

**ELYSIAN CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING
AUGUST 27, 2026**

The Elysian City Council held a budget workshop meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2026 at City Hall at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call: Mayor Dennis Schnoor; Councilmembers Steve Hoppe, Paul Hunter, and Derek Westby; City Administrator Lorri Kopischke. Absent: Councilmember Bobby Houlihan.

The Council reviewed the items in the 2026 payable budget that have not yet been completed. The disparity between sewer expenses and revenues has improved since the July workshop meeting to a deficit of \$4,230 in the sewer fund cash balance.

The Council reviewed considerations for the 2027 payable budget.

The Council reviewed the Auditor recommendations for the 2027 payable budget. The most significant concern is the additional revenues needed to fund the debt repayment in the Environmental Utility Fund (EUF). Annual debt service is approximately \$145,000 and annual revenue is projected to be \$104,000. Options to fund the EUF debt repayment include the increase of EUF rates or levying taxes through the general fund.

After considerable discussion, the Council directed staff to reduce the budget in the Highway and Street Department and the Park Department by \$20,000 and to include \$45,000 in the general levy to fund the EUF debt repayment. This will increase the levy by approximately 4.5%. Staff was directed to continue to review the proposed budget for ways to decrease the general fund levy.

The Council discussed a tiered rate schedule for seasonal users and a local sales tax. Both mechanisms would be utilized to generate additional revenue and keep utility user rates down and reduce the levy.

A follow-up budget meeting will be held in October once more information is received for insurance, Fire Relief and other 2027 costs not yet determined, in an effort to reduce the final 2027 payable levy amount.

On motion by Hoppe, seconded by Westby, all voting in favor, to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 pm.

Approved:

Dennis Schnoor, Mayor

Attested:

Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator