

**ELYSIAN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 11, 2024**

The Elysian City Council met in regular session on Monday, March 11, 2024 at City Hall at 6:00 pm.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag.

Roll Call: Mayor Tom McBroom, Sr.; Councilmembers Bobby Houlihan, Dennis Schnoor, Bryan Suemnick (arrived at 6:02 pm), and Derek Westby; City Administrator Lorri Kopischke; Public Works Director Ron Greenwald; City Attorney Jason Moran. Absent: None.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Westby, all voting in favor, to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2024 Regular Meeting as presented.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Schnoor, all voting in favor, to approve the agenda of the March 11, 2024 Regular Meeting with the following addition:

13.s. Consideration to Advertise for Fire Fighters.

Le Sueur County Commissioner Rohlfing reported phase 2 of the government center remodel should be completed this month with the parking lot remodel completed the end of July.

Councilmember Suemnick arrived at 6:02 pm.

Rohlfing reported the Commissioners are working on a policy to address safety concerns at intersections. Installation of guardrails is a last resort. Options being considered are destination lighting and lighted flashing signs. In response to the discussion at the January City Council meeting of the curve on County Road #11 by Glen's Beach, the county is requesting to clear cut some trees off the land to make a clear path so that if a vehicle does go off the road, it will not hit an object and result in injury or death. Suemnick asked if the radius of the curve of the road could be changed.

Rohlfing reported bids are being opened for sealcoat and road striping. CSAH 16 from CSAH 13 to CSAH 15 will be rehabbed this summer. The feed lot ordinance has been completed and Commissioners are working on updating the solid waste ordinance. The Comprehensive Plan is being updated.

Le Sueur County Chief Deputy Nick Greenig reported all has been quiet in the City. The Council asked Greenig to address a small black car that has been traveling at very high speeds on State Highway 60, stop sign violations at the corner of Main Street and County Road #11, and vehicles parked in the no parking zone on Third Street SW.

On motion by McBroom, seconded by Schnoor, all voting in favor, to close the Regular Meeting and open the Public Hearing at 6:09 pm.

The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public input on proposed Ordinance No. 112/24 – An Ordinance Repealing Chapter 154 – Floodplain Management in its Entirety and Replacing Enacting Ordinance 112/24 – Floodplain Management.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has updated the Flood Insurance Rate Map panels and accompanying Flood Insurance Studies for Waseca and Le Sueur Counties with an effective date of March 27, 2024, and July 17, 2024, respectively. The proposed Ordinance No. 112/24

incorporates those changes. Adoption of this Ordinance is required for the City to maintain participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

There were no public comments.

There were no written comments.

On motion by McBroom, seconded by Schnoor, all voting in favor, to close the Public Hearing and open the Regular Meeting at 6:12 pm.

Public Comment: None.

On motion by Houlihan, seconded by Schnoor, all voting in favor, to adopt Ordinance No. 112/24 – An Ordinance Repealing Chapter 154 – Floodplain Management in its entirety and replacing Enacting Ordinance 112/24 – Floodplain Management.

The Council considered proposed Ordinance No. 113/24 – Regulating Native Plantings consistent with MSA §412.95. During the 2023 session, the State Legislature passed MSA §412.95 which requires cities to allow pollinator gardens. Cities are allowed to regulate such gardens as they can become unsightly and attract undesirable animals if not well kept. The proposed Ordinance No. 113/24 would prohibit such gardens in the front yard, front street, or any side street, and would allow in the side or rear yard with a setback of fifteen feet from any adjacent property lines. The size could be no larger than fifteen (15) square feet. The ordinance would not allow turf grass longer than six (6) inches, would not allow weeds, and would provide for abatement of any nuisance.

On motion by McBroom, seconded by Westby, all voting in favor, to schedule a public hearing for consideration of Ordinance No. 113/24 – An Ordinance Regulating Native Plantings consistent with MSA §412.925 for April 8, 2024 at 6:15 pm.

Per Task 2 of the Elysian Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Final Design Agreement, SEH Engineering has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to two geotechnical firms to perform soil testing and make recommendations for the WTP foundations, as well as recommendations for the water main installation. The RFP was sent to American Engineering Testing (AET) and Braun Intertec.

Both firms provided proposals to perform all work as described in the RFP. AET proposed Time & Materials in the amount of \$37,407 and Braun Intertec proposed Lump Sum in the amount of \$23,210. SEH recommends the City accept Braun Intertec's proposal for a lump sum amount of \$23,210.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Suemnick, all voting in favor, to accept proposal to perform soil testing and make recommendations for the WTP foundation, as well as recommendations for the water main installation from Braun Intertec in the Lump Sum amount of \$23,210.

Per Task 3 of the Elysian WTP Final Design Agreement, SEH issued an RFP to perform a 3-month Reverse Osmosis (RO) Pilot Study. Three proposals were received as follows:

WesTech: \$80,820 (\$85,820 including contingencies). No containerized unit available. Chemical costs not included in the proposal. SEH added \$5k contingency to account for chemicals and pilot equipment "shed."

Harn-Komline: \$80,525 (\$87,570 for containerized unit not including crane rental; see notes). Cost does not include containerized unit; containerized unit not available until September. Containerized unit needs to be unloaded/loaded by crane (to be coordinated and paid for by the City).

Wigen Water: \$106,250 (\$115,750 with optional greensand gravity filter pretreatment; see notes). 48' trailer mounted unit. No need for unloading/loading; just need to connect plumbing and electrical. Only supplier offering optional gravity sand filter pretreatment as part of pilot (for an additional cost of \$9,500 totaling \$115,750).

SEH has experience working with Harn and Wigen but has not worked directly with WesTech. The key differences are:

WesTech: Does not offer container installation. If the City cannot locate the unit inside the existing well house, a container will need to be rented or constructed.

Harn-Komline: Due to Harn being located in Florida, the field services included is only one trip for startup and training (vs. 3 trips for WesTech and Wigen).

Wigen Water: The only supplier that could offer an optional greensand media pressure filter as pre-treatment for the RO unit. This would most accurately reflect the final WTP system and provide the most accurate operational data.

SEH recommends the City accepts Wigen Water proposal with the optional greensand gravity filter pretreatment in the amount of \$115,750.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Westby, all voting in favor, to accept the proposal from Wigen Water to perform a 3-month Reverse Osmosis Pilot Study to include greensand gravity filter pretreatment in the amount of \$115,750.

Councilmember Westby introduced the resolution and was seconded by Councilmember Houlihan and passed unanimously.

CITY OF ELYSIAN
LE SUEUR COUNTY, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION NO. 889/24
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING APPLICATION
TO MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FOR REGIONAL TRAIL PROGRAM

WHEREAS the City of Elysian supports the grant application made to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the Regional Trail Program. The application is to construct one-half (0.5) mile of paved trail for Sunset Park. The trail system will be located within 6 acres of the existing Sunset Park and connect the local neighborhood to the nearby Sakatah Singing Hills State Trail.

WHEREAS the City of Elysian recognizes that it has secured \$62,500.00 in non-state cash matching funds for this project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, if the City of Elysian is awarded a grant by the Minnesota Department of Natural resources, the City of Elysian agrees to accept the grant award and may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above referenced project. The City of Elysian will comply with all applicable laws, environmental requirements and regulations as stated in the grant agreement, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the applicant has read the Conflict of Interest Policy contained in the Regional Trail Grant Manual and certifies it will report any actual, potential, perceived, or organizational conflicts of interest upon discovery to the state related to the application or grant award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of Elysian names the fiscal agent for the City of Elysian for this project as:

Lorri Kopischke
Director of Finance/Treasurer
City of Elysian
110 W Main Street
Elysian, MN 56028

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Elysian hereby assures the Sunset Park Trail will be maintained for a period of no less than 20 years.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELYSIAN THIS 11TH DAY OF MARCH, 2024.

TOM MCBROOM, SR - MAYOR

ATTEST:

LORRI KOPISCHKE - CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Public Works Greenwald discussed options for a new versus a used mower purchase. He would like to replace the 60" deck mower with a 72" deck mower. The 60" John Deere mower will be out of warranty this summer. The Council asked Greenwald to obtain quotes for similar new 72" deck mowers with tweels from Toro, John Deere, and Cub Cadet for consideration at the April meeting.

Greenwald updated the Council on the Safe Drinking Water Act Lead and Copper Rule. All cities are required to complete a lead/copper survey of all home, school and daycare collections.

The Council directed staff to obtain a quote to tint the City Hall windows.

The Council reviewed the commercial Environmental Utility Fund (EUF) charges with previous rate versus current rate increase. It was noted that several of the properties had a disproportionate monthly fee increase due to the amount of the rate increase.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Suemnick, to cap the commercial Environmental Utility Fund to no more than \$175 per month. Voting on the motion: Aye: Houlihan, McBroom, Suemnick, Westby. Nay: Schnoor. Motion carried.

On motion by McBroom, seconded by Schnoor, all voting in favor, to set a public hearing for consideration of a request for off sale, on sale, and Sunday Liquor License for KRO Bar, Inc. d/b/a Thirsty Beaver Bar for April 8, 2024 at 6:05 pm.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by McBroom, all voting in favor, to accept the resignation as Fire Fighter from the Elysian Fire Department from Bobby Houlihan effective January 31, 2024.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by McBroom, all voting in favor, to accept the resignation as Fire Fighter from the Elysian Fire Department from Matthew Olson effective January 15, 2024.

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

CITY OF ELYSIAN
LE SUEUR COUNTY, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION NO. 890/24
RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING
A DONATION FROM RON AND LAURA ROMNES

WHEREAS, the City of Elysian has received a donation in the amount of \$1,000.00 from Ron and Laura Romnes for the Sunset Park Sports Courts renovation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ELYSIAN, MINNESOTA THAT: the City Council of the City of Elysian acknowledges and accepts a donation from Ron and Laura Romnes in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the Sunset Park Sports Courts renovation.

Upon vote being taken:

Council Members voting in the affirmative: Houlihan, McBroom, Schnoor, Suemnick, Westby

Council Members voting in the negative: None

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Elysian this 11th day of March, 2024.

Approved:

Tom McBroom Sr., Mayor

Attested:

Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator

On motion by Suemnick, seconded by Schnoor, all voting in favor, to approve Resolution No. 891/24 – Approving State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements with the City of Elysian on behalf of its City Attorney.

RESOLUTION NO. 891/24

RESOLUTION APPROVING STATE OF MINNESOTA JOINT POWERS AGREEMENTS WITH THE CITY OF ELYSIAN ON BEHALF OF ITS CITY ATTORNEY

WHEREAS, the City of Elysian on behalf of its Prosecuting Attorney desires to enter into Joint Powers Agreements with the State of Minnesota, Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension to use systems and tools available over the State's criminal justice data communications network for which the City is eligible. The Joint Powers Agreements further provide the City with the ability to add, modify and delete connectivity, systems and tools over the five year life of the agreement and obligates the City to pay the costs for the network connection.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Elysian, Minnesota as follows:

1. That the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements by and between the State of Minnesota acting through its Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the City of Elysian on behalf of its Prosecuting Attorney, are hereby approved.
2. That the City Attorney, Jason L. Moran, or his or her successor, is designated the Authorized Representative for the Prosecuting Attorney. The Authorized Representative is also authorized to sign any subsequent amendment or agreement that may be required by the State of Minnesota to maintain the City's connection to the systems and tools offered by the State.
3. That Thomas McBroom, Sr., the Mayor for the City of Elysian, and Lorri Kopischke, the City Clerk, are authorized to sign the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements.

Passed and Adopted by the Council on this 11th day of March, 2024.

CITY OF ELYSIAN

By: Thomas McBroom, Sr.
Its Mayor

ATTEST: _____
By: Lorri Kopischke
Its City Clerk

The Council considered the renewal of the Elysian Area Fire Protection Agreement. The 10-year Agreement was originally approved on November 25, 2013. The only change to the Agreement is that the Townships agree to increase their annual contribution to the fire relief association from \$90 to \$100 for each section of land the township has within the service area of the District.

On motion by Schnoor, seconded by Suemnick, all voting in favor, to approve the 10-year Elysian Area Fire Protection Agreement.

On motion by Houlihan, seconded by Suemnick, all voting in favor, to set a Special Meeting for the Audit Report for April 8, 2024 at 5:30 pm.

Mosquito Control has submitted a contract proposal for 2024. The contract includes the addition of residual spraying for mosquitoes, ticks and fleas around the playground equipment, shelter houses and ballfields with no increase in the contract fee.

On motion by Westby, seconded by Suemnick, all voting in favor, to approve the contract with Mosquito Control of Iowa for the 2024 season in the amount of \$4060.00.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has confirmed that the Wayside Rest sign (kiosk) is located on city managed property. The Economic Development has agreed to fund up to \$400 to

make the needed repairs to the sign. City staff will then update the sign with upcoming local events to promote the businesses in the City.

Reminder of Joint Meeting with City Council, Planning and Zoning Commission, and Economic Development Authority on March 13, 2024 at 6:00 pm to discuss the Update to the Comprehensive Plan.

The Council was provided with an update from Le Sueur County that a FEMA grant was received to complete the Upper Cannon River Flood Study.

Xcel Energy provided a handout explaining the advanced grid and the installation of smart meters. Smart meters will be installed on homes in Elysian in April through September, 2024.

Severe Weather Awareness Week is April 8-12, 2024. Tornado Drill Day is Thursday, April 11th.

The Le Sueur County 2024 Board of Review & Equalization is scheduled for April 9, 2024 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm at Le Sueur County Government Center (Courthouse) – Open Book.

The Waseca County 2024 Board of Review & Equalization is scheduled for April 23, 2024 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at the Waseca County Courthouse – Open Book.

Skywarn Training will be held April 10, 2024 at 6:30 pm at the Le Sueur County Justice Center.

The Elysian City-wide Garage Sales will be May 10 and 11, 2024 with the Spring Clean Up date set for Saturday, May 18, 2024. More details to come.

On motion by Houlihan, seconded by Suemnick, all voting in favor, to approve advertising for hiring of (5) five firefighters.

On motion by McBroom, seconded by Westby, all voting in favor, bills, payroll, and transfers were approved in the amount of \$154,693.67.

Public Comment: None.

On motion by McBroom, seconded by Houlihan, all voting in favor, to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm.

Approved:

Tom McBroom, Sr., Mayor

Attested:

Lorri Kopischke, City Administrator