

DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 14, 2012 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on November 14, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Gene Alex presiding.

The following Councilmembers were present: Ryan Bentley, Dave Maurice, Phil Standfuss, and Al Strunc.

Councilmembers absent: none

Others Present: Chief of Police Les Schneider, City Clerk-Treasurer Sara Wilson, and media.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Bentley seconded a motion to approve the Agenda with the following additions under new business: set employee evaluation date, sidewalks in front of Doug's Danube Locker, and Danube Lumber's new water hook-up. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Maurice 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.

Open Forum – none

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was present to give his monthly employee and Police Department report. Statistics for October 2012 were lower than last year at the same time with 48 calls, 27 reports, 25 traffic stops, 8 citations, 23 mutual assists and 4 home security checks.

Chief Schneider reported the following:

- School gym is getting busier
- The blight complaint on a 3rd Street property has been taken care of
- The vicious dog is no longer in town and charges against the owner have been dropped

- The ARMER radios were installed in both squad cars on October 18
- Schneider is looking into grants for a defibrillator for the First Response
- Schneider assisted with the water and waste water department while Kaufenberg was on vacation
- Schneider's City credit card had suspicious activity on it and it was canceled and a new one was issued.

Employee Report – Public Works Director

In the council packets, councilmembers received a monthly report for Public Works Director Dan Kaufenberg. The report is hereby attached.

Community Center Updates

The floors at the Community Center got stripped and waxed by Community Center Custodian Randy Grunke with some help from Mayor Alex. There is a floor scrubber down at the Danube school building that works and just needs discs. A vacuum with tools for cleaning floors can be purchased from Hillyard for \$650.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to purchase a 16 gallon Air Scoop with hose wand, tools and front squeegee tool for \$650 from Hillyard Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

School Building Updates

Councilmember Strunc told Tri-Valley that the City would pay for the bulbs and ballasts they had to replace. They will deduct the cost from the next electric bill they receive. In the future, the council decided bulbs should be kept at the school and Strunc will contact Kaufenberg if a light goes out and he can determine if it's a bulb or ballast problem and decide on the best course of action.

Unfinished Business

More information will be collected for the next meeting.

Approval of Bills

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$31,554.81. The motion carried unanimously.

Canvass Election Results

Councilmember Bentley moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to certify that beginning January 1, 2013 Gene Alex, Sr. has been elected Mayor of the City of Danube for the term of two years; Phil Standfuss and Al Strunc have been elected as Councilmembers for the City of Danube for the term of four years; and in a special election, Dave Maurice and Sharon

Krogman have been elected as Councilmembers for the City of Danube for the term of two years. The motion carried unanimously.

Annual MCFOA Conference

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Bentley seconded a motion to allow Clerk Wilson to attend the Annual Minnesota Clerks and Finance Officers Conference in St. Cloud March 19-22, 2013. The motion carried unanimously.

Water & Sewer Rate Discussion

More information will be gathered

City Savings Account

Due to different rules at credit unions, Dawson Coop Credit Union will not pledge collateral to insure account balances above the FDIC insurance limit of \$250,000. Therefore the City will move money out of the credit union and into an insured bank with the best interest rate.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion move dollar amounts above \$250,000 out of Dawson Coop Credit union into an insured bank with the best interest rate. The motion carried unanimously.

Employee Evaluations

Annual employee evaluations will be held at the regular council meeting on January 9, 2013.

Sidewalks in Front of Doug's Danube Locker

The owner of Doug's Danube Locker spoke to Councilmember Maurice about his concern with the shifting sidewalk in front of his shop. He is worried that with the shifting of the sidewalk, his water shut could break. An unscheduled emergency repair would most likely block off the entrance to his shop and have a negative impact on his business.

The council decided they will do a walk-through of the downtown sidewalks in the spring to determine where repairs or replacements need to be made. County help will be checked into for curb repair since Main Street is a county road.

Water Hookup for Danube Lumber's New Location

Danube Lumber's owner spoke to Councilmember Maurice about the water hookup at the location on the south side of Highway 212 where he is building his new building. It is not in the city limits, but it has city water. He feels it's a small line with low water pressure where the current hookup is and he wondered if he could dig under the highway and hookup on the north side of highway 212, at his own expense.

Although no definite conclusion was established, the council discussed implementing a water hookup policy and/or ordinance. Councilmember Strunc feels that if a person wants city services, such as water, or to improve existing city services, their property must be in the city limits or annexed in. Another discussion took place regarding charging higher rates to those properties outside the city limits that are hooked up to city water. The city is not collecting property taxes on certain properties on the south side of Highway 212, yet they are receiving city services. It was a decision of past councils to not annex those properties into the City, but the current council would like to implement policies regarding city services outside the city limits and will continue to discuss this topic.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Bentley moved and Councilmember Strunc seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Sara Wilson, City Clerk

Gene Alex, Mayor

Sara Wilson, City Clerk