

**DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, July 11, 2018 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers**

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on July 11, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Alex presiding.

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

Councilmembers absent: Sharon Krogman

Others Present: Dahiana Guillen, Ramon Gonzalez, Veva Mittelstadt, Police Chief Les Schneider, City Clerk-Treasurer Dotty Schnobrich, and media.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to approve the Agenda with the addition to Building Permit – 103 Maple Street - Garage under New Business. 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 with the correction of 100 6th Street for the Hobby Shop Building Permit. 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 13, 2018
- On Sale Liquor License – DAAC – July 15, 2018
- Building Permit – 100 6th Street – Hobby Shop
- Building Permit – 402 4th Street – Deck
- Building Permit – 103 Maple Street - Garage

Open Forum

Julie Krueger – Playground – No one was present

Employee Report – Public Works Director

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

- Streets – The sinkhole that was on Maple St. has been fixed. The storm drain was collapsed at an elbow in the pipe. Dan will have Caldwell pave it when they are in town doing other approved spots. Will try to get an estimate beforehand. There is another sinkhole in the alley behind elevator off Railroad Ave. Will try to get camera down lines to see what the problem is. Will contact Chris Knight again to assist in dig. Councilmember Standfuss brought up concerns about semis going down roads that are not truck routes. The Councilmembers discussed the issue and possible ways to keep them from going down certain streets. Mayor Alex will talk with Police Chief Schneider about the semis and trying to get better control on the issue.
- Wastewater – The liftstation took on some heavy flows after all the rain we have had. On July 3rd the alarms were triggered for high levels. Dan came in over the night and ran a secondary pump to alleviate the liftstation flow. Have not heard of any backups. Because of all the rain the City has had to do an unplanned discharge at the ponds. Dan talked with MPCA explaining to them we were full and needed to do a discharge. They said we were number 44 on the list that has called in. NO MORE RAIN!!! Councilmember Standfuss brought up looking at getting a different pump that is bigger and on wheels to make it more portable for him. The Councilmembers discussed the issue and Dan will bring information to the next meeting regarding it.
- School – Little lambs has lights out in some classrooms and in the stairway going up to there second floor room. They also have a couple sinks that are leaking. With dealing with ponds, FUN DAYS, and vacation next week. Dan will be having Sullivans Electric look at the lights and a plumber to fix sinks. Still waiting on Forcier Roofing to look at roof.
- Mower – The new mower was delivered the week after the last council meeting. It has been great so far. Thanks to the council on this new purchase. Mayor Alex mentioned that someone is interested in the old mower. The Councilmembers discussed the old mower and at this time it has not been decided on whether or not the old mower will be sold.
- Mosquitoes – Les will be continuing his war with the mosquitoes for FUN DAYS. At the end of the season Dan would like to order another 55 gallons from Farmward to have on hand for next season. The cost will be approximately \$1,600.00. *Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to purchase a 55 gallon drum of mosquito spray from Farmward for approximately \$1,600.00. The motion carried unanimously.*
- Lights – Mayor Alex reported that Dan spoke with him about the lights down in his office and the time clock room. The lights are in need of being replaced, Dan received an estimate for \$1,000.00 from Sullivan's Electric to replace the lights. *Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to hire Sullivan's Electric to replace the lights down at the Maintenance shop for approximately \$1,000.00. The motion carried unanimously.*

Employee Report – City Clerk

- 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 the item and it was decided that Councilmember Malvin and Councilmember Standfuss will meet with Dotty on Monday, August 20th to work on the 2019 Budget.
- Codification Meeting – Dotty has a meeting with Aaron Walton to work on codification on Tuesday, July 17th starting at 10am. Dotty will post a notice on the door letting the residents know that Dotty will be gone to Olivia for a meeting.
- Completed Items – Dotty has filed the quarterly and monthly payroll taxes along with the sales tax.
- Vacation Days – Dotty will work with Councilmember Krogman and Malvin on some possible vacation days to use up some of my vacation up.
- OSHA Training – Dotty informed the Councilmembers that on Tuesday, July 31st the Office will be closing at 12:30pm for Dotty to attend the OSHA training in Hector.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was present to give a two month employee and Police Department report. Statistics for June 2018 were lower compared to last year at the same time with 63 calls, 41 reports, 34 traffic stops, 15 citations, 49 mutual assists and 5 home security checks. Statistics for May 2018 were lower compared to last year at the same time with 53 calls, 31 reports, 29 traffic stops, 11 citations, 24 mutual assists and 2 home security checks. Additional business discussed:

- School Building Updates – Schneider reported that the youth activities are done. Little Lambs used the gym for their Rummage Sale and no issues occurred this year.
- Dog Ordinance Violations – Schneider reported that he sent out about three (3) citations regarding people that have 3 dogs and no dog license. The current count is around 60 but there are many left to license.
Mayor Alex asked Schneider if he received a complaint about a dog bite. Schneider informed the Councilmembers that is being handled and at the Attorney's Office. Schneider also stated that the dog doesn't live in town but the dog goes to the shop and the owner was informed that the dog was not allowed back in town.
- Blighted Property Violations – Schneider reported that he is still working on the issues. The Councilmembers discussed concerns with some properties that are not addressing their issues. Schneider reported that some of the properties if they are not cleaned up by Saturday, July 14th citations will be issued. Schneider is to give all the blighted properties an end date in which to have it done by.
- Public Works Assists – Schneider reported that he was busy helping Dan with the heavy rains and that they will turn in the two (2) sinkholes to FEMA being Renville County has been declared as an emergency due to the heavy rains. Mayor Alex asked Schneider to also look into if FEMA has any funds to replace the pump that no longer works.

- Annual Radar Certification – Schneider reported that both radars will be certified on August 8th.
- POST Board Training Reimbursement – Schneider reported he just got the figures from Dotty to turn in the reimbursement. This is due by July 31st.
- Fun Days Planning – Schneider reported that he has been working with the Danube Area Action Club on Fun Days stuff and assisting on getting barricades from Olivia. There will be three (3) officers on for Fun Days.
- Council Meeting Presentations – Schneider informed the Councilmembers that in 26 years he has never typed out his report for the Council Meetings like how Dan does. Mayor Alex asked that when he is not present for the meeting to have a report in for the month. Councilmember Maurice commented that the information that is on the report Schneider does not need to read it to them, if they have questions they can ask.

School Building Updates - None

Community Center Updates

Councilmember Malvin reported that the steps got replaced and looks really good. Councilmember Malvin also commented that Joey is doing a good job and she is pleased. Councilmember Malvin asked when was the last time the Community Center was serviced for pest control because there are dead bugs all over. Dotty reported that they were there on June 19th and that Dan had just sprayed weeds. Dan will have Forcier look at the roof when they come to fix the School roof. Mayor Alex reported that he did not get a hold of anyone regarding the corner outside in the back that needs to be repaired.

Unfinished Business

Vacant Lot – Dotty spoke with Doug Bruns regarding the lot the City has for sale and in his words “you are putting the cart before the horse” in trying to reclassify the land before anything is built. They will not change the classification of the property until it reveals it’s classification meaning that once something is built it will be determined by them if it is commercial, residential, etc. He said you could advertise it as could be used for construction of a residential or commercial building. He said the building requirements for you would be based on your Ordinance and you could use the residential, commercial or non conforming use sections in your ordinance for your building code.

If you have any further questions you can either call me or Doug Bruns regarding this.

Dotty attached a copy of the Ordinance in which discusses the rezoning from Residential to Commercial. It says that a public hearing must be held so a date would need to be picked for the public hearing in order to move forward with the rezoning.

Dotty reported that she had received a check for \$5,000.00 for the property and to keep it as residential. The Councilmembers discussed the property. Councilmember Maurice spoke to the Councilmembers regarding Al Strunc calling him on checking with the EDA and see if they have any interest in putting up some more housing units. Mayor Alex commented that the EDA discussed it at one time and there wasn’t an interest in doing that. The Councilmembers discussed the vacant lot and Veva Mittelstadt commented on the vacant lot and the sale of the vacant lot commenting concerns on the property turning into commercial instead of residential.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to approve selling the residential vacant lot to Danney Tanner for \$5,000.00. The motion carried unanimously.

ReneSola Power Holdings – Solar Garden – Dotty emailed Eric from ReneSola and he gave her one town to contact for a reference. Eric told Dotty that they don't give out names of the other towns because they don't use them as references. Eric did tell Dotty that he would need to know before August if the City of Danube is going to be joining the solar garden or not. If the City decides after July then there may be some changes to information that he provided the City of Danube.

The Councilmembers discussed the solar garden and decided at this time not to pursue the solar garden with ReneSola.

Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list from June 14, 2018 thru July 09, 2018.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$88,847.34 (checks) and \$7,620.58 (electronic fund transfers). The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from June 12, 2018 thru July 05, 2018.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual verses Budget Comparison for 2018.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Bank Reconciliations for June 2018.

Dotty put in the Councilmembers packets the interest rates for Edward Jones and Hometown Bank. The Councilmembers discussed the funds available for investment.

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve invest \$135,000.00 into a 1 year CD at Edward Jones. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Golf Cart Ordinance – Dotty obtained the Ordinances regarding golf carts from the following Cities for the Councilmembers to review: City of Redwood Falls, City of Olivia, City of Bird Island, City of Fairfax and City of Renville. The Councilmembers reviewed the Ordinances from the other towns and pointed out things they liked and other things they didn't. The Councilmembers asked that Dotty give a copy of them to Les to have him review for his input. The Councilmembers will look over the Ordinances from the other towns and discuss it at the next Council meeting.

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

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Malvin 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.

Future Business - None

Correspondence

There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

Gene Alex, Mayor

Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk