

**DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 9, 2015 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers**

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on September 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Alex presiding.

The following Councilmembers were present: Sharon Krogman, Dave Maurice, Phil Standfuss, and Al Strunc

Councilmembers absent: None

Others Present: Ben Ryan, City Clerk-Treasurer Dotty Schnobrich, and media.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to approve the Agenda with the additions of a Custodian under Community Center; Sewer Lines, Chickens, and Renville County 10 Meeting – Information under New Business. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed below. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda – please see notes to agenda items below

The following items are considered routine or non-controversial by the Council and will be approved with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member, city staff or citizen so requests, in which case the item (s) will be removed from the consent agenda and be considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

- Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 12, 2015
- Building Permit – Storage Shed – 300 Freedom Lane – David Schuler

Open Forum

Ben Ryan – Danube Area Athletic Club – Hockey Rink – Ben Ryan gave an update on the hockey rink to the Councilmembers. They are hoping to complete by September 26th. They will complete the trim board and they are hoping to put up some back netting to keep the pucks from flying out in the streets and towards the kids rink. They have raised almost \$17,000.00 for the hockey rink. Ben spoke with the Councilmembers about a concern about the bathrooms. The group would like to rent some port-a-potties for people to use. Ben also inquired about putting something up down there for bathrooms to use. Councilmember Strunc had mentioned it before but did not get together with some of the people from Danube Area Athletic Club to go and look at the one in Moorhead. Councilmember would still like to take two people and go look at the Moorhead one and talk about something like that in the future. Councilmember Maurice asked how much it would take to update the bathrooms already there to make it work for them. The

amount is unknown at this time. Councilmember discussed possible options to building new and upgrading the existing bathrooms. The bathrooms will be discussed at a future meeting after some work is done.

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve paying \$270.00 approximately for renting port-a-potties for 3 months for the hockey rink (December 15th to March 15th). The motion carried unanimously.

Employee Report – Public Works Director

In the council packets, Councilmembers received a monthly report for Public Works Director Dan Kaufenberg. The report is below

- School – Dan has been talking with people from Little Lambs and it sounded as they are going to take the old Home Ec. Room. They are inquiring whether the gas is off or the lines are just capped in the room. Great Plains will need to come and do a check to make sure the gas is off. Don't know who pays for that. Dan will have them do this when they come and turn the gas back on for the boilers. Should be next month some time weather permitting. Dan would like to have Chappell Central come and tune the burners on the boilers. This has never been done since the City has taken over the School. Would like to make sure that they are running at max efficiency.
- Water – Our Fluoride variance has been approved by MDH. We have an almost full tank of fluoride left and Dan will use that up so we don't have to pay to get rid of it. Then Dan will lower our Fluoride percentage. The new starter was installed by Sullivan's and we have had no issues since. Dan had them also fix some wiring that was exposed going to the chlorine booster pump for safety reasons. The Wells averaged 36,000 gal/day for the month of August.
- Waste Water – The Lift Station averaged 38,000 gal/day for the month of August. Dan will be taking pre-discharge samples this month from the ponds to New Ulm.
- Streets – Dan is hoping to start on the sidewalk grinding in the next couple of weeks. Dan is going to try with my small angle grinder first but a bigger one with disks may need to be purchased. Dan will also be going around trimming up trees for the snowplow. There are quite a few that are hanging low that already are in the way of the sweeper.
- Safety & Loss Workshop – Dan is planning on attending the League of Minnesota Cities class in Gaylord with Dotty on Sept 30th. It is an OSHA class.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was not present and there was no monthly employee and Police Department report.

Employee Report – City Clerk

- Signs & Crosswalk Update – Dotty reported that her and Jeff Marlowe, Renville County Engineer went and walked County Road #1 on Wednesday, August 26, 2015. Jeff said that the county would not be painting lines on County Road #1 for crosswalks. The reason being is that there are not sidewalks on both sides of the street so there is nowhere to paint the lines to. Jeff will get the four signs removed from County Road #1 regarding the school crossing and he will also check into getting two signs for pedestrians crossing

to put one by HWY 212 on County Road #1 and one for the north section of County Road #1 by the railroad track area. Dotty and Jeff also stopped down at Tri-Valley to speak with Stacy because she had asked about a crosswalk for one of their classes. After the discussion it was decided to ask the City if they would be willing to paint in lines going from the school sidewalk to the north on Main Street and then also another crosswalk from the Church to the West on Main Street. The County is okay with you putting them there because it is going from one sidewalk to another. The County does leave it up to the Cities to paint in the crosswalks that are approved by them to be painted.

The Councilmembers discussed the signs and crosswalks and are okay with Dan painting two crosswalks for Tri-Valley when he has time. The Councilmembers also asked Dotty to let Calvin Lueck know the answer from the County regarding a crosswalk across County Road #1 and the sign concerns he had.

- Office Closed Dates – The City Office will be closing early on Monday, September 14, 2015 for Dotty to attend continuing education for another job. Also Dotty reminded the Councilmembers that the office will be closed on Wednesday, September 30, 2015 for the Safety & Loss Workshop she will be attending in Gaylord.

School Building Updates

Councilmember Strunc reported that Little Lambs is very interested in renting the Rec. room at the school. Councilmember Strunc also informed the Council that he has heard no issues or concerns from Tri-Valley.

Community Center Updates

Councilmember Krogman asked that Dan address the weather stripping at the Community Center before winter. Dotty will tell Dan about the weather stripping at the Community Center. Councilmember Maurice reported that Nancy has decided to turn in her keys and will no longer do the custodian work at the Community Center. Nancy started a new job and will not be as flexible as needed for the Community Center. The Councilmembers reviewed the prior applicants job applications. After a brief discussion it was decided to call one of the applicants in for an interview on Monday, September 14, 2015 at 5:15 pm.

Unfinished Business

2016 Budget – The Councilmembers went through line by line of the budget that was put together by Dave Maurice, Al Strunc and Dotty Schnobrich. After making changes throughout the budget the Councilmembers made a resolution for adopting the 2015 tax levy of \$217,914.00.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to pass resolution 5-2015 for the proposed tax levy of \$217,914.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Water Tower – The Councilmembers received an email from City Engineer, Lee Elfering along with two (2) proposals for completing the specialty work in the preparation of the rehabilitation and new water designs.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to approve the proposal from Bolton & Menk for \$16,200.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list and receipts list from August 13, 2015 thru September 9, 2015.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$20,912.14 (checks) and \$10,809.77 (electronic fund transfers). The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from August 13, 2015 thru September 9, 2015.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual versus Budget Comparison for 2015.

The Councilmembers reviewed the reconciled bank statement for August 2015.

New Business

CCFE Address – Craig Hebrink sent Dotty a email asking if the CCFE could get a different address because they are having a issue with their deliveries going to a resident's house and not to them.

The Councilmembers discussed the concern and all Councilmembers gave the okay to change CCFE's address as requested.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve CCFE to change their address. The motion carried unanimously.

Speed Study – MNDOT Email – John Hager – Dotty was contacted by Craig Hebrink informing the City that MNDOT denied the application for an additional access. Dotty forwarded the denial email to all Councilmembers on August 26, 2015. In the email Craig mentioned the traffic (speed) study for the City of Danube to inquire about. Dotty sent an email to John Hager, D8 Traffic Engineer, regarding having a speed study going out to past the entrance to the CCFE on HWY 212. The Councilmembers received a copy of the emails in their packets between Dotty and John Hager. John informed Dotty on the phone that when a speed study is conducted any vehicles turning or being slowed down for any reason are not counted in the speed study and that the speed study could result in an opposite direction then what is requested. Dotty asked for a clarification on what that means for the City of Danube. John gave as an example that the result could increase in the speed going through town from 30 mph to 40 mph. Police Chief Schneider asked Dotty to report to the Councilmembers in his absent that he wanted it on record that he is opposed to having a speed study done if there is any chance the 30 mph zone being increased to higher speed zone. The Councilmembers reviewed the emails and discussed the speed study and decided that it was best for the City of Danube not to pursue a speed study. Dotty will send Craig Hebrink from CCFE an email informing him of the council's decision.

Snow Removal Contracts – The Councilmembers reviewed last year's contracts with James Nyquist and Bob Kopel DBA Kopel Farms for snow removal for the winter of 2015-2016.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to increase James Nyquist from \$75.00 to \$80.00 per hour and Bob Kopel DBA Kopel Farms from \$60.00 to \$65.00 per hour. The motion carried unanimously.

Dan asked Dotty to inquire about contacting Jim Aalderks regarding snow plow driving and also about a new snow plow driver. Councilmember Maurice will talk with Jim Aalderks and talk with the individual that is thinking about doing the snow plowing this coming winter.

MVTV Support Border to Border Middle Mile Project – The Councilmembers reviewed the letter of support that MVTV would like the City of Danube to sign. Due to lack of knowledge about MVTV the Councilmembers decided to table the issue.

Employee Evaluation Date – The Councilmembers discussed a date for employee evaluations and Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at 6 pm was selected to hold the employee evaluations.

Sewer Lines – Dan Kaufenberg asked Dotty to ask the Councilmembers regarding replacing an existing sewer line. Rick Ferguson contacted Dan that the REA has been having issues with a bathroom in the basement and would like to put in a new sewer line but did not know who is responsible and if there are any fees related to doing this. The Councilmembers discussed the issue and said that the REA would be responsible for paying for a new sewer line and would have to put back any area dug back to its normal state. The Councilmembers also agreed that there was no fee is needed for them to connect to the sewer line. The Councilmembers did ask that Dan verify that the old sewer line is capped correctly before the rebury the existing line.

Chickens – Councilmember Maurice reported that he had a complaint about chickens located at a house in Danube. The Councilmembers discussed the issue and decided to have Police Chief Schneider go and talk to the home owner and inform them that the City of Danube has an ordinance against chickens in city limits. Dotty will give a copy of the ordinance to Police Chief Schneider to show or give to the homeowner.

Renville County 10 Meeting – Information – Councilmembers Standfuss, Strunc and Mayor Alex gave a summary to the Councilmembers about blighted properties that was talked about at the Renville County 10 meeting. Mayor Alex gave Dotty a packet from Development Services Inc out of Ivanhoe that he picked up at the Renville County 10 meeting.

November 11, 2015 Meeting – Dotty reported that due to Wednesday, November 11, 2015 City Council meeting falling on Veterans Day and no City business can be held that day the November 2015 meeting will need to be rescheduled. Due to a conflict with Mayor Alex's schedule the Council will decide at the next City Council meeting on Wednesday, October 14,, 2015 when the November 2015 meeting will be held.

Future Business - None

Correspondence

The Councilmembers received the following informational material in their packets:

1. RC Hospital Invite

Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

Gene Alex, Mayor

Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk