

DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 12, 2023 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on April 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Bentley opening the meeting. The meeting then was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

The following Councilmembers were present: Carrie Garza, Sharon Krogman (via phone), Chris Schneider and Phil Standfuss

Councilmembers absent: None

Others Present: New Energy Equity Representative Nikki Miller. Annie Tepfer, Public Works Director Dan Kaufenberg, Jeremy Boots – Moore Engineering, City Clerk-Treasurer Dotty Schnobrich and media.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Schneider 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 March 15, 2023

Open Forum – None

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to open the Public Hearing. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was opened at 7:02 p.m.

Special Agenda Item – Public Hearing Conditional Use Permit – New Energy Equity

Nikki Miller from New Energy Equity was present to answer any questions about the solar garden located on the West side of County Road 1 north of the railroad tracks. The solar garden would be located on 7.6 acres on a parcel located on the northern half of parcel 30-00010-00 in which is owned by Kevin and Bonnie Braun. Aaron Walton (City Attorney) prepared the Conditional Use Permit document. Annie Tepfer asked questions and voiced concerns about another solar garden being put up so close to the previous one and about any future gardens in that area. Nikki informed everyone present that the subscribers are from the community for the solar garden they would be putting up at this location. Another issue brought up was the visual aspect of the solar gardens. After much discussion about the visual concerns the Councilmembers will talk further about contacting both companies about possible screening on what could be done for visual concerns. *There being no further discussion, Councilmember Schneider moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to close the Public Hearing. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was closed at 7:22 p.m.*

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Garza to approve the Conditional Use Permit for New Energy Equity. The motion carried with Mayor Bentley, Councilmember Garza, Councilmember Krogman and Councilmember Standfuss voting in favor and Councilmember Schneider voting opposed.

Employee Report – Public Works Director

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

- School – I have had to repair a lot of steam valves lately and will need to order some more parts from State Supply. No other issues with the boilers at this time.
- Water – I met with Hjerpe Construction about boring in a new water line at Shawn Malvin residence. I also talked with them about putting in a couple of valves on Freedom to isolate freedom and Pine St. if there is a problem in that area. Currently there is no way to isolate since the water tower was moved to its current location. I am still waiting on a quote at this time. Well #3 is back online after being off for 3 months for radium in compliance with MDH. The wells averaged 24,000 gal/day for the month of March.

Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Schneider seconded a motion to approve Hjerpe Contracting for \$14,390.00 for the repairs needed in front of 105 HWY 212. The motion carried unanimously

- Wastewater – The lift station averaged 29,000 gal/day for the month of March. Electric Pump was here to do the annual inspection on the pumps. All is good. Still waiting on ASCO to fix transfer switch issue.

- Streets – I would like to get some of the water break areas patched up on the streets if no big project is to be done anytime soon. These are problem areas when moving snow and take a lot of time to maintain. There are a minimum of 5 areas that need to be patched
- Skid Loader - A new rim was ordered from Ziegler Cat to replace the damaged one. The tire will need to be taken off and put on new rim.
- Payloader - New adjusting rods were ordered from RDO for the skids on the blade for the payloader. The ones on there were bent and would not adjust anymore.
- Pickup - I received a quote from Olivia Tire for new tires on the work truck. The quote was for \$964.90. The tires on the truck are at the end of their life and are constantly getting flats
Councilmember Schneider moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to approve purchasing pick-up tires from Olivia Tire for \$964.90. The motion carried unanimously
- Renville-Sibley Utility Hook Ups – Dan reported that Renville-Sibley has one connection that y's off with one (1) going to a meter and the second going directly into a fire suppression system. The Councilmembers decided to think about this before deciding about any kind of charge for the line that has no meter on it. Mayor Bentley and Dan will go talk with Renville Sibley regarding the sprinkle system and testing they do.
- Dan also informed the Councilmembers that he passed the Class C test when he was in St. Cloud for his refresher classes.
- Mayor Bentley mentioned the breaker bar and Dan said he was going to contact Tom Smith about getting a new piece to replace it. Mayor Bentley also mentioned the overhang where the old A/C was located on removing it and the pipe sticking out. Dan will take a look at it.

Employee Report - Moore Engineering – Jeremy Boots

Jeremy was present at the meeting.

The Fair Housing Plan was reviewed by Jeremy and asked the Councilmembers to mark Display of fair housing posters at city hall for completion in 2023 and mark fair housing brochures available at city hall for completion in 2024.

Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Schneider seconded a motion to approve and sign the Fair Housing Plan for the City of Danube. The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Combine Notice - Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds. *Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Schneider seconded a motion to approve the Combined Notice – Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds. The motion carried unanimously.*

The Councilmembers reviewed the Small Cities Development Program Income Reuse Plan.

The Councilmembers decided to table the Environmental Assessment as the file was too large to send in an email for the Councilmembers to review. The assessment will be addressed at the May meeting once the Councilmembers have time to review it.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to approve and sign the Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan. The motion carried unanimously.

Jeremy did inform the Councilmembers they are about 89% done with the plans and then they will submit them to the Department of Health. Dan has a copy of the 3D models if you wish to view

them. Jeremy has no definite timeline but June and July may be when a big push for finalizing things could happen.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was not present to give his monthly employee and Police Department report. Statistics for March 2023 were higher compared to last year at the same time with 29 calls, 21 reports, 12 traffic stops, 5 citations, 23 mutual assists and 2 home security checks.

- School Building Updates – Lloyd’s Security started the annual inspection of the school building’s fire system on April 7. Tri-Valley had the floor waxed in the hallways by the Little Lambs rooms at the same time, with no school or daycare that day. Lloyd’s will be back on April 17 to complete the fire system inspection, providing the zone information for the sensors. The RCW JH softball team continues to practice in the gym with the weather this spring.
- Continuing Education and Training – I attended the County Attorney training provided on March 29 in Olivia. The topics covered by attorneys contracted by the County Attorney included: Civil/Criminal Considerations on Pursuits, Marijuana/Delta 9 Issues, 1983 Civil Lawsuits, Brady Disclosures and Social Media, Giglio Matters, No-Knock Warrants, Qualified Immunity, Use of Force (Duty to Intercede, Duty to Render Aid, and De-Escalation).
- Water/Wastewater License Renewals – My MDH Water License and MCPA Wastewater License have both been renewed for the next three years.
- Fun Days Planning – Planning has begun for events held for Fun Days from July 5-9. I have been assisting groups to prepare for events that will take place during Fun Days this summer.
- MN AED Project - I attended AED training at the Montevideo PD on April 5 to receive two Stryker Life Pak CR2 Defibrillators through a grant from the University of Minnesota Center for Resuscitation Medicine. This project will put AEDs in every squad car in the state. We should receive our defibrillators the beginning of May.

Employee Report – City Clerk

- Land Update – Nothing new to report.
- Missed Family Leave Time - - I learned after the fact that when my mom passed in 2018 I was to receive 5 days paid leave. I did not get that and was wondering if the Council would be willing to allow me to put 5 days of vacation on my earned vacation to refund me the time I was to receive.
Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve Dotty to put 5 days of vacation on her accumulated vacation time to correct the error. The motion carried unanimously
- Completed Items – Dotty has filed PERA, paid Payroll Taxes, filed quarterly payroll reports and quarterly Sales Tax report.
- Office Closed & Vacation – Nothing Scheduled at this time.

School Building Updates

Dan is working on the list yet from Tri-Valley and the boilers have been off for two (2) days now. Mayor Bentley informed the Councilmembers that Little Lambs is looking for a Board Member if anyone is interested or knows of anyone.

Community Center Updates

Mayor Bentley informed the Councilmembers that they are still working on installing a glass board in the men's bathroom stall at the Community Center where there is a hole from the busted pipe that occurred over the winter.

Unfinished Business

None

Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list from March 16, 2023 thru April 12, 2023. *Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Schneider seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$77,072.62 (checks) and \$11,520.74 (electronic fund transfers).* The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from March 14, 2023 thru April 10, 2023. The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual versus Budget Comparison for 2023. The Councilmembers reviewed the Bank Reconciliation for March 2023.

New Business

League of MN Cities – Waiver on Tort Liability – The Councilmembers discussed this briefly. *Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the renewal of League of Minnesota Insurance waiving the monetary limit on tort liability.* The motion carried unanimously.

Future Business

Renville Sibley Coop Water Line for Sprinklers
Yield Sign Removal at 4th Street and Oak Street
Stop Sign Installed at 6th Street & Maple Street

Correspondence

None

There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Krogman moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

Ryan Bentley, Mayor

Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk