

DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, January 11, 2023 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on January 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. with Acting Mayor Standfuss opening the meeting. The meeting then was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

The following Councilmembers were present: Ryan Bentley, Carrie Garza and Sharon Krogman

Councilmembers absent:

Others Present: Gene Alex Sr, Tammy Bentley, Jeremy Boots – Moore Engineering, Public Works Director Dan Kaufenberg, Police Chief Les Schneider and City Clerk-Treasurer Dotty Schnobrich.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Bentley seconded a motion to approve the Agenda for the Regular Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Oath of Office

Mayor Bentley, Councilmember Garza and Councilmember Krogman all read and signed the Oath of Office. Mayor Bentley then presided over the meeting.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Krogman moved and Councilmember Garza 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 December 14, 2022

Open Forum - None

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 – The boilers in the school have been running well as of late. No issues to report. Will need to order more chemical for them through Marc. Corporation.
- Water – There are no current issues with Water department at this time. Well #3 has been turned off for the next three months per compliance with MDH for Radium issue. The well averaged 25,000 gal/day for the month of December.
- Wastewater – Still waiting on transfer switch to be dealt with by company as it had a recall on it. Also, a new block heater was ordered out as the old one quit working and the generator went fire when it's too cold. The lift station averaged 29,000 gal/day for the month of December.
- Community Center – The water lines froze to the toilets after the furnace for that area quit working. This resulted in a burst water line in the wall behind one of the toilets in the men's bathroom. I've contacted Steve's Htg to come and fix pipe. They were there already to deal with furnace issue. Dan will contact Steve's Htg to try to lock in a date to get the Community Center issues fixed.
- Grain Truck – The truck went down again during snow removal. It is having a charging issue with the alternator. It was brought over to Balderston's in Olivia for repair. I will also be contacting Tom Jansen about remedying the slow hydraulic issue.
- Vacation - I will be using vacation Feb 3rd – 14th.
- Snow Removal Help – Dan spoke with the Councilmembers about getting two (2) new contracts for hauling snow and blowing the snow.
Mayor Bentley moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve doing a contract with Bob Jansen for hauling snow at \$70.00 an hour using his own trucks. The motion carried unanimously.
Mayor Bentley moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve doing a contract with Adam Pennings for blowing snow at \$100.00 an hour using his own tractor and doing skid loader work at \$20.00 an hour. The motion carried unanimously.
- Seasonal Snow Plow Driver – The Councilmembers discussed hiring a part-time snow plow driver.
Mayor Bentley moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to approve hiring Jamie Alderks as a season employee for snow plowing at \$17.00 per hour. The motion carried unanimously.
 Mayor Bentley thanked both Les Schneider and Adam Pennings for helping out during the snow storm in helping people that were stuck on the roads.

Employee Report - Moore Engineering – Jeremy Boots

Jeremy was present at the meeting. Jeremy reviewed the DEED Contract that the Council would need to sign and approve for the grant money.

Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve signing the DEED contract for funding. The motion carried unanimously.

Next Jeremy reviewed the Renville County Abstract and the Purchase Agreement for the land. The Council reviewed the purchase agreement.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to approve the Renville County Abstract and signing the Purchase Agreement with Bonnie Braun with the change of Mayor to Bentley and dates changed to 2023 for signing dates. The motion carried unanimously.

Third the Councilmembers reviewed the Legal Service Agreement RUS BULLETIN 1780-7 prepared by Aaron Walton.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve signing RUS BULLETIN 1780-7 Legal Services Agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers addressed the Bond Council that was put off until Jeremy was present at a meeting. The Councilmembers discussed the three (3) that submitted paperwork for the Councilmembers to review. After a lengthy discussion about the three a motion was made on who to hire.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to approve hiring Ehlers as the Bond Council and Municipal Council for the City of Danube for the Water Treatment Plant project. The motion carried unanimously.

Jeremy asked for permission to contact the current property owners of the land so he can get permission to go on the land to move forward with the soil borings. The Councilmembers were fine with Jeremy contacting Bonnie Braun. Jeremy also discussed that there are grants out there for lead pipes if the City wishes to talk to the residents to see if there are any out there that wish to replace that could be looked into. To do any other projects for funding it is about two (2) years before Danube would get funding again from the agencies in which they are receiving funds now from.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was present to give his monthly employee and Police Department report. Statistics for December 2022 were higher compared to last year at the same time with 42 calls, 29 reports, 34 traffic stops, 8 citations, 27 mutual assists and 4 home security checks. Additional business discussed: Schneider updated the Councilmembers about how the community came together to aid in those that were stranded during the storm. Items that were left behind are at the Police Department and any items not picked up will be donated to the Fire Department and Police Department to use as needed.

- School Building Updates – Rich Schrupp has moved into the third floor room at the school with the golf simulator, and he put different locks on his doors. A family Christmas party occurred in the gym on Dec. 17.
- Police Chief Vacation Update – I currently have 232 hours from last year using nine hours in December. I will continue to attempt to use these hours, but the activity during the recent snow storms made it impossible to use any vacation hours between Christmas and New Year's Day.
- Part-time Officer's Update – All potential officers have stated that the starting wage of \$17 an hour is unacceptable to work here so we will have to look at different options. Mayor Bentley will continue talking to one (1) of the possibilities on what they would like for a possible pay as a part-time officer.
- First Response Training – The Danube First Response team's next training will be held on January 26 at 6:30. This will be provided by Ridgewater College and covers CPR and mandated OSHA requirements.

Employee Report – City Clerk

- Land Update – Nothing new to report.

- 2022 Audit - The 2022 audit is scheduled for Monday and Wednesday January 30th & 31st.
 - Completed Items – Dotty has filed PERA and paid Payroll Taxes.
 - Office Closed & Vacation – The Office will be closed Monday, January 16th for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
 - Updated Councilmembers Contacts & EDA Board Contacts – Dotty included in the Councilmembers packets an updated sheet for the contacts on City Council and the EDA Board.
- Councilmember Krogman thanked Jaimie Schneider for posting about when the City of Danube would be plowing.

School Building Updates - None

Community Center Updates - None

Unfinished Business - None

Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list from December 15, 2022 thru January 11, 2023. *Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$81,531.04 (checks) and \$3,980.72 (electronic fund transfers).* The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from December 13, 2022 thru January 9, 2023. The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual versus Budget Comparison for 2023. The Councilmembers will review the Bank Reconciliations for December 2022 at the next meeting.

New Business

2023 Appointments – The Councilmembers reviewed the appointments for 2021 from Mayor Bentley. *Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the 2023 Appointments for the city subject to changes when the vacant Council seat is filled.* The motion carried unanimously

Transfer Capital Outlay – Resolution 1-2023 – Dotty asked the Councilmembers for approval for the funds to be transferred to Capital Outlay per the approved 2023 budget. The Councilmembers reviewed Resolution 1-2023.

Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve Resolution 1-2023 to transfer \$42,045.00 in capital outlay funds. The motion carried unanimously.

Council Vacancy – Mayor Bentley declared a vacancy on the City Council. The Councilmembers discussed the vacancy and possible ways to fill the vacancy. Mayor Bentley made the appointment for Chris Schneider as a new Councilmember to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

Mayor Bentley moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to approve appointing Chris Schneider as Councilmember for the remainder of the vacant seat on the Danube City Council. The motion carried unanimously.

Bank Signers – The Councilmembers discussed the signers for at the different financial institutions that the City of Danube has business with.

Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to authorize Mayor Ryan Bentley, Councilmember Phil Standfuss and Dotty Schnobrich to perform financial transactions dealing with the City of Danube and remove Gene Alex Sr from Minnwest Bank. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to authorize Mayor Ryan Bentley and Dotty Schnobrich to perform financial transactions dealing with the City of Danube and remove Gene Alex Sr from Dawson Coop Credit Union and Edward Jones. The motion carried unanimously.

Fire Department Contract – Grant DNR – Dotty presented the contract for the Fire Department on a matching grant from the DNR for the Councilmembers to approve signing for the Fire Department to receive the funds.

Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve signing the DNR Grant contract for the Danube Fire Department. The motion passed with 3 Councilmembers voting in favor and Mayor Bentley abstaining.

EDA Board Vacancy – Dotty informed the Councilmembers that with Gene Alex no longer being the Mayor and Mayor Bentley is already on the EDA Board that there is a vacant seat now on the EDA Board and that a Councilmember would need to fill the vacant spot. Councilmember Garza volunteered to fill the vacant seat on the EDA Board.

Future Business - None

Correspondence - None

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 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

Ryan Bentley, Mayor

Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk