

BEST WISHES FOR A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!
NOTES FROM CITY HALL – DECEMBER 2025

Thank you to all those in the community who worked so hard to make the 2025 Holiday Winter Lights Parade and Winter Fun Event in Elysian a success. Thank you to Lake Area Women for the trees in the pots on Main Street. Thank you to Public Works for putting the Christmas lights up. The City looks beautiful.

The City brush pile is closed for the season. It will reopen in the Spring when the weather allows.

Holiday Lighting Contest. The Elysian Area Chamber is sponsoring a Residential Holiday Lighting Contest. Judging will be held on December 20th. Contest winners will receive: First Place \$200; Second Place \$100; 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 2025. 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). The final drawing will be held on December 19th. (All prior entries will be included in the final drawing.) First prize \$100, Second prize \$75, Third prize \$50.

This year the Elysian Area Community Foundation will be sponsoring the Giving Tree. The tree will be located at the Elysian Bank. All are encouraged to stop in and take a card from the tree and return the gift(s) to the tree (unwrapped) along with the card. 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. The purchaser of the gift will not know to whom it is going and the gift receiver will not know the purchaser. Times are a bit hard right now, please look around and see if you feel someone could use a bit of a lift, and submit their name for a brighter Holiday Season.

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.

After the Christmas holiday, 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.

Youth Snowmobile Training: Hybrid Snowmobile Course. January 10th, 2026 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (2 sessions, first come first served). Instructor: Sakatah Trails Sno-Cruiser. Fee: \$5.00. Pre-Registration required: Megan Lamont @ meganlamont175@gmail.com or contact 507-330-0690 with any questions. Must be 11 years of age before class date listed above.

UPCOMING ELYSIAN AREA LIBRARY & HERITAGE CENTER EVENTS: *Puzzle Derby* – January 7th at 9:00 am; *Book Talk* – January 28th at 10:00 am. For questions about events or to register, call 507-267-4411 or email libtle@tds.lib.mn.us. Please donate your recyclable aluminum cans to help support the Library & Heritage Ctr. – The collection trailer is located on north side of Elysian Shop Building. Available 24 hours / 7 days a week. The Elysian Area Library will be closed Dec 24th & 25th, Dec 31st closes at 5:00 pm (9:00 am to 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm), and Jan 1st.

The American Legion Post #311 Auxiliary will hold their Omelet Breakfast on the Second Sunday of the month.

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
DECEMBER 8, 2025 AT 6:00 PM

Present: Mayor Dennis Schnoor; Councilmembers Steve Hoppe, Bobby Houlihan, and Paul Hunter; City Administrator Lorri Kopischke; Public Works Director Ron Greenwald; Absent: Councilmember Derek Westby and City Attorney Jason Moran.

Le Sueur County Deputy Alyson Powers reported that all is well in the City of Elysian. There is nothing to note.

Approved the Consent Agenda to include Minutes of November 10, 2025 Regular Meeting; Bills, Payroll, and Transfers in the amount of \$319,132.95; 2026 On Sale, Off Sale, Club, Sunday, and Soft Drink Licenses.

Public Works Director Greenwald reported that the water leak at 153 Shoreview Drive is repaired. There was a watermain break at 100 Frank Avenue NE that has been repaired. Lift Station B needed two floats replaced. That repair has been completed.

Held the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing and approved Resolution #980/25 – Adopting the 2026 Final Budget for the City of Elysian and Resolution #981/25 – Adopting Final 2025 Tax Levy, Payable 2026. The total final levy amount is \$967,712 which is an increase of \$42,964 or a 4.6% increase from last year. The largest increase is in the general fund resulting from a reduction in LGA Funding, increase salary and benefit costs, increased IT and infrastructure security costs, administration of 2026 elections, tree management Emerald Ash Borer Disease, and increase to Fire Department Budget. The increase to the total budget which includes all City funds (general, debt service, enterprise) is 2.7%. The City of Elysian Local Tax Rate decreased from 55.96 in 2025 to 54.89 in 2026. If you have any questions on the budget or the levy, please contact City Hall.

Approved the Agreement for Law Enforcement Services January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2029 – County of Le Sueur and City of Elysian.

Approved Resolution #976/25 – To Ratify Increase and Amend the Elysian Fire Department Relief Association Benefit Level and Bylaws to Increase the Annual Retirement Benefit from \$1,700 to \$1,800.

Approved Resolution #977/25 – Directing Delinquent Utility Charges to be Placed on the Property Taxes Payable in 2026.

Approved Resolution #978/25 – Directing Unpaid Mowing Charges to be Placed on the Property Taxes Payable in 2026.

Approved Resolution #979/25 – Directing Delinquent Second Water Meter Adaptation Parts Charges to be Placed on the Property Taxes Payable in 2026.

Approved a 3% COLA Wage Increase for the City of Elysian Full-Time Employees Effective the First Payroll in January 2026.

Scheduled End of the Year Meeting for Monday, December 29, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

Received report of meeting with House Representative Stier and Senator Draheim with continued discussion of the Bonding Funds Request for a Water Treatment Plant.

Approved the Agreement for Professional Services between the City of Elysian and Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc. in the amount of \$7,000 for the Project described as: Verizon MN10 Elysian Repeater. The services are being paid by Verizon. There is no cost to the City of Elysian.

Five sealed bids were received for the 1991 4-wheel drive Ford F350 Custom Rescue Truck. The bid was awarded to the highest bidder, James Bros. Construction, with a bid amount of \$7,850.

Public Comment: Mayor Dennis Schnoor reported that the Elysian Fire Department Budget is funded by the City of Elysian and Elysian, Iosco, and Janesville Townships. The Fire Fighters currently receive \$12 per hour for training and fire calls. The \$10,000 increase to the Fire Department budget was to fund and increase the rate for training and fire calls to \$14 per hour.

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.