

**ELYSIAN CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 11, 2026**

The Elysian City Council met in regular session on Monday, May 11, 2026, 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 Paul Hunter and Derek Westby; City Administrator Lorri Kopischke; Public Works Director Ron Greenwald. Absent: Councilmembers Steve Hoppe and Bobby Houlihan; City Attorney Jason Moran.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Hunter, all voting in favor, to approve the agenda of the May 11, 2026 Regular Meeting with the following additions:

- 9f. County Culvert Update.
- 10a. Mayor Update.

There was no report from the Le Sueur County Sheriff's Department.

Public Comment: None.

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

- a. Minutes approval: April 13, 2026 Special Meeting and Regular Meeting, April 15, 2026 Joint Work Session with Elysian Area Chamber, April 20, 2026 Workshop Meeting, April 27, 2026 Special Meeting.
- b. Approval of bills, payroll, and transfers - \$195,016.58.
- c. Approval of Elysian Area Chamber 4<sup>th</sup> of July Street Closure Request.
- d. Approval of Temporary Liquor License American Legion #311 for 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration at Lake Francis Park on June 27, 2026.
- e. Approval of Resolution No. 999/26 – Accepting a Donation to the Elysian Fire Department from the Elysian Area Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$12,457.94.
- f. Approval of Resolution No. 1000/26 – Approving 2026 Election Judges for both the State Primary and General Elections.

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

CITY OF ELYSIAN  
LE SUEUR COUNTY, MINNESOTA  
RESOLUTION NO. 999/26  
RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING AND ACCEPTING  
A DONATION FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the City of Elysian has received a donation in the amount of \$12,457.94 from the Elysian Area Chamber of Commerce to be used toward the purchase of picnic tables.

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 Area Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$12,457.94 to be used toward the purchase of picnic tables.

Upon vote being taken:

Council Members voting in the affirmative: Hunter, Schnoor, Westby.  
Council Members voting in the negative: None.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Elysian this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Schnoor, Mayor

Attested:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

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

CITY OF ELYSIAN  
LE SUEUR COUNTY, MINNESOTA  
RESOLUTION NO. 1000/26  
RESOLUTION APPROVING 2026 ELECTION JUDGES  
FOR BOTH THE STATE PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTIONS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Elysian, County of Le Sueur and County of Waseca, State of Minnesota, that the following persons are appointed as 2026 Election Judges for the August 11<sup>th</sup> State Primary and the November 3<sup>rd</sup> General Election contingent upon receiving necessary training hours as required by the MN Secretary of State. Their hourly rate of pay will be \$14.00 and they will receive mileage reimbursement for training if applicable. The City will provide election judges with snacks along with one meal per shift.

Judges for Elections: Janice Evans, James Hansen, Elizabeth Hartzler, Julie Hatleli, Charlene Howe, Susan Ims, Lorri Kopischke, Nicole Lamont, Patricia Nusbaum, Judith Quiram, Roger Quiram, Mark Sybilrud, and Brian Van Asperen.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, head election judge duties will be performed by Mark Sybilrud, Brian Van Asperen and Lorri Kopischke, Elysian City Clerk/Administrator. Head Election Judge(s) shall have authority to designate additional election judges should an emergency arise.

Upon vote being taken:

Councilmembers voting in the affirmative: Hunter, Schnoor, Westby.  
Councilmembers voting in the negative: None.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Elysian this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Schnoor, Mayor

Attested:

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Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

Lee Istvanovich, SEH Engineering, presented a Supplemental Letter Agreement in the lump sum amount of \$9,900 for final design and construction staking services for the DNR Trail Grant work at Sunset Park. Partial reimbursement of these charges will be available via the grant monies.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Hunter, all voting in favor, to approve the SEH Engineering Supplemental Letter Agreement in the amount of \$9,900 for Sunset Park Trail – Final Design and Construction Staking.

Public Works Director Greenwald reported that the first phase of diseased tree removal is going well with the cost lower than anticipated. He asked if the Council was interested in replacing the trees that are being removed.

There was Council consensus for Greenwald to obtain prices on a variety of species of 1 to 1-1/2 inch trees with warranties and to plant all the trees at the same time in the fall for better prices and watering plan.

Greenwald reported that the retaining wall located on the north side of the trail at the Wayside Rest is in very poor condition. Another top piece fell off this week and the wood three layers down is rotted out. The integrity of the wall is shot. The wall is unsafe and is quickly deteriorating.

There was Council direction for staff to contact the DNR Parks Supervisor and ask that the retaining wall be repaired or replaced before the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration.

Greenwald reported that the steps in the retaining wall at the fire hall are failing. He stated that it would be difficult to install a poured wall there due to a gas main line being located directly under the wall and the location of the siren platform.

Greenwald presented bids to saw out the bad piece and replace the steps and replace that part of the wall on either side of the steps. This would all be done in concrete. The bids are Clayton Roemhildt & Sons Concrete in the amount of \$5,000 and Cram Concrete in the amount of \$15,900.

Hunter asked if steps were necessary and if metal steps could be used. Greenwald stated that the steps are valuable. It is a 4-foot drop from the city shop parking lot to the fire hall parking lot. When there is a fire, the firemen use the city shop parking area to keep the fire hall driveways clear. Greenwald noted that a poured wall would be needed even if metal steps were used.

On motion by Hunter, seconded by Westby, all voting in favor, to approve the proposal from Clayton Roemhildt & Sons Concrete to repair the retaining wall and replace the steps at the fire hall in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.

