

DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 17, 2019 6:30 PM
Danube City Council Chambers

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on April 17, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Alex presiding.

The following Councilmembers were present: Carrie Garza, Cathy Malvin and Phil Standfuss

Councilmembers absent: Sharon Krogman

Others Present: Jeff Freitag, Diane Pfarr, Greg Snow, Joey Jensen, David Maurice, Scott Tedrick, Public Works Director Dan Kaufneberg, Police Chief Les Schneider, City Clerk-Treasurer Dotty Schnobrich, and media.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Malvin moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of David Maurice under Open Forum. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Malvin 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 13, 2019

Open Forum

Greg Snow – Greg Snow introduced himself to the Councilmembers and visited with the Councilmembers about things happening at the hospital and the jail. Greg clarified some of the things that were being said and wanted to keep an open relationship with the City of Danube.

David Maurice – Dave Maurice voiced concerns about the streets in Danube. He did not see a point in doing any seal coating as the streets are too far gone and a waste of money. He feels the whole town needs new streets along with the infrastructure being done at the same time and the manholes. He feels part of the problem with the water issue is the honeycombing of the streets and water getting into the system that way. Dave also mentioned that the semi's need to be kept off the streets. They are parking all over town and on the wrong sides of the streets. Dave also

brought up about the old siren that is located across the alley from the City office building that needs still to be removed from his property. Mayor Alex reported they are waiting on REA to get a bigger bucket truck to take it down.

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 – Last year the insurance company came through and recommended that the old fuse panels be updated to breaker boxes to eliminate a possible fire hazard. Is this something the city is looking at doing? The heating season is almost at a close and I will be taking apart boilers for off-season cleaning and inspection. Dan will get an estimate from Sullivan's regarding the breaker boxes.
- Water – With warmer weather hopefully soon. I will begin flushing hydrants around town. The wells averaged 28,000 gal/day for the month of March.
- Waste Water – With all the snow melt and our I&I problems the ponds are already full and a discharge is needed. This is our 2nd discharge in just two months. Would like to continue with some more manhole rehab this year. I will present some quotes at next mtg. The lift station went from averaging 30,000 for the first half of March to 121,000 gal/day for the 2nd half of the month.
- MPCA – The MPCA is still in the process of renewing our permit for the wastewater ponds. They are developing a phosphorus plan for all cities to limit the amount put into the receiving waters during discharge. As of now we do not meet the limit due to excess discharges have/would put us over the limit. Under a normal year of 1 Spring and 1 Fall discharge we would meet the limit. But that hasn't been the normal for last 4-5 years. The Councilmembers decided to have Dan do the compliance schedule for 2-3 years to get all the levels figured out and how best to apply the chemicals needed to bring down the phosphorus level.
- Community Center – Steve's Heating was in to replace the furnace in the front room. They also fixed a toilet that had been leaking while they were there.
- Manhole Rehabs – Dan talked with the Councilmembers about continuing on doing manhole rehabs because every rain the levels are going up and taking a while to come back down. Dan is also to get some quotes for cameras to run the lines to see if they can find other issues also.
- Streets – Dan commented that some of the streets are really bad and need to be looked at and discuss what is the best way to deal with the streets. Mayor Alex said he tried calling Lee Elfering and left him a message. Dan will contact Lee and talk with him about the streets.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was present to give his monthly employee and Police Department report. Statistics for March 2019 were lower compared to last year at the same time with 42 calls, 25 reports, 24 traffic stops, 10 citations, 31 mutual assists and 4 home security checks. Additional business discussed:

- School Building Updates – Schneider reported the school is being used daily.

- FEMA Summary – Schneider reported that three (3) FEMA employees come out and do an inspection of the spots that were turned in. Both Schneider and the FEMA person were unable to get the contractor to get them the breakdown of the spots that were repaired.
- Dog License Letters Process – Schneider reported that he mailed the letters three (3) weeks and hand delivered some. The due date is May 15, 2019 for licensing dogs.
- LMCIT Training in Redwood – Schneider reported that he attended the LMCIT training in Redwood on April 3rd.
- MCPA ETI in St. Cloud – Schneider reported that he attended the MCPA ETI training in St. Cloud.
- Dept. of Homeland Security Rural Domestic Preparedness Training Evaluation – Schneider reported that completed the survey for the Dept. of Homeland about things that are needed in rural areas.
- Inspected Blighted Properties (April 6) – Schneider reported he found 28 properties that are in violation of the ordinance and have started the process on them.
- Squad Car Repair – Schneider reported the squad car needed a new battery and regular maintenance done.
- Semi's – Schneider said he will talk to the drivers about the issues that were brought up earlier and what roads they can drive on only.
- Loose Dogs – Councilmember Malvin mentioned that something needs to be done about the loose dogs running around town. She mentioned we have an ordinance and need to issue the citations and/or fines.
- Golf Cart Licensing – Mayor Alex asked Schneider what is the status on the golf carts because he came up to the City office to get the paperwork and Dotty did not have anything. Schneider reported he spoke with Aaron Walton a couple weeks ago and we haven't received the Ordinance back after the changes were going to be made. Mayor Alex also mentioned that he spoke with Bruce Maurice regarding making fifty (50) two by two (2 x 2) stickers with Danube on them, year of expiration and numbered for \$35.00. Mayor Alex said that this should include visitors when they come for Fun Days or just visiting. Schneider is to go down to Creative Details and talk to Bruce about these stickers.
- Residents Burning Garbage – Councilmember Garza mentioned that there are residents that are burning garbage and should not be. Schneider will talk to the residents and let them know that they can't be burning garbage in town.

Employee Report – City Clerk

- Land Update – Nothing new to report.
- Snow Removal Contracts – Dotty has received back both contracts from Jim Nyquist or Bob Kopel for snow removal.
- Completed Items – Payroll taxes paid for the month and quarterly sales tax and payroll reports have been filed.
- Farmward Address – A request was made by Farmward to get a new address for commoditAg which is located inside their building. They would like it to be 708 HWY 212 E Suite A.
Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to approve the new address for commoditAg. The motion carried unanimously.

School Building Updates

Mayor Alex there was nothing new to report at this time. Both Mayor Alex and Councilmember Krogman were to meet down at the school but Councilmember Krogman hasn't had time and she will get together with the Mayor when she gets back.

Community Center Updates

Councilmember Garza handed out some quotes for paint and labor to paint the inside of the Community Center. Mayor Alex reported that Joey Jensen, Community Center Custodian, would be willing to paint the inside of the Community Center. The Councilmembers discussed the quality of paint they wanted and color. It was decided to go with the higher quality of paint and same color as in the main room. Mayor Alex reported that the men's bathroom toilet was replaced in the Community Center.

Councilmember Malvin moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to approve Joey Jensen to go to Grizzly Supply to purchase the paint and supplies as needed up to \$700.00 for the Community Center. The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Seasonal Job Resolution Example – Dotty handed out an example of a Seasonal Job Resolution that Aaron Walton had mentioned that the City Council needs to start implementing when hiring employees for any seasonal position. The Councilmembers will need to edit it according to their needs. Mayor Alex asked if Joey Jensen would need to have one of these. Joey would not because he is a part-time employee not seasonal.

Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list from March 11, 2019 thru April 17, 2019.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$53,360.06 (checks) and \$11,492.94 (electronic fund transfers). The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from March 12, 2019 thru April 8, 2019.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual versus Budget Comparison for 2019.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Bank Reconciliations for March 2019.

New Business

Yellowstone Trail Alliance Request – Scott Tedrick was present to ask for the City of Danube to give a statement of support for the Yellowstone Trail of Western Minnesota to develop a cultural heritage tourism plan for the corridor of communities along the Yellowstone Trail running from Granite Falls to Buffalo Lake. Mayor Alex commented to Scott Tedrick that someone brought to his attention that the funding from the grant seems to be going mainly toward paying wages. Scott responded that a majority of it is for consultant fees and some advertising. The City of Danube would not be responsible for any amounts if the grant is not received if they did sign the statement of support. The Councilmembers were fine with signing the statement of support.

Future Business

School Agreement – Dotty gave the Councilmembers a copy of the agreement that RCW put together to review for the next meeting in May. Dotty will also send it to Aaron Walton to review. Mayor Alex said he was approached about sending them a bill for \$5,000.00.

Correspondence - None

There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Malvin moved and Councilmember Standfuss 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

Gene Alex, Mayor

Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk