

**ELYSIAN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 11, 2019**

The Elysian City Council met in regular session on Monday, March 11, 2019 at City Hall at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call: Mayor Pro Tem Mary Opsahl; Councilmembers Bobby Houlihan, Dennis Schnoor, Bryan Suemnick; City Administrator Lorri Kopischke; Public Works Director Ron Greenwald. Absent: Mayor Tom McBroom and City Attorney Jason Moran.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Houlihan, all voting in favor, to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2019 Regular Meeting as presented.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Houlihan, all voting in favor, to approve the agenda of the March 11, 2019 Regular Meeting with the following change:

1. Remove: Agenda Item 8. Waseca Area Hockey Association request for Charitable Gambling at Tuckers Tavern. (Gambling Manager Lynch requested to be removed from agenda)

Le Sueur County Sheriff Brett Mason reported construction of the new Justice Center is on time and under budget with the Certificate of Occupancy expected by the end of June and plans for the building to be open in September. Special efforts are being made to make the switch to the new building without any interruption in phone calls / dispatch especially 911. Sheriff Mason was asked to address when the signs marking the area where the truck fell through on Lake Francis will be removed, the speed limit on County Road 14 going east out of Elysian and having more patrol on State Highway 60 during peak times of 7:00 to 8:00 am and 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Mason was also asked to schedule the speed trailer for placement on State Highway 60. Mason stated there are new faces at the Sheriff's Department including dispatch, jailers, and new Deputy Ryan Frederick.

Public Comment: None.

Craig Beckman, 4C Supervisor - Division of Park and Trails, and Kent Skaar, State Trail Development, both of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR), thanked the Council for allowing the MN DNR participation with the 2018 Street and Utility Project resulting in trail realignment. Skaar also confirmed that the trail reconstruction through Elysian will be finalized this year.

Beckman provided an Elysian Wayside Building Fact Sheet that reported the annual cost to operate the building is \$11,209. He explained that the wayside rest building located on Main Street and Third Street SW is unique and has a low priority for MN DNR funding. The majority of state trailheads include a picnic table, signage, and porta toilets.

Skaar stated the MN DNR looks across the state at all the buildings and reviews every structure. They really don't operate any fully flush facilities – most are stand alone porta toilets. So, the question is how the City and the MN DNR will move forward with this wayside rest building.

Beckman reported the building is in good condition. Items needing attention would be the insulation and cosmetic fixes such as upgrades to the countertops, toilets, and stall dividers. The building appears to be structurally sound. The City may want to have their building inspector look at the structure to see what updates will be necessary in the short, mid and long term. It was noted that

discussion or any agreement made in regard to the wayside rest building would be separate from the trailhead and the parking lot.

The Council expressed interest in keeping the wayside rest building operational. More discussion will be held at a work session meeting.

Kent Skaar then discussed the MN DNR trail right-of-way between Main Street East and State Highway 60 that is currently being utilized as a City alley and contains encroachment of several private owners. That property has now been surveyed and the MN DNR may be amicable to discussions of transferring that property to the City. If the Council is interested in acquiring the property, the first step would be to draft a letter to Beckman from the Council expressing interest in the City acquiring the alleyway (the property that includes the alley and the property to the north). Skaar did not know what the associated costs of that acquisition may be.

Public Works Director Greenwald presented the quote from Midway Ford Commercial for the 2019 F-550 4x4 Truck cab and chassis in the amount of \$57,473.01.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Suemnick, all voting in favor, to approve the quote from Midway Ford for the 2019 F-550 4x4 Truck cab and chassis in the amount of \$57,473.01.

Greenwald reported the city drinking water is still being chlorinated. The Minnesota Department of Health tested again today.

Greenwald reported the pond levels look good. Also, most of the storm sewer intakes were chopped out today. Kopischke reported that Fire Chief James had emailed today and asked that the Public Works Department be thanked for their great work of keeping the fire hydrants cleared out from the snow.

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

CITY OF ELYSIAN
ELYSIAN, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION NO. 661/19
RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING A DONATION FROM
ELYSIAN AMERICAN LEGION POST #311

WHEREAS, the City of Elysian has received a donation in the amount of \$4,000.00 from the Elysian American Legion Post #311, for tax relief to the Elysian Area Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of funding a portion of the July 4th Celebration.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ELYSIAN, MINNESOTA THAT: the City Council of the City of Elysian acknowledges and accepts the donation from the Elysian American Legion Post #311 in the amount of \$4,000.00 for Parade and Fireworks.

Upon vote being taken:

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

Council Members voting in the negative: None.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Elysian this 11th day of March, 2019.

Approved:

Tom McBroom, Mayor

Attested:

Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

Applications have been received, and successful interviews and physical skill tests conducted for Pam Glende, Brian Rutt, and Chad Sorenson. The background checks have all been clear as well. The interview committee is recommending approval of probationary hire for all three applicants.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Suemnick, all voting in favor, to approve Pam Glende, Brian Rutt, and Chad Sorensen for the position of fire fighter.

Councilmember Schnoor asked if a more specific contract could be obtained from Mosquito Control of Iowa. Staff will request a more detailed contract and submit for consideration at the April 2019 Council Meeting.

On motion by Houlihan, seconded by Suemnick, all voting in favor, to set the 2018 Burkhardt & Burkhardt Audit Report for April 8, 2019 at 5:30 pm.

Reminder of Le Sueur County Elected Official Meeting Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 6:30 pm in Waterville (location to be determined).

Severe weather awareness week is April 8 – 12, 2019. State-wide tornado drills will be April 11, 2019.

Board of Review and Equalization Open Book Meeting for 2018 – Le Sueur County: Tuesday, April 16, 2019 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, Le Sueur County Courthouse and Waseca County: Monday, April 15, 2019 from 9:00 am to noon, Waseca County Assessor's Office.

Reminder that the City-wide Spring Clean Up is Saturday, May 18, 2019 from 8:30 to 11:00 am.

Council reviewed and discussed draft Ordinance #91-19 – An Ordinance relating to tobacco, electronic delivery devices, and nicotine or lobelia delivery products and the like. This ordinance would prohibit the sale of tobacco-related products to persons under twenty-one (21) years of age, require licensing of those establishments selling tobacco-related products and provide for penalties for violation of such ordinance.

Councilmembers stated this issue is currently being discussed by the State Legislature and may soon be regulated by the State of MN. Also, it may be harmful to local business owners if the sale was not allowed in the City of Elysian, but patrons were able to drive less than ten (10) miles in each direction to make such purchases and any other purchases that would be made at the same time, gas, groceries, etc.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Suemnick, all voting in favor, to not take under consideration draft Ordinance #91-19 - An Ordinance relating to tobacco, electronic delivery devices, and nicotine or lobelia delivery products and the like.

On motion by Houlihan, seconded by Suemnick, all voting in favor, bills, payroll, and transfers were approved in the amount of \$73,185.20.

Public Comment: None.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Suemnick, all voting in favor, to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 pm.

Approved:

Tom McBroom, Mayor

Attested:

Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator