the City Administrator for an exception and the City Administrator shall then forward that application on to the City Council for approval. Any exception granted by the City Council shall be duly noted on the permit.

(I) All existing driveways that are not surfaced with concrete, bituminous, or pavers shall be upgraded to be surfaced a minimum of 24 feet from the street in conjunction with any new building permit for an existing building addition or an additional building constructed on the property.

(J) All current driveways as of the date of this section are grand-fathered in with regard to width, setbacks and curb cuts.

This Ordinance shall be effective upon passage and publication as required by Law.

Upon motion made by Westby, duly seconded by Hunter, and passed unanimously this 13th day of October, 2025.

Dennis Schnoor, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

Tami Paulsen, 121 Willow Point Drive, is requesting the vacation of an existing Driveway and Utility Easement granted to the City of Elysian when the original plat was recorded. In exchange, the applicant proposes a new easement across parcel #16.034.3002, where the private roadway and City utilities are currently located and maintained.

The applicant originally proposed that the new easement be 17 feet wide by 91.5 feet long. The City Engineer and the City Attorney have reviewed the request and made several recommendations as follows:

1. Minimum 40 foot wide easement. This option meets the minimum requirements for trench safety and utility access. This alternative is acceptable but it is not preferred.
2. Preferred 50 foot wide easement. This option will provide greater flexibility for future utility work, particularly in scenarios involving emergency repairs or utility upgrades. It also aligns with other right-of-way widths within the City, promoting consistency in utility corridor planning and simplifying long-term maintenance strategies. This wider easement does not interfere with existing building structures as you travel north and south along the roadway.

This approach aligns with previous easement vacation requests along this portion of Willow Point Drive.

3. The specific legal description with survey showing what easement area is to be vacated.
4. The legal description and a proposed easement for the new easement area to be dedicated. That proposed easement should only reference that it is a utility easement and nothing more; the road is not public. It has not been dedicated to the public, and thus the new easement document to be prepared by the Tami Paulsen should only reference utilities.

City Attorney Moran stated that he strongly recommended that the Council requires a 50-foot easement.

Mayor Schnoor stated that he would sooner have the 50-foot easement to provide 10 more feet for dirt and equipment if work needs to be done in this area. Personally, he would prefer a 66-foot easement but would agree to a 50-foot easement to protect the City.

Hunter stated that he agreed with the 50-foot easement. This will set a precedent for subsequent requests. Future requests to confine or set aside an easement and redefine will need to be on a case-by-case basis.

Tami Paulsen, owner of 121 Willow Point Drive, was in attendance and stated that she agreed to provide a 50-foot easement.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Hunter, all voting in favor, to set a public hearing for November 10, 2025 at 6:10 pm to consider the easement vacation request of Tami Paulsen, 121 Willow Point Drive.

Neal Sanger, 7700 430th Avenue, Waterville, has entered into a purchase agreement for the property located at 205-1/2 Fifth Street SW. He has concerns that some dynamics related to the south and west lot lines could have an adverse effect on the operations of the Elysian Self Storage located on this property. Based on his estimates from Beacon, the current space for Walnut Street borders to the south by less than 10-15 feet and current space for Sixth Street SW borders to the west by less than 15-20 feet. He is concerned with access. He is requesting that the City grant a 20-foot driveway/utility easement to the south of parcels 16.410.1020 and 16.410.1025 and grant a 25-foot driveway/utility easement to the west of parcel 16.410.1020.

City Engineer Kavitz explained that a "T" intersection was installed in Walnut Street off of Fifth Street during the 2023 Street and Utility Project. There is a 70 foot wide roadway easement there. The Sixth Street SW corridor also contains a 70 foot wide roadway easement.

If Walnut Street is developed, it will include a 30-foot roadway and approximately 20-foot on either side would be available for boulevard use. These boulevards can accommodate driveways and access similar to other developed areas within the City, and would not necessarily restrict access to the buildings. In this scenario, the Engineer did not believe the easement was necessary.

Given the close proximity of a residential structure (garage) to the west and the challenging connection to State Highway 60, it is unlikely that this segment of Sixth Street SW will be constructed. In this case, a vacation may be appropriate.

Kavitz noted that if the James properties to the west were to be developed, Walnut Street would be their only access. Kavitz stated that a 20-foot partial ROW vacation could be considered, however, that would present several limitations to include utility restrictions and maintenance limitations.

Westby noted that the City is running out of room. And if that area back there is ever available for development, he would be in favor of preserving access to that property that is pre-planned for the expansion of the City.

Neal Sanger, potential buyer of 205-1/2 Fifth Street SW, thanked the Council for the opportunity. He stated that it would probably be okay on Walnut Street if the road followed the lines of that approach and the property owner to the north would then have flexibility on the use of the right of way to the north of that roadway.

Westby explained that if Walnut Street is developed, there would be a paved 30-foot road up past the business and then the owner could install a paved driveway into that business and there would be no need for that gravel driveway that is there now. There is no reason to not just utilize the gravel driveway as it is now and have the improvement when / if the street is developed.

Sanger stated that Sixth Street SW is a different situation. He thought the property line was located at the tree line rather than where it actually is located so close to the gravel. It is unlikely that this street will ever be developed, and he asked that there be some different consideration for that street.

Westby stated that he has concern with access to those undeveloped lots. If those lots are sold individually, there still is potential with landlocking one of those lots. He suggested to stay the course and as future needs arise the Council can look at it. It looks like the lot is being mowed and maintained. He suggested that the use continue as it is today.

Sanger acknowledged that the City is mowing all of the right of way now. He will continue to use it as it is now. He appreciated the conversation.

Lee Istvanovich, SEH Engineering, presented the Water Tower Assessment Elysian Spheroid Report. The structural recommendations are broken into three parts: The Interior Wet Structural, the Interior Dry Structural, and the Exterior Structural. There are some safety items that need updating, the exterior coating has served its life expectancy and a full reconditioning is recommended, and the interior has coating failures and corrosion and a full reconditioning is recommended. The SEH Engineering estimate for a full refurbishment is \$548,500. If the Council were to part the work out and do each section individually, there would be mobilization charges with each section that would increase the costs. It is recommended that the refurbishment be completed within the next one to three years. The estimated completion time of the project is twelve weeks.

Istvanovich explained that SEH offers two approaches to the reconditioning.

The first is "Design Bid." In this scenario, the project will be put out for bids, the work will be completed and the City will pay the entire cost of the project at time of completion. This will typically include a 2-year warranty.

The second is "Design Build." In this scenario, the City contracts with SEH and SEH hires and pays the contractors. The work will be completed and the cost is spread out for 5, 10, or 15 years. The work is warrantied for the same amount of time and yearly inspection and servicing is included.

The Council expressed interest in the SEH Design Build program and asked Istvanovich to provide more information at a future meeting.

Public Works Greenwald reported that a resident of the City would like to donate a half-court basketball court with hoop or a full-sized pickleball court with basketball hoop on one end to the City. The court would be located at Lake Francis Park on the Little League field tight to the tall fence near the large pavilion. The residents are from Winthrop and own a construction company. If the Council would like

to see their work, they have just completed a pickleball court in Gibbon, MN. The Elysian Park Board supports the donation.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Hoppe, all voting in favor, to accept the donation of a pickleball court at Lake Francis Park subject to approval of the proposed plan by City Administrator and/or Public Works Director.

Greenwald reported that Empire Pipe Service was in the process of cleaning the sanitary sewer main in Third Street NE to repair two sections when their equipment malfunctioned and damaged the main pipe. Empire Pipe Service will be repairing the main at their expense. The work is scheduled to occur within 30 days of the damage. The original two sections have been repaired.

Greenwald provided an update to the motion made at the September City Council meeting to purchase a backup pump for Lift Station #2. Minnesota Pumps Works will not sell the loaner pump that is currently operating Lift Station #2 to the City. Greenwald asked the Council to consider Quote #QTE009802 from Minnesota Pump Works to rebuild the old pump from Lift Station #2 to keep as a backup.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Westby, all voting in favor, to table Minnesota Pump Works Quote #QTE009802 for repair to pump for Lift Station #2 for backup to the January 2026 City Council meeting.

Greenwald presented a proposal from Clayton Roemhildt & Sons Concrete to replace the sidewalk in front of Elysian Archery located at 109 Main Street East in the amount of \$1,554.00. The owner of the building has requested that the City replace the panels. The entrance sidewalk has damage. There is a spot where the two roofs run off and it has a pretty deep groove in the side of two different panels, and that same panel out by the street, frost must have got under it, two corners are rounded and up about an inch. It is a real trip hazard.

Westby asked if there are gutters on the building in this area. Greenwald did not know.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Westby, all voting in favor, to approve the proposal from Clayton Roemhildt & Sons Concrete in the amount of \$1,554.00 to replace the sidewalk in front of Elysian Archery at 109 Main Street East and to recommend the installation of gutters or flashing to alleviate the water running down into this area.

Greenwald reported that the two or three substantial, very deep potholes on Willow Point Drive have been repaired by the property owners along that Drive.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Hoppe, all voting in favor, to plow Willow Point Drive for the 2025 – 2026 season as the potholes have been repaired.

Greenwald reported continued work on the completion of the DNR grant application to assist in the cost of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Infestation.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Hoppe, all voting in favor, to NOT Waive Monetary Limits on Tort Liability established by MN Statutes § 466.04 for League of Minnesota Cities Liability Coverage policy renewal of January 12, 2026.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Westby, all voting in favor of closing the Wayside Rest at 5:30 pm on October 31, 2025 and reopen November 1, 2025 at 8:00 am.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Hunter, all voting in favor to schedule a Workshop Meeting for Monday, October 27, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

Employee evaluations are underway.

Hunter reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission as part of their annual cycle has reviewed the Elysian Comprehensive Land Use Plan and highlighted items for the City Council, Planning and Zoning, and other Boards to focus on in the coming year. These items are low or no cost to the City. Hunter encouraged the Council to keep referring back to the Comprehensive Plan. It did serve the Planning and Zoning well when looking at the PUDS and duplexes considered tonight and how that fit into the goal of having different types of housing in the City.

Schnoor reported that the City Administrator performance review was completed earlier this evening. The Administrator did very well.

City Attorney Moran presented correspondence from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding the conveyance of the Sakatah Trail properties through the City. The Council had entertained discussions of this conveyance in 2023 and 2024. The correspondence states that the DNR plans to approach the Legislature and ask approval to transfer the land to the City.

The DNR is asking the City if they would prefer a Two-Phase Transfer: Phase 1 – Convey the eastern two blocks. Phase 2 – Convey the western block containing the building and parking lot once the trail has been rerouted to the south side of the block or Single Transfer – Convey all property in one transaction, following completion of the trail reroute to the south side of the block. It is noted that there are no plans or funding identified for the trail realignment, so it may be some time before this occurs. The options are intended to avoid the need for an easement on the western block for the trail at the time of transfer. Establishing such an easement would require additional resources and funding, and if later released, would result in a \$2,000 filing fee for the City, along with other associated costs.

There was Council consensus to respond to the DNR thanking them and to let them know that the City is still interested in the property but would prefer to wait to accept the property until after the alignment of the trail on the western block is realigned.

The Council considered Resolution No. 971/25 – Approving Consent Special Assessment PID# 16.435.0020 and 16.435.0060.

Moran reported Gene Lewis, St. Peter Five Star Investments owns these two lots on Lewis Lane. A tree was being removed from the lot and the equipment being used spilled hydraulic fluid on the cul-de-sac that ate into the bituminous causing \$11,509.50 in damages. The Council voted that Mr. Lewis is liable for the repairs. Mr. Lewis did not agree, and he left a message with Moran saying that he would not pay the bill but that if the city wanted to put it on his taxes, they certainly could. That was taken as his consent to do so. Resolution No. 971/25 assesses the cost to the two lots he owns on Lewis Lane cul-de-sac.

Mayor Schnoor introduced the resolution and was seconded by Councilmember Hunter.

CITY OF ELYSIAN
LE SUEUR COUNTY, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION NO. 971/25
A RESOLUTION APPROVING CONSENT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT

Whereas, St. Peter Five Star Investments own the following parcels of real estate:

Lot 2, Block 1, Eaglewood Subdivision, Elysian, Le Sueur County Minnesota; with a parcel identification number of 16.435.0020 and

Lot 6, Block 1, Eaglewood Subdivision, Elysian, Le Sueur County Minnesota; with a parcel identification number of 16.435.0060, and

Whereas, the City of Elysian recently spent the total sum of \$11,509.50 as and for street repairs benefiting those two parcels of real estate, and

Whereas, the parties agree that each of the two above referenced parcels shall be specially assessed the sum of \$5,754.75.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: St. Peter Five Star Investments special assessment for the work done shall be \$5,754.75 for each of the two above-referenced parcels. The City Administrator, Engineer, and or City Attorney are authorized to sign any and all documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution. In addition, a certified copy of this Resolution shall be filed with the Le Sueur County Auditor-Treasurer for enforcement. This special assessment shall on the two parcels shall bear no interest and shall be collected in full with the 2026's property tax collection and these assessments shall be placed on the tax rolls of the two subject parcels.

Upon vote being taken:

Council Members voting in the affirmative: Hoppe, Hunter, Schnoor, Westby

Council Members voting in the negative: None

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Elysian this 13th day of October 2025.

Approved:

Dennis Schnoor Mayor

ATTEST:

Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

Public Comment: Dennis Schnoor, 308 Maple Avenue SW, stated that he and the City Administrator look at each agenda and make a determination if the City Attorney is required to attend the City Council meeting. The City Attorney's contract also allows the Council to call him during a meeting if needed to ask for his help with an item. Schnoor stated that this Board will make mistakes, they are not perfect. Schnoor sat in the other seat as assistant mayor for years. Now he is in the driver's seat. He is as green is green can be. He is going to mess up. But he will try to cut those mistakes if he can. As far as missing a meeting, yes for 20 years he has sat here and missed the October meeting because of work. He will never blame somebody for missing a meeting for work. Family and work. If you can't make a meeting, you can't make a meeting. We understand that. Lorri or I get a text and know why our Councilmember is gone from a meeting. So, if we are not at a full Council, somebody knows why we are not at a full Council. They are not out just goofing around. Every one of us that sits in these chairs thinks their job is very important. If they are not here at a meeting something is more important than this chair. Thank you.

There were no further public comments.

On motion by Hunter, seconded by Westby, all voting in favor, to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm.

Approved:

Dennis Schnoor, Mayor

Attested:

Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator