

**ELYSIAN CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2018**

The Elysian City Council met in regular session on Monday, September 10, 2018, at City Hall at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call: Mayor Clinton Stoen; Councilmembers Robert Houlihan, Tom McBroom, Mary Opsahl, and Dennis Schnoor; City Administrator Lorri Kopischke; Public Works Director Ron Greenwald; City Attorney Jason Moran. Absent: City Utility Clerk Nicole Lamont.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by McBroom, all voting in favor, to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2018 Regular Meeting and August 30, 2018 Budget Workshop Meeting as presented.

On motion by Stoen, seconded by Schnoor, all voting in favor, to approve the agenda of the September 10, 2018 Regular Meeting as presented.

Public Comment: None.

Fire Chief Jason James reported the Joint Fire Board has approved the hiring of three to four new firefighters. There are four active firefighters who will be retiring soon. James stated his goal is to have four new firefighters hired by January 1, 2019.

On motion by McBroom, seconded by Opsahl, all voting in favor, to approve the advertising and hiring of up to four additional firefighters.

The Council considered a variance request for 632 Ridge Road to allow the property owner to replace the non-compliant septic on the property with new septic rather than connecting to municipal sanitary sewer utility.

The septic system servicing 632 Ridge Road was inspected as part of the FRST Septic Inventory conducted by Le Sueur County in May 2018. The inspection found the tank to be non-compliant "failure to protect groundwater". The report states that the age of the tank is unknown, but the family stated the system was installed sometime in the 1980's. Based on age alone, it is likely that the existing drain field would have a limited life left in it before it would also need to be replaced. There is direct access to municipal sanitary sewer at the SW corner for the property at 632 Ridge Road via the low-pressure sanitary sewer forcemain installed by Meixl in 2015. This is a low pressure forcemain system and would require the property owner to utilize a grinder lift to pump their wastewater into the system.

City of Elysian Ordinance #15 requires that: "At such time as a public sewer becomes available to the property, the building sewer shall be connected to it, and use of any septic tank, cesspool or other private sewage disposal shall cease." Costs to connect to the municipal sanitary sewer utility are estimated at \$6,389 (rights to access public sewer), \$1,600 sanitary sewer hook up fee, and \$10,000 for the grinder lift and service lines to the main - \$17,989 total.

Charles Taylor, owner of property at 632 Ridge Road, stated they are requesting a variance to allow the new buyer to install a septic tank rather than hook to city sewer. The estimated cost of installation of a new tank is \$8,000 which is much less than hooking to city sewer. This would allow his prospective buyer, Wesley, the ability to afford to buy. He has five years to comply anyway.

Houlihan confirmed that the costs to hook to the city system could be assessed. He stated he has this same system at his house and it works well. There is no maintenance.

Stoen stated he understood the thinking, it is just that the availability to hook up to sanitary sewer is already there. Taylor stated they are just trying to help the buyer afford the property now.

Ryan Wesley, prospective buyer, stated he was hoping he wouldn't have to hook up to the City sewer. All he needs is the tank. He would buy the tank, and have it installed, and the county would inspect it. It would be a done deal and he would save the \$16,000 to \$17,000. Wesley stated it is a lot of money to do the same thing that a septic will do. The property is way on the edge of town.

Houlihan stated that where he lives is way out as well and he has the same system. If they decide to hook up, the sooner the better as they will then have more paid off if they decide to sell the property.

On motion by Stoen, seconded by Houlihan, to deny the variance request to Ordinance #15, from the owners of property at 632 Ridge Road, to allow the replacement of a non-compliant septic tank with a new septic tank when municipal sanitary sewer utility is available.

Engineer Cavett questioned if the private costs (service lines and grinder lift) would be able to be special assessed or just the public costs?

Attorney Moran stated that through the consent assessment process all costs could be assessed for a 15-year period with a low interest rate. The entire project could be assessed.

Dick Norland, Midwest Realty & Mort. Co. asked when a connection to a high-pressure system would be available to this property. Engineer Cavett stated a high-pressure connection would never be available. In the rural areas with a lot of lakes and this type of topography, a low-pressure system is the most economical and viable. The E1 is the typical pump used with this system.

Voting on the motion: Aye: Houlihan, McBroom, Opsahl, Schnoor, Stoen. Naye: None.

The Council then discussed the timeline of the required hook up to municipal sanitary sewer utility for 632 Ridge Road. It was noted that as part of the FRST Septic Inventory, Le Sueur County requires that non-compliant septic systems be brought into compliance within 5 years from inspection.

On motion by Houlihan, seconded by Opsahl, all voting in favor, to require that the property owners of 632 Ridge Road hook on to municipal sanitary sewer utility no later than September 10, 2023, or at such time as their current septic system fails, whichever comes first.

Engineer Cavett provided a 2018 Street and Utility Project update. The contractor is finishing the last of the utility work this week. The substantial completion date is September 30, 2018. The contractor is a little behind schedule due to delays that were out of their control. Cavett does not see this as an issue.

Schnoor noted the final lift will not be done until 2019 but asked that the bump on Third Street NW be corrected. Cavett stated the match points will be corrected.

Public Works Greenwald reported he is obtaining quotes to place a skin patch on Lake Avenue NE going up the hill. That roadway is in rough shape. He plans to have it done when the remaining blacktop of the street project is put down.

Councilmember Schnoor introduced the resolution and was seconded by Councilmember McBroom.

RESOLUTION NO. 630/18  
RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2019 PROPOSED BUDGET  
FOR THE CITY OF ELYSIAN  
LESUEUR AND WASECA COUNTIES

WHEREAS, the City of Elysian has considered and discussed the budget for the year 2019;  
and

WHEREAS, the 2019 proposed budget is attached to this Resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
ELYSIAN, MINNESOTA:

1. That the attached proposed budget for 2019 marked as "Exhibit A" is hereby adopted.

Upon vote being taken:

Councilmembers voting in the affirmative: Houlihan, McBroom, Opsahl, Schnoor, Stoen.

Councilmembers voting in the negative: None.

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018.

Approved:

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Clinton Stoen, Mayor

Attested:

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Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

Councilmember Schnoor introduced the resolution and was seconded by Councilmember Houlihan.

RESOLUTION NO. 631/18  
RESOLUTION ADOPTING PRELIMINARY 2018 TAX LEVY, PAYABLE 2019  
CITY OF ELYSIAN  
LE SUEUR AND WASECA COUNTIES

WHEREAS, the City of Elysian has adopted the proposed budget for the year 2019; and

WHEREAS, the City of Elysian has determined the tax levy for taxes payable in the year 2019 to be in the amount of \$656.920.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY ELYSIAN, MINNESOTA; that the following sums of money are levied for the current year, collectible in 2019, upon taxable property in the City of Elysian, for the following purposes:

General Fund	\$413,806
Fire Relief	\$ 2,753
Maintenance Replacement Eq.	\$ 10,000
Storm Sewer	\$ 5,000
Kaplan	\$ 12,000
City Hall Debt	\$ 25,738
2012 Local Improvement Levy	\$ 50,000
2016 Local Improvement Levy	\$ 6,000
2018 Local Improvement Levy	\$111,127
2016 Fire Truck Debt	\$ 20,496
Total Preliminary Levy	\$656,920

Councilmembers voting in the affirmative: Houlihan, Opsahl, McBroom, Schnoor, Stoen.

Councilmembers voting in the negative: None.

The City Administrator is hereby instructed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the County Auditor for Le Sueur County and Waseca County, Minnesota.

Adopted by the Elysian City Council on September 10, 2018.