Greenwald reported that when they were marking the patches for the asphalt repair to the area that is heaving on Shoreview Drive in Roemhildts Addition, it was noted that there is a small patch that is not marked to be removed. It looks ridiculous to leave this patch, and it also will affect the integrity of the repair. It will be a better repair if the entire area is replaced. The City Engineer concurred with the recommendation.

Greenwald presented an estimate from WW Blacktopping, Inc. in the amount of \$3,400 to include this patch in the previously approved repair.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Westby, all voting in favor, to approve the estimate from WW Blacktopping, Inc. for the additional patch to the heave on Shoreview Drive in Roemhildts Addition in the amount of \$3,400.

Greenwald instructed the Council to disregard the estimate from WW Blacktopping, Inc. for the work on Lake Avenue NW.

Greenwald reported that he would like to have the water and sewer for Sunset Park installed under the parking lot prior to the parking lot and trails being paved via the DNR Trails Grant. He is looking at options and will provide estimates once the location of the pavilion is determined.

Greenwald presented a quote for (2) two memorial plaques for the pickleball / basketball court at Lake Francis Park. The court was donated in remembrance of Mike Supalla. Arlin and Beth Miller, donors, have requested that the City purchase and install the plaques as presented, made by laserengravedmemories.com, in the amount of \$558.26.

The Council directed Greenwald to determine why (2) two plaques are needed rather than (1) one.

Greenwald reported that the pier is in and the goose fence is up at Lake Francis.

Michael Schultz, Le Sueur Soil and Water Conservation District Manager, has reviewed public records and was unable to find historical documentation confirming the City's formal adoption or delegation of its responsibilities as a Local Government Unit (LGU) for administration of the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) under Minnesota Statutes §103G and Minnesota Rules Chapter 8420. Adoption of Resolution No. 1001/26 will delegate that authority to the Le Sueur County Soil and Water Conservation District.

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

CITY OF ELYSIAN  
LE SUEUR COUNTY, MINNESOTA  
RESOLUTION NO. 1001/26  
A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE ADMINISTRATION  
OF THE MINNESOTA WETLAND CONSERVATION ACT

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act of 1991 (WCA) requires local government units (LGUs) to implement the rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) pertaining to wetland draining, filling and excavation; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Rules, chapter 8420 have been adopted by BWSR in accordance with the rulemaking provisions of Minnesota Statutes, chapter 14, for the purpose of implementing WCA; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Rules 8420.0200, Subpart 1, Item E allows a county, city, or town to delegate implementation of chapter 8420 and the act to another governmental entity by the passage of resolutions by both parties; and

WHEREAS, both parties must provide notice to BWSR, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Soil and Water Conservation District of the delegation, including a copy of the resolution and a description of the applicable geographic area, within 15 business days of adoption of the resolution.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Elysian City Council that the authority and administrative responsibility to implement WCA as the LGU within the legal boundaries of the City of Elysian is delegated to Le Sueur County Soil and Water Conservation District as of May 11, 2026 in accordance with Minnesota Rules, Chapter 8420.

Upon vote being taken:

Councilmembers voting in the affirmative: Hunter, Schnoor, Westby.  
Councilmembers voting in the negative: None.

Adopted this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026.

Approved:

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Dennis Schnoor, Mayor

Attested:

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Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

There were (4) four applications received for the temporary seasonal public works position. Staff is recommending that Reese Kortuem and Brock Prange be hired for the position.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Hunter, all voting in favor, to offer the position of temporary seasonal public works to Reese Kortuem and Brock Prange.

The Council discussed the progress on the summertime Main Street business event that was discussed with the Elysian Area Chamber. It was suggested to wait until next year and begin planning in January, possibly on a smaller scale to start.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Hunter, to table the discussion of a summertime Main Street business event to a later date pending further input.

Schnoor stated that he is not giving up on having an event yet. He would still like to have an event.

Voting on the motion: Aye: Hunter, Westby. Nay: Schnoor. Motion passed.

The West Central Sanitation contract expires September 30, 2026.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Schnoor, all voting in favor, to publish request for proposals (RFPs) for Residential and Commercial Solid Waste Collection and Disposal and Recycling Services.

The Elysian Spring Clean Up will be held May 16, 2026 from 8:00 to 11:00 am in the Lake Francis Park parking lot.

Hunter reported that he had attended the April 28, 2026 County Commissioners meeting representing the Elysian City Council to discuss the culvert between Lake Francis and Lake Tustin. Hunter and Tina King spoke to the Commissioners to assert that the culvert is County infrastructure and that the County is responsible for the hydraulic capacity of the culvert. The County Engineer is not certain that it is the County's responsibility based on the Municipal Maintenance Agreement that exists between the City and the County. The County Engineer is meeting with Todd Peipho, DNR, this week. A meeting will then be scheduled with Hunter, Commissioner Rohlfing, County Engineer Tieg, DNR representative Piepho, and a representative of the Lake Francis Association to discuss next steps. Hunter will provide an update at the next Council meeting.

Public Comment: None.

Mayor's Update: Schnoor reported on the April 26, 2026 Emergency Management meeting. It was reported that the bylaws are being updated. There is a new sign in policy and text policy. The new member Dillon Roessler introduced himself to the group. Schnoor is working on obtaining new radios.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Westby, all voting in favor, to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 pm.

Approved:

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Dennis Schnoor, Mayor

Attested:

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Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator