

DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, March 8, 2017 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on March 8, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Alex presiding.

The following Councilmembers were present: Sharon Krogman, Cathy Malvin, Dave Maurice and Phil Standfuss

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. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Malvin 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 February 8, 2017
- Building Permit – CCFE – Grain Bin/Storage Bin

Open Forum

Ben Ryan – Danube Area Action Club – Fun Days Donation – Ben Ryan told the City Councilmembers that the DAAC is in the process of doing their Fun Days planning again and is looking for donations. Ben asked if the City of Danube would once again donate towards some of the expenses this year for Danube Fun Days. Ben told the Councilmembers that last year they gave \$1,500.00 for the DAAC to use on the Fun Days activities. Ben also told the Councilmembers that the Steak and Shrimp Fry is being held on Saturday, April 8, 2017. Councilmember Krogman asked how the group was doing and Ben reported that they still have about 12 of the 15 people still and involved in the group from last year. There have been some changes but the group has dealt with them and continued on. Everything is staying pretty close to last year and they are looking at having a Golf Cart as a grand prize on the raffle.

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to approve giving the Danube Area Action Club \$1,500.00 to help defray the costs of Danube Fun Days from the Mediacom Franchise Fee monies the City receives. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial Review with Sara Beavers – Oberloh & Associates

City Auditor Sara Beavers from Oberloh and Associates was present to go over the 2016 audit report and answered questions. The audit report is available for viewing in the City-Clerk's Office.

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve the 2016 audit report as presented by Sara Beavers of Oberloh & Associates with the correction to the interest rate on the EDA loan. 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 – The water heater in the boiler room finally quit working. The bottom rusted out and water was leaking all over the floor. Sam Smith put in a new water heater on 2-28-17. We went with a 75 gallon tank versus the 90 that was in there. The water usage isn't as high now compared to when school was operating. This also helped lower the cost. The circulating pump that was on the heater was also replaced.
- Water – Dan has been having issues with chlorine not pumping in well #5. Dan will be having Hawkins Chemical look at it when they deliver more chlorine. Could be possible booster issue. The wells averaged 27,000 for the month of February.
- Wastewater – The lift station had another clogged pump. After pulling the pump and resolving the issue Dan went to lower the pump back down and the guide rails broke away at the bottom of lift station. Dan contacted MN Pump Works to put new rails on and they were installed the next day. Without the rails there was no way for Dan to line up the pump with the pipe. Which meant that it couldn't pump anything out. Dan had them replace both sets of rails for each pump. All four rails were almost completely rusted away near the bottom.

The Councilmembers reviewed and discussed Dan's report.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was not present to give his monthly employee and Police Department report and will give a two month report in April.

Employee Report – City Clerk

- Safety Meeting – Dotty attended the safety meeting on Thursday, March 2, 2017 in Hector.
- Resolution No 2-2017 – Resolution No 2-2017 is for PERA for the new police officer Rebecca Pieper. She was hired on February 15, 2017. The Councilmembers reviewed the resolution and made a motion regarding the resolution.
Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to adopt Resolution No 2-2017 Police Officer Declaration for PERA. The motion carried unanimously.
- Resolution No 3-2017 – Resolution No 3-2017 is for the Fire Department and Fire Chief Brian Block asked that we approve and sign the resolution. The Councilmembers reviewed the resolution and made a motion regarding the resolution.

Councilmember Krogman moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to adopt Resolution No 3-2017 Renville County Fire Departments Mutual Aid Agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

- Completed Items – Post card mailings went out once Dan approved the items to be listed.
- Reminder – Dotty informed the Councilmembers that the April 12, 2017 meeting will start at 6:00pm for the Board of Appeals and Equalization Meeting and the regular City Council meeting will follow at 6:30pm.

School Building Updates

Mayor Alex reported that there was a toilet leaking and some tile was damaged and Dan will be replacing the tile that was damaged.

Community Center Updates

Councilmember Krogman reported that she has been doing some spot checks at the Community Center and only minor issues have come up. Councilmember Krogman had concerns about the cords from the television on the wall just hanging down. She felt that an accident could happen and would like to see the cords get covered by some cord tracking like what is used on floors to clean up the area by the television.

Unfinished Business

Water Tower – Funding – There was no new issues to discuss on the water tower funding but to continue to carry this item forward on each agenda until further notice.

Water Tower Update – Lee Elfering Email – Below is the emails from Lee Elfering for the Councilmembers to discuss.

Water Tower Extension

March 1, 2017

I have been pushing Maquire for a deduct on the tower if they wanted a time extension. I think they were going to save some money so I thought the City should get a piece of the savings. Well surprisingly his painter freed up and doesn't think there will be any issue with doing the tower in the April/May time period. So right now they figure they will be done by the contract date. Just thought I would let you know.

The only other thing is I need to follow up with Dan on if he has decided on the monitoring equipment he would like to use for the tower and who will do the install. That equipment and installation will be outside the main tower contract, but we need to coordinate the installation with Maquire so we can get the tower operational. I will shoot Dan an email and touch bases with him on that.

Lee Elfering
Elfering & Associates
10062 Flanders Court NE
Blaine, MN 55449

March 7, 2017

Maquire just sent over the attached schedule for completion of the water tower and I have attached the original schedule we were provided at the preconstruction meeting as well. In short the original schedule had them finishing the new tower by the required June 1st completion date that is in the specification. The new schedule has the tower finished on July 17th. I did call him up and discuss with him that while he is not asking for a June start date for the painting, he is still asking the City to grant an extension of contract time. His response was that he did not want to over promise and underperform. When I let him know that he already promised a completion date when he gave us the original schedule and then asked if he was willing to make any financial considerations for the extension he indicated that he would provide the City with the second "DANUBE" on the tower for free. So I guess you could say he is offering about a \$1,000 dollar consideration if the City would like the second "DANUBE" on the tower, but he did not offer a monetary reduction.

Both the original schedule and the new schedule indicate that everything after the field erection of the tower is dependent on weather and realistically we have the old tower for storage so I don't think we necessarily need to worry about the exact completion date. I just didn't want the project to drag out all summer. If the City is ok with it I believe we will be fine allowing an extension of the contract time. Please run this by the Council and let me know if it would be acceptable and if it is I will prepare a change order for one of the next meetings to make it official.

Thanks,

Lee Elfering
Elfering & Associates
10062 Flanders Court NE
Blaine, MN 55449

The Councilmembers discussed both emails and decided to have Maquire put a second "DANUBE" on the water tower since there was no price reduction for the extension.

Selling the Vacant Lot – The Councilmembers discussed the property that was cleared and would like to see the City sell the land instead of holding on to it and taking care of the mowing. The Councilmembers also discussed an area over on 6th Street and contacting the owner adjacent to the property to see if they had interest in buying it. Dotty will check into the fair market value of the two properties for the next meeting in April. Dotty also informed the Councilmembers that the Community Garden will not be happening this year due to lack of space and time to put it all together.

Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list from February 9, 2017 thru March 8, 2017. *Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$28,502.73 (checks) and \$6,542.38 (electronic fund transfers).* The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from February 9, 2017 thru March 2, 2017.
The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual versus Budget Comparison for 2017.
The Councilmembers reviewed the Bank Reconciliations for February 2017.

New Business - None**Future Business**

Bollig – Mayor Alex reported that Bollig wanted to meet with him and the Councilmembers to discuss to do a complete study of Danube. The cost to have Bollig do the study is \$6,000.00. The things that would be included in the study include every entity of the town including streets, water, sewer, the water situation going into the sanitary sewers. They will do a study that would tell us where the priority is to spend the money. The study is real in depth and will tell you where you should be spending your on how you should spend the money on that item. Mayor Alex said they were pretty persistent on coming to a meeting and he told them they could come to the April meeting to give their sales pitch. Mayor Alex did tell Bollig that the City of Danube does have a city engineer. The Councilmembers commented that Bollig has come to a prior meeting and spoke with the Councilmembers about the streets, water tower, etc. Councilmember Maurice stated that the City already established that they are going to do the smoke testing for about 10-12 blocks already to check for infiltration in the system and Lee Elfering stated that the roads are too far gone for seal coating to work and leave them go until you have to resurface them. Bollig said it was his means of advertising and getting his foot in the door by visiting Council meetings and speaking with them.

Correspondence

Xcel Energy Letter

There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Malvin moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

Gene Alex, Mayor

Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk