NOTES FROM CITY HALL – NOVEMBER 2026

The water tower project is finished. Thank you to everyone for your patience during this project. The water hydrants will be flushed on November 19th (weather permitting).

Thank you to Jane Conroy and friends for decorating Main Street for the Autumn / Halloween season.

Thank you to the Elysian Area Chamber, Elysian Area Fire Department, businesses, City staff and all the generous volunteers for a fun, safe, and spooky Halloween event.

The City brush pile (located at the sanitary sewer pond off County Road 14) is open. The hours are Wednesdays from 2:00 to 5:00 pm and Saturdays from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. PLEASE NOTE: The last day that the brush pile will be open is November 25th. Open only to citizens of the City of Elysian. Leaves, brush, and tree wood allowed – no building materials.

A seasonal garbage shut off form is posted 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!

Effective October 1, 2026 West Central will no longer be providing a second recycling cart free of charge. Each recycle cart will be $5.52 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 recycling cart removed.

Small Business Saturday will be held Saturday, November 28th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. 10+ businesses and 25+ vendors will be participating. Complementary food and drink and door prizes at some locations. Contact Tasha Hering (507-267-4420) for more information. Shop Local!

Holiday Lights Parade and Winter Fun will be on Saturday, December 5th. Please see insert for details. If you would like to volunteer to help with the Fun with Claus event or donate items to the sale or bake sale please email: ebhartzler@gmail.com

The Elysian Area Chamber will again be sponsoring a Residential Holiday Lighting Contest. Judging will be held on December 11th. Contest winners will receive: First Place $200; Second Place $100; Third Place $50 in Elysian Dollars.

WIN Elysian Dollars in Elysian Area Chamber Christmas Drawing 2026. 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). Drawings held Fridays: November 27th, December 4th, December 11th. First prize $40, Second prize $20. And a final drawing on December 18th. (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. Encourage all 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.

The Elysian Area Fire Department would like to bless a family or two this Christmas. If you know of a deserving family in need in the Elysian area, contact Tonya at tonyasturdivant@outlook.com or 507-995-3388. Happy Holidays from the EFD!

UPCOMING ELYSIAN AREA LIBRARY & HERITAGE CENTER EVENTS: *Small Scale Homesteading: Minnesota State Horticultural Society speaker and homesteader Michelle Bruhn will share her wisdom preserving food, savings seeds, and other homesteading techniques. The event is made possible in part from a grant from the Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund of the MN Clean Water, Land & Legacy amendment through the Traverse des Sioux Library System* – November 16th at 6:00 pm; *Nature School Night Sky* – November 17th at 10:00 am (geared for ages 3-5); *Book Talk: read the book 1776 by David McCullough and join the conversation* - November 18th at 10:00 am; *Puzzle Derby – Grab your team of four and join for a puzzling good time* – December 2nd at 9:00 am (geared for adults); *Watercolor Story Maps: Use watercolor markers to color classic story maps* – December 5th at 10:30 am. Register for the events at: wasecalesueurlibraries.com/getregistered/ or call 507-267-4411. The library is closed: November 11th, 26th, and 27th.

There is an ELYSIAN AREA LIBRARY 50/50 Raffle Drawing: Tickets $5. Drawing is November 28th (Small Business Saturday). Tickets are available now.

December 1st is “Giving Tuesday” a global movement that shifts focus towards radical generosity and local impact. It is the perfect day to consider supporting your library. We witness your support everyday – through children discovering the joy of reading and the community gathering spaces where adults and families can stay connected. Whether you give your time, your voice, or a financial contribution, your gift ensures that our library remains a welcoming space of learning and connection for generations to come. Monetary donations can be made at www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/donate-to-support-your-library-4 or sent to Elysian Area Library PO Box 10 Elysian MN 56028. If interested in volunteering your time or talents, please contact June during library hours.

The American Legion Auxiliary will be hosting the following events: *Omelette Bar Breakfast* – the second Sunday of every month from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm; *Turkey Trot Bingo/Pulled Pork Supper* - November 21st, *Karaoke* – November 25th, *Small Business Saturday Vendors* – November 28th, *Races/Meat Raffle/Pulled Pork Supper* – December 5th, *Ugly Sweater Contest* – December 12th.

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 - NOVEMBER 9, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

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

Le Sueur County Chief Deputy Nick Greenig stated that all has been quiet in the City of Elysian.

Public Comment Summary (for complete public comments please see approved Council minutes):

Leo Brown, 117 Willow Point Drive, thanked the City of Elysian for electing him to the City Council and stated that he will be proud to work to make it a better place. Brown was happy that the levy was being reduced to under 5% and reported a complaint that the women's Wayside Rest bathroom is "nasty" all the time.

Brown reported high speed traffic on Shoreview Drive in the Roemhildts Addition and asked if the speed trailer could be utilized in that area.

Mark Sybilrud, 514 Lake Avenue NW, expressed gratitude to all the volunteers who separated candy, set up, handed out candy, and took down the decorations for the Spook Trail. He noted that Commissioner Rohlfing is retiring. Rohlfing has represented the City of Elysian well for a long time.

Sybilrud reported that he was at Pamela's Pet Shop last weekend and a semi-truck turned off Hwy 60 onto County Road 11 and went straight through the stop sign at Main Street. Sybilrud suggested that crosswalk stripes be painted there with the words "Stop Ahead." Crosswalk stripes would also be helpful at the crossing of the trail by the Wayside Rest.

Scott Thompson, 121 Willow Point Drive, congratulated all the successful candidates and stated that he believes all the candidates on the ballot shared a common goal that the City be successful. Thompson is willing to serve in any capacity to help achieve that goal.

The Council congratulated the recently elected candidates and those who were on the ballot and thanked them all for running for office.

Approved the Consent Agenda to include minutes of the October 12, 2026 Regular Meeting and October 26, 2026 Special Meeting; Bills, Payroll, and Transfers in the amount of $265,142.07; Health Insurance Contributions of year 2027; Resolution #1019/26 – Accepting a Donation from Kristy Sybilrud toward the Park Fund; Resolution #1020/26 – Accepting a Donation of Time and Skill from Anonymous Election Judge.

Approved Resolution #1021/26 – Certifying the Results of the Tuesday, November 3, 2026 General Election. Mayor: Derek Westby (186), Dennis Schnoor (134), Shawn Anderson (105), Write Ins (10); Council Members (2): Samantha Williams (228), Leo Brown (161), Bobby Houlihan (140), Scott M. Thompson (129), David Schlueter (107), Write Ins (3).

Discussed establishing a seasonal utility rate. Tabled consideration to the March 2027 Council Meeting.

Approved Resolution #1022/26 – Adopting Findings of Fact and Reasons for Approval for Variance Application of Susan Balzer at 510 Lake Avenue NW.

Approved an estimate from NEXGEN Home Services in the amount of $770.00 for labor and material for two remote thermostats at the Wayside Rest building if WI- FI service is adequate.

Reviewed quotes to extend water and sewer line at 206-1/2 Frank Avenue NE. Authorized City Attorney and City Administrator to engage with the property owner to determine his interest in updating the water and sewer service lines.

Approved closure of Main Street from 5th Street NW to Fire Hall on December 5, 2026 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm for Holidazzle Parade. Approved check #029801 to VISA in the amount of $7.78.

SEH Engineering has completed the EPA submittal for the Water Treatment Plant Project. SEH is currently working on the MN Department of Health (MDH) plan review and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund application.

Public Comments: Tamara Thayer, (part-time resident) 7 Roots Beach Lane, asked what was being done about the building issues at 6 Roots Beach Lane and the intrusion onto her mother's property. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 pm.