Approved:

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Clinton Stoen, Mayor

Attested:

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Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

On motion by Stoen, seconded by McBroom, all voting in favor, to set the Truth in Taxation Hearing for December 10, 2018 at 6:01 pm.

Councilmember Schnoor introduced the resolution and was seconded by Councilmember McBroom.

CITY OF ELYSIAN  
 ELYSIAN, MINNESOTA  
 RESOLUTION NO. 632/18  
 ADOPTING ASSESSMENT

WHEREAS, pursuant to proper notice duly given as required by law, the council has met and heard and passed upon all objections to the proposed assessment for the 2018 Street and Utility Improvement Project, which includes improvements on the following streets:

- Second Street NW, from Main Street to Frank Avenue NW
- Third Street SW/NW, from TH 60 to Frank Avenue NW
- Fourth Street SW, from TH 60 to Main Street
- Frank Avenue NW, from 4th Street NW to 1st Street
- Park Avenue NW, from 4th Street NW to 1st Street
- Second Street NE, from Main Street to Park Ave NE; and
- Second Street SE, from Main Street to dead end; and

WHEREAS, by the construction of sanitary sewer, sanitary sewer services, water main, water services, storm sewer, concrete curb and gutter, sidewalk, aggregate base, bituminous surfacing, turf restoration, and miscellaneous items required to properly complete the improvements, and has amended such proposed assessment as it deems just.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ELYSIAN, MINNESOTA:

1. The proposed assessment, for PID # 16.999.0030 and PID # 16.999.0100, owned by State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, in the amount of \$28,650.00 (Two [2] Residential/Domestic Water Service Assessment @ \$1,650 per unit and Three [3] Residential Reconstructed Street Assessment @ \$8,450 per unit), is hereby accepted and shall constitute the special assessment against the lands named therein, and each tract of land therein included is hereby found to be benefited by the improvement in the amount of the assessment levied against it.
2. Such assessment shall be payable in equal annual installments, including principal and interest, extending over a period of 15 years, the first of the installments to be payable on or before the first Monday in January 2019, and will bear interest at a rate of 4.50 percent per annum from November 1, 2018. To the first installment shall be added interest on the entire assessment from the November 1, 2018 until December 31, 2019. To each subsequent installment when due shall be added interest for one year on all unpaid installments.
3. The owner of any property so assessed may, at any time prior to certification of the assessment to the County Auditor-Treasurer on November 1, 2018, pay the whole or part of the assessment on such property with interest accrued to the date of payment, to the City Administrator, except that no interest shall be charged on any portion of the assessment paid by October 31, 2018. The property owner may at any time thereafter, pay to the County Auditor-Treasurer the entire amount of the assessment remaining unpaid, with interest accrued to December 31 of the year in which such payment is made. Such payment must be made before November 15 or interest will be charged through December 31 of the succeeding year.
4. The City Administrator shall forthwith transmit a certified duplicate of this assessment to the County Auditor-Treasurer to be extended on the property tax lists of the county. Such assessment shall be collected and paid over in the same manner as other municipal taxes.

Upon vote being taken:

Council Members voting in the affirmative: Houlihan, McBroom, Opsahl, Schnoor, Stoen.

Council Members voting in the negative: None.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Elysian this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018.

Approved:

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Clinton Stoen, Mayor

Attested:

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Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

Councilmember Schnoor introduced the resolution and was seconded by Mayor Stoen.

CITY OF ELYSIAN  
ELYSIAN, MINNESOTA  
RESOLUTION NO. 633/18  
RESOLUTION TO ADOPT OFFICIAL NAME  
OF PUBLIC PARK

WHEREAS, on October 13, 2014, the City Council of the City of Elysian acknowledged the forfeiture property known as PID # 16.999.0520 (previously known as PID # 16.410.0995) from the Le Sueur County Auditor-Treasurer Office and approved the conveyance to the City of Elysian to be used for a public purpose;

WHEREAS, since that time the City of Elysian has been working to develop the piece of property described above into a public park;

WHEREAS, the Elysian Park Board with approval of the Elysian City Council has requested public input on naming the property via Facebook Poll;

WHEREAS, the name receiving the most votes on the Facebook Poll was "Sunset Park"; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ELYSIAN, MINNESOTA THAT: the City Council of the City of Elysian hereby approves the results of the Facebook Poll and establishes the official name of the subject park as "Sunset Park".

Upon vote being taken:

Council Members voting in the affirmative: Houlihan, McBroom, Opsahl, Schnoor, Stoen.

Council Members voting in the negative: None.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Elysian this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018.

Approved:

Clinton Stoen, Mayor

Attested:

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Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

Mayor Stoen introduced the resolution and was seconded by Councilmember Houlihan.

CITY OF ELYSIAN  
ELYSIAN, MINNESOTA  
RESOLUTION NO. 634/18

RESOLUTION TO CHANGE DATE OF  
REGULARLY SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING

WHEREAS, the regularly scheduled November City Council meeting is set for the second Monday of the month, November 12, 2018;

WHEREAS, November 12, 2018 is the Legal Veterans Day Holiday;

WHEREAS, no public business shall be transacted, except in cases of necessity. *M.S. 645.44, subd. 5*;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ELYSIAN, MINNESOTA THAT: the City Council of the City of Elysian hereby reschedules the November regularly scheduled City Council Meeting from Monday, November 12, 2018 at 6:00 pm to Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

Upon vote being taken:

Council Members voting in the affirmative: Houlihan, McBroom, Opsahl, Schnoor, Stoen.

Council Members voting in the negative: None.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Elysian this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018.

Approved:

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Clinton Stoen, Mayor

Attested:

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Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

The Elysian Economic Development Authority is purchasing benches to be placed in the business district of the City. One of the benches will be located in the right-of-way of Elysian Agency which is located at 201 Main Street East. The bench will be located in the right of way of their frontage on Second Street SE. When approached regarding the placement of the bench, the business owner inquired as to the large white electrical box that had been erected in the same area of right of way to

provide services to be used by vendors during the Elysian Fourth of July Celebration. He asked if he could have permission to paint the box (to possibly include some advertising for his business) and also landscape around it to improve the appearance. This could be tied in with the placement of the bench.

On motion by McBroom, seconded by Houlihan, all voting in favor, to allow the business owner at 201 Main Street East to paint the electrical box located in the right of way by his business on Second Street SE and to landscape around it (within the landscape restrictions of Ordinance #73/12A) to tie in with the placement of the bench.

A Flu-Shot Clinic sponsored by Thrifty White Drug will be held on September 27, 2018 from 3:00 to 7:00 pm at the Tourism Center.

Per the City contract with West Central Sanitation, the garbage and recycle rates will be increasing 2% effective on October 1, 2018.

Planning and Zoning Commissioner Gary Buchschacher has moved his residence from Elysian and has resigned from the Board. On motion by Stoen, seconded by McBroom, all voting in favor, to advertise the available seat on the Planning and Zoning Commission for appointment in January 2019.

Employee Evaluations will be completed this month. On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Houlihan, all voting in favor, to schedule the evaluation of City Administrator following the October 8, 2018 City Council Meeting.

City Attorney Moran had no report.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Houlihan, all voting in favor, bills, payroll, and transfers were approved in the amount of \$393,208.39.

Public Comment:

Pat Nusbaum, 104 Park Avenue NE, I think it's really good that you are doing something with that white sign down there by the bank. The bench sounds wonderful. As a suggestion, would it be better instead of having advertising of one business on there, would it be better to have more of a city sign like "Welcome to Elysian" or "Thanks for visiting Elysian" or something to say about Elysian rather than advertising.

On motion by Stoen, seconded by McBroom, all voting in favor, to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 pm.

Approved:

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Clinton Stoen, Mayor

Attested:

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Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator