

DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, July 10, 2019 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on July 10, 2019 at 7:01 p.m. with Mayor Alex presiding.

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

Councilmembers absent: None

Others Present: Bryan Beckendorf, Jammie Schneider, Jim Mason, Jeff Freitag, David Maurice, Diane Pfarr, Police Chief Les Schneider, City Clerk-Treasurer Dotty Schnobrich, and media.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Krogman moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of Liquor License for Danube Fireman's Relief Association for July 14th under Consent Agenda; Letter of Support for the Olivia Ambulance and Renville County Drainage Department regarding the Ditch Systems. The motion carried unanimously.

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 June 12, 2019
- Building Permit – 404 6th Street - Fence
- Liquor License – Sunday, July 14th – Fun Days Keg Shoot

Open Forum

Bryan Beckendorf – Bryan spoke with the Councilmembers about the Police Department and about Mayor Alex taking a picture of his dog in town. Brian stated that other dogs are not following the ordinance and he has pictures of dogs that are not on leashes and wanted to know if he sends the pictures if they would also get a ticket. Bryan also voiced concerns about the hours the Police Chief is putting in along with the lack of visibility of police presence in Danube. Mayor Alex and Councilmember Standfuss both stated that they feel that the Police Chief is putting in the 40 hours per week. Bryan wanted to know why it took 3 days for him to get the ticket for his dog being in town that wasn't allowed. Police Chief Schneider responded to him

with all the things he was dealing with during that time frame in which it took 3 days for him to get the ticket to Bryan.

Jim Mason – Jim spoke with the Councilmembers regarding the charge for garbage on his utility bill. Jim stated that part of the reason there is high tonnage is because others that have dumpsters are leaving the lids open and water and snow is collecting in them and raising the weight of the garbage. Jim stated that someone called West Central Sanitation and told them to stop service and he can't get his dumpster picked up or dumped because the City stopped the service. Jim said he has had a dumpster for over 20 years and has never paid for it and is not about to start. Jim asked that the dumpster be picked up and a 65 gallon GNC delivered instead. Jim stated that he never received a letter from the City of Danube regarding the garbage service being stopped due to nonpayment.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to not forgive the charge for the landfills on Jim Mason's utility bill of \$51.64. The motion carried unanimously.

David Maurice – David spoke with the Councilmembers about Ordinance #107 Golf Cart. He commented that Police Chief Schneider was over to permit his ranger. David said he went to the City Office and Dotty informed him that he wouldn't need one and then Schneider showed up and explained to him that he would need one. David stated in the Ordinance it talks about golf carts and the motor size and weight of the cart. David's ranger does not meet the specifications for needing to permit his cart and his ranger would fall under Ordinance #100. David has his ranger permitted now with the DNR, Renville County and City of Danube, he can drive down county roads and township roads but not US Highways. Schneider stated that the DNR permit and Renville County permit does not allow them to drive on Danube city streets only the City permits allows this. David recommended that Ordinance #107 be changed. The Councilmembers discussed this and decided to bring Ordinance #100 and Ordinance #107 to the next Council meeting to review them.

Jeff Freitag – Jeff brought in a baggie of burnt trash that blew onto his lawn from the neighbors. Jeff said that his neighbors are still burning trash in town. Schneider said he spoke to the resident two (2) months ago about burning trash and they did not agree on that.

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 – I talked with Jim at Sullivan's Electric and he is in the process of getting a price to replace the fuse panels with breaker boxes. We are trying to come up with the most cost-effective way we can to get the job done.
- Streets – We've been patching the bad spots in town with granite. Freedom Lane is done. There is going to be grading done as the gravel gets packed down more with traffic. Some spots unless it is busting up and heaving, I'm going to leave alone as long as possible to keep from having so much gravel all over town. It is going to cause problems when snow plowing begins getting scraped up and thrown on people's lawns. Seems like for every spot that is fixed another appears. Councilmember Garza commented her street has not been addressed. Councilmember Standfuss will talk to Dan about Garza's street.

- Water – I'm still working with MDH on a compliance schedule for the Radium issue with water at well #3. The generator at well #3 has been set in place and wiring has been completed. Still waiting on Great Plains to install gas line, meter, and hookup.
- Waste Water – A new valve was installed at the ponds with help of Chris Knight. The valve is to isolate the primary from the secondary if the primary is overfull. Because of the depth of bury a new shutoff a new valve box key will be needed to operate the valve. Flows have returned to normal in the month of June at the lift station.
- Community Center – Another possible cause of water issue in the men's bathroom could be resulting from condensation and frost above the ceiling tiles. It gets very cold up there in the winter. I will be getting some prices to have the upper area sprayed with foam insulation to help with the issue and keep bathrooms warmer. We have not had a chance to look at windows yet.
- Mosquitoes – We are getting low on spray for mosquitoes. Would like to order more through Farmward. Cost was around \$1500 last year. What doesn't get used this year will still be good for next year.
Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to purchase spray for mosquitoes for around \$1,500.00 from Farmward. The motion carried unanimously.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider had a typed Police Department report in the Councilmember's packets. Statistics for June 2019 were lower compared to last year at the same time with 71 calls, 46 reports, 32 traffic stops, 17 citations, 55 mutual assists and 3 home security checks. Additional business discussed:

- School Building Updates – I've been working with Tri-Valley on many issues as they started with students this month. I advised their director on using the county radio located in the school, and we resolved a parking complaint with a neighbor regarding buses parked on Pine Street. Their director also stated that the gym floor will be done by Tri-Valley next time, as she said it is their turn to protect that floor.
- Golf Cart/Recreational Vehicles – Golf cart/recreational vehicle completing permit process, while providing a copy of Ordinance 107 to each resident with these vehicles. The response from residents has been positive regarding the need to issue permits. 23 permits have been issued so far. Schneider said he would talk to the City Attorney and get the Ordinance changed as soon as possible.
Councilmember Garza asked how many permits have been issued. Schneider responded 23 permits have been issued.
- FEMA Update – The ten month process is finally completed, as I've had many contacts during that time with FEMA and the state. On June 10, we received 100% reimbursement of the damage from the 2018 flooding incident, which was \$25635. The 2019 Damage Inventory has begun, including presenting information to the County Emergency Manager, State of MN, and FEMA representatives. The minimum damage for qualification for assistance from FEMA is \$3200.

- Dog Ordinance #74 – I resolved to court issue accepting our ordinances into the system. I've issued 18 citations for not licensing dogs and one residence had four dogs. Two dogs have been removed from that house, and we no longer have any residences with more than two dogs. I have also removed any people that have moved out of town and dead dogs from the list. This June, we had a dog bite incident where a child was bit. That dog was vaccinated and it has been removed from city limits. Bryan Beckendorf was cited for having his dog in town, based from a June 26 photo of his dog located on Bryan's property.
Mayor Alex asked if all the dogs are now licensed. Schneider said not the 18 that were cited. Mayor Alex if that would cover all the dogs, Schneider responded that should get us back to the 72 or 73 we had last year. Schneider said he sent them tickets.
- Blighted Property Ordinance #84 – I have issued six citations for unlicensed vehicles, piles of garbage, house violations, and long vegetation. All other mowing discussed last meeting has been completed and looks good going into Fun Days.
Mayor Alex asked about a couple of properties. Schneider informed Mayor Alex what they were cited for and that the court dates have not yet been set. Diane Pfarr asked about the property over by her house. Schneider responded the property behind her café was cited. Diane said no the one by her house, the Creamery building, Schneider responded the bricks will be removed on Monday, July 15th, he wasn't cited.
- Truck Issues – No truck issues this month, on June 19, a West Central Sanitation Manager was called and we discussed the situation about overloaded trucks damaging city streets. It was decided that on June 26 we would have early morning garbage pick-up and that would become permanent. I have observed no new city street damage since West Central changed the route, resulting in much lighter trucks on our streets.
- 2019 Fun Days – All committees and other individuals have been contacted, and the plans for this weekend are good to go. I have sprayed for mosquitoes after rainfalls, and that has worked well. Dan has ordered more chemical for later this summer. I have used 30 gallons this summer, and that leaves us with 30 gallons of spray at the shop.
- Radar Certification – Annual radar certifications from Direct Radar will be on the evening of August 7. This is mandatory when using radar equipment, and is used in court.
- POST Board – POST Board training reimbursement deadline is July 31, 2019. Besides regular training, POST included three new mandated areas of training by the state. The mandated training is included on this year's reimbursement forms.

Employee Report – City Clerk

- Land Update – Nothing new to report.
- Solar Garden Follow Up – Dotty sent the solar garden sunscription to both Aaron Walton, City Attorney, and to the League of MN Cities legal team. The League of MN Cities did ask for one adjustment on the sunscription and US Solar made the change and the sunscription was signed by the Mayor.
- RCHospitl Letter of Support Follow Up - Dotty sent the RCHospital letter of support for Sharon to review. Upon getting the okay to go forward with the letter of support Mayor Alex signed the letter and it was mailed off.
- Budget Preparation - Every year two (2) Councilmembers met with Dotty to start the budget preparation for the City Council to review at the September meeting and Dotty would like to schedule a date to start this project with those that are willing to do it this

year. Dotty will get the paperwork handed out to the groups/people for them to fill out their part but would like to know the deadline prior to giving them out.

The Councilmembers discussed this item and it was decided that Councilmember Malvin and Councilmember Garza will meet with Dotty and prepare the budget. Councilmembers Garza and Malvin will find a date that works for them and let Dotty know of the date.

- OSHA Training - Dotty informed the Councilmembers that on Wednesday, August 28th the Office will be closing at 12:30pm for Dotty to attend the OSHA training in Hector.
- Completed Items - Dotty has filed the quarterly and monthly payroll taxes along with the sales tax.
- Office Closed – The Danube City Office was closed on Thursday, July 4th for the Fourth of July.

School Building Updates

Councilmember Krogman received estimates from Brighter Homes Store for the Councilmembers to review. The estimates will come back to a future meeting once the plumbing and painting is done down at the school. Mayor Alex will talk to Joey about painting down at the school. Councilmember Garza will speak to the ladies that gave a quote for painting the Community Center about painting down at the school. Mayor Alex brought up the curb down by the school that is painted yellow by the driveway. He would like to see the curb painted yellow one parking spot longer so parking doesn't block the vision of those pulling out of the driveway.

Community Center Updates

Dotty reported that Joey got the floors done at the Community Center. Mayor Alex said he helped Joey with the floors again. They didn't strip down the floors just finished them. Mayor Alex asked Councilmember Standfuss to talk to Dan about getting the windows done at the Community Center.

Unfinished Business - None

Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list from June 13, 2019 thru July 8, 2019.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$66,369.24 (checks) and \$4,125.43 (electronic fund transfers). The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from June 11, 2019 thru July 3, 2019.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual verses Budget Comparison for 2019.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Bank Reconciliations for June 2019.

Councilmember Krogman asked Dotty if receipts are being turned in. Dotty responded that she has gotten credit card receipts from Schneider but not Dan. Councilmember Krogman asked Dotty to bug Dan for these receipts so they get turned in.

New Business

CCT – Request for Funds – Last Year \$794.00 – The Councilmembers discussed the request for donation from CCT.

Councilmember Krogman moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to approve the donating \$794.00 to Central Community Transit. The motion passed with a vote of three (3) in favor and Councilmember Standfuss abstaining.

Letter of Support Olivia Ambulance – The Councilmembers reviewed the information and decided to send a letter of support.

Councilmember Krogman moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to approve signing the letter of support for the Olivia Ambulance. The motion carried unanimously.

Renville County Drainage Department – Ditch Systems – The Councilmembers reviewed the paperwork sent from Renville County. Any Councilmember that is interested in attending the Renville County Board of Commissioners meeting on Thursday, August 1, 2019 at 8:30am they are welcome to attend it.

Future Business

Streets – David Maurice asked what was going on with the streets. Dotty informed David that the City is in the process of sending out emails to engineering firms asking for a request for references for the Councilmembers to review. David Maurice asked if there is an engineering association that Dotty could also post the request on. Dotty will check into that as an option.

Correspondence

MN Department of Health – Increase in Service Connection Fees

There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

Gene Alex, Mayor

Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk