

NOTES FROM CITY HALL – AUGUST 2026

Thank you to the Elysian Area Chamber, the Elysian Area Fire Department, the Le Sueur County Sheriff's Office, City staff, and sponsors for a relaxing and fun National Night Out Event.

A seasonal garbage shut off form is included and is on the City website page. Please complete and return the form if you will be away this winter. Please complete a form EVEN if you submitted one for last year. Thanks!

The water tower will be cleaned and painted inside and out this summer. The Verizon antennas that are located on the tower have been moved to a temporary tower for the duration of the project. Work will begin on the water tower in late August and be completed the end of October. There may be some drop in water pressure during the project.

Hydrants will be flushed Thursday, August 20th. Hydrant flushing will resume when the water tower maintenance project is completed.

The Joint Forces Ride will be held on August 22nd and Main Street East will be closed mid-morning until approximately 12:45 pm from County Road #11 to 2nd Street NE.

The Le Sueur County Fair will be held August 20-23, 2026 in Le Center.

The City brush pile (located at the sanitary sewer pond off County Road 14) is open. The hours are Wednesdays from 4:00 to 7:00 pm and Saturdays from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. Open only to citizens of the City of Elysian. Leaves, brush, and tree wood allowed – no building materials.

Mosquito Control of Iowa has been approved for the 2026 mosquito treatment. They spray based on weather conditions and larvae testing. They will let us know the day before they plan to service the City. Please contact City Hall (507-267-4708 or lorri@elysianmn.com) to be added to the notification list.

The contract for garbage and recycle services with West Central Sanitation, Inc. was approved for renewal. The Contract does include an increase in pricing for monthly service. West Central will no longer be providing a second recycling cart free of charge. The second recycling cart will be charged at the same rate as the first recycling cart. The rate for each recycling cart (effective October 1, 2026) will be \$5.27 per month regardless of the size of the cart. Please contact City Hall at 507-267-4708 or nicole@elysianmn.com if you wish to have your second recycle cart removed prior to that date.

Please note: The Elysian Tourism Center basement – 100 Third St SW, is a designated storm shelter. The shelter will be open during a severe thunderstorm warning.

Per State Statute 88.171 there is no open burning of garbage allowed in the City of Elysian. Please be respectful to your neighbors and the environment.

UPCOMING ELYSIAN AREA LIBRARY & HERITAGE CENTER EVENTS: *American Mahjong* – August 19th and 26th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm; *Jigsaw Puzzle Derby* – September 2nd at 9:00 am; *Glow Up Book Workshop* – September 19th at 10:30 am (geared for 13-18 years old); *Crow Party* – September 21st at 6:00 pm (geared for 7-12 years old); *Eric Carle Creations* – September 29th at 10:00 am (geared for 3-7 year olds). You can register for the events at: wasecalesueurlibraries.com/getregistered/ or call 507-267-4411. 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 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 AUGUST 10, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

Present: Mayor Dennis Schnoor; Councilmembers Steve Hoppe, Bobby Houlihan, Paul Hunter, and Derek Westby; City Administrator Lorri Kopischke; Public Works Director Ron Greenwald; City Attorney Jason Moran.
Absent: None.

Le Sueur County Captain Matt Shouler stated that the City of Elysian is business as usual.

Schnoor stated that the night of National Night Out after the bars closed there was a guy on a Harley that was quite loud.

Hunter stated that he has noticed it more this year than others that young kids are driving golf carts, and riding e-bikes and e-scooters on City Streets and County Roads. This is very dangerous.

Le Sueur County Commissioner Steve Rohlfing noted item #9 on the agenda is the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Elysian and Le Sueur County for the Culvert under County Road #11. He thanked City Attorney Moran and Councilmember Hunter for their work on that document. He will stay and be available for questions on that item. The County will receive the Highway Safety Plan by September. The Plan will identify corridors with increased risk for incidents and items to address the issues such as signage and lighting. The Highway Department is currently shouldering, overlay, and finishing road projects.

Public Comment Summary (for complete public comments please see approved Council minutes): Mark Sybilrud, 514 Lake Avenue NW, asked if there was progress on the water treatment plant. Council stated that the project is moving forward and SEH Engineering will have a report at the September Council Meeting.

Leo Brown, 117 Willow Point Drive, commented on the recent Planning and Zoning Commission meeting. He stated that he is in favor of better water and an RO system, but thinks that homeowners will still need their own RO system. He asked if water hydrants will still need to be flushed every month. Council stated that once the water treatment plant is running, the hope is that home RO and drinking water systems will not be needed and hydrants will be flushed once per year.

Approved the Consent Agenda to include minutes of July 13, 2026 Regular Meeting and July 28, 2026 Workshop Meeting; Bills, Payroll, and Transfers in the amount of \$280,115.67; Resolution #1010/26 – Accepting a Donation to the Fire Department from Compeer Financial in the amount of \$7,500.

Considered a request from Jacob Lee, owner of 406 State Highway 60 West, for a reduction on the utility bill for a potential buyer. Council will research examples of tiered billing schedules of neighboring cities.

Approved Resolution #1011/26 – Adopting Findings of Fact and Reasons for Approval for Variance Application of Tim and Laurie Lloyd at 3 Roots Beach to building an accessory structure resulting in 28.1% impervious lot coverage.

Set a public hearing to receive public input and for consideration of Ordinance #132/26 – An Ordinance Amending Elysian City Code §156.118 – Pertaining to Accessory Building and Dwelling Units Prohibited for September 14th at 6:10 pm.

Set a public hearing to receive public input and for consideration of Ordinance #133/26 – An Ordinance Amending Elysian City Code §156.121 – Pertaining to Accessory Structure Standards for September 14th at 6:15 pm.

Approved a Memorandum of Understanding between Le Sueur County and the City of Elysian that clarifies and defines the roles and responsibilities with regard to the culvert that is located under County Road #11 and connects Lake Francis and Lake Tustin.

Received the Elysian Wastewater Treatment Facility Compliance Evaluation Inspection and Letter of Warning.

Received an update on the Water Tower Maintenance Project and the Sunset Park Trail Project.

Authorized Councilmember Westby to enter into direct negotiations with Midwest IT Systems, Inc. to determine the exact needs of the Fire Hall and report back at the September Council meeting.

Scheduled a budget workshop meeting for August 27, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

Approved a Letter Agreement between the City of Elysian and SEH Engineering for inspection of the Verizon Upgrade on the Elysian Water Tower at a cost of \$11,000 that is paid in its entirety by Verizon.

Discussed the sightings of coyotes in the City. Discussed various options for control/removal. The City Attorney will continue to investigate the issue and provide a memorandum with options for the September meeting.

Public Comments: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 pm.