

DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, August 8, 2018 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on August 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Alex presiding.

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

Councilmembers absent: Cathy Malvin

Others Present: Jan Morgan, Police Chief Les Schneider, City Clerk-Treasurer Dotty Schnobrich, and media.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of Council Wages under New Business. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Maurice 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 July 11, 2018
- Building Permit – 107th Street – Fence
- Building Permit – 206 3rd Street – 2 Car Garage

Open Forum

Jan Morgan – Jan Morgan shared concerns with the Councilmembers about the intersection of Pine Street and 6th Street in Danube. She explained that the traffic is not slowing down and if a new park is to be built that she along with her neighbors would like to see something get done at the corner to slow the traffic down. The Councilmembers discussed this concern with Jan and decided on installing some stop signs.

Councilmember Krogman moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to approve putting up a four (4) way stop at the intersection of Pine Street and 6th Street. The motion carried unanimously.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was present to give his monthly employee and Police Department report. Statistics for July 2018 were lower compared to last year at the same time with 65 calls, 32 reports, 31 traffic stops, 12 citations, 33 mutual assists and 4 home security checks. Additional business discussed:

- School Building Updates – Schneider reported that RCW volleyball senior practice will be using the gym this week due to them redoing the floors in Renville. Tri-Valley will have students until November 30th this year. Mayor Alex asked about the front door and the roof down at the school. Schneider reported that the front door was addressed and the roof has not yet been fixed.
- Fun Days Summary – Schneider reported that Fun Days was very busy. He had 3 officers on.
- POST Training Reimbursement Update – Schneider reported that he sent in all the required paperwork.
- Radar Certification – Schneider reported that the radar certification would be completed tonight for both squad cars.
- Public Works Assists – Schneider reported that he is only mosquito spraying when it is necessary but it has slowed down. Schneider reported that the police department has been keeping an eye on the brush site.
- Ordinance Violation Updates – Schneider reported he sent citations to three (3) residents for violations to Ordinance #74. The dog bite case is at the City Attorney's Office. Schneider reported that he is working with blighted properties and has cited some properties for violation of Ordinance #84.
- FEMA Meeting (July 31) – Schneider reported that he attended the class on July 31, 2018. Schneider also turned in the information regarding Danube during the flooding rains. Schneider will be attending the upcoming meeting on August 22, 2018 regarding FEMA reporting
- First Response Update – Schneider informed the Councilmembers that the First Responders will be having training on September 27, 2018.
- Golf Cart Ordinance – Schneider reported that he didn't like any of the surrounding towns' ordinances regarding golf carts. Schneider reported he hasn't had any complaints this year regarding golf carts. Schneider did pick the Renville Golf Cart Ordinance as the one that he picked if Danube decided to go with one and edit it to better fit Danube. Councilmember Maurice added that he liked the City of Redwood Falls application for the golf carts. Schneider will put something together for the Councilmember to review in September.

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 – Caldwell has fixed the 4 spots that were broken up. The Sinkhole behind Elevator office by alley is caused by a broken storm line. I'm waiting to get someone out to dig as they are busy right now. After it is fixed I will try to get Caldwell back to repave it before winter. Still waiting on Midwest Asphalt to come do air-patching. Councilmember Maurice added that Dan also would like to fix two spots one (1) is by the elevator in the alley and the other is on Pine Street.
Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve street repair from Caldwell Asphalt for two (2) spots up to \$10,000.00. The motion carried unanimously.
- Wastewater – The influent flows are back to an acceptable range. Could still come down more but they are trending in the right direction. Still have a valve to put in at ponds. Waiting for it to dry up some more as it will be installed at the bottom of a hill by water. Chris Knight will assist.
- Water – No known issues at present time. The wells averaged 50,000 for the month of July. Would like to purchase two dehumidifiers for the well houses at \$200.00 apiece. This will help with the pipes sweating and rusting out faster. And help keep electronics dry.
- Safety – The few barricades and cones that the city has are in bad shape. Cones have holes and are hard to see. The barricades are rotten and falling apart. I plan to build new barricades for about \$12.00 per barricade set. Would like to do 25 sets eventually so we don't have to borrow from Olivia every year for Fun Days. Would also like to order at least 15 cones at around \$15.00 apiece.
- Dump Truck – Councilmember Maurice reported that the dump truck is in need of the clutch to be replaced because there is no more adjusting to it that can be done. Danube Auto Works gave an estimate of \$1,200.00 to replace the clutch.
Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve Danube Auto Works to replace the clutch on the Dump Truck for \$1,200.00. The motion carried unanimously.
- Pine Street – Councilmember Maurice reported that Dan is still waiting for Lee Elfering, City Engineer, to get back to him regarding Pine Street.
- Old Lawn Mower – Councilmember Maurice reported that Dan would like to keep the old lawn mower as a backup.
- Sludge Pump – Councilmember Maurice reported that Dan's concern on getting a bigger sludge pump he doesn't think that it would benefit because the time in which you would use it he would be pumping the sanitary sewer into the storm sewer and at that time the storm sewer is backing up. Dan says he has two (2) three (3) inch pumps now and that is adequate. In order to fix the issue you would need a direct line out of town somewhere. The Councilmembers discussed the sanitary sewer and storm sewer.
- Natural Gas Generators – Councilmember Maurice reported that Dan would really like two (2) natural gas fueled generators; one (1) would be for the well and water tower and the other for the sanitary sewer system. The generator needed at the water tower would need to be larger than the sanitary sewer due to the extra things that need to run off of that generator. Dan will get an updated estimate from Sullivan's Electric. The current generator would be kept to use for other things in town. The Councilmembers discussed looking into grants for the generators.

Employee Report – City Clerk

- Budget Preparation – Just a reminder that we will be meeting on Monday, August 20th for the budget preparation (need a time please). The group is Councilmember Malvin, Councilmember Standfuss and City Clerk Dotty. The meeting is scheduled for 10:00 am. Councilmember Maurice suggested that in the future it would be better to have two (2) people working on the budget be on different election cycles.
- Finance During Disaster Workshop – Dotty was wondering if she could attend the Finance During Disaster Workshop on Wednesday, August 22nd from around 10am till 12 noon in Olivia? The training will cover the finance process during a disastrous event. The workshop is free to attend.
- Zoning Map – Dotty was asked by the City Attorney Aaron Walton to look into getting a new Zoning Map for the City of Danube to coincide with the Ordinance pertaining to Building Permits. Dotty contacted the Company that Aaron referred her to (MN Regional Development Commission) but they are changing software and are unable to help for some time. Dotty then contacted City Engineer Lee Elfering and he said that he could help with that and the cost varies depending on how much they have to create verses what they can obtain from other sources. It would be nice to have the Old Residential and New Residential properties defined clearly along with Commercial properties and adding Agriculture land to the Ordinance and the Zoning Map. *Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve preparing a zoning map for the City of Danube from Elfering & Associates for up to \$2,000.00. The motion carried unanimously.*
- Completed Items – Dotty has filed the monthly payroll taxes.
- Office Closed – The Danube City Office will be closed on Monday, September 3, 2018 for Labor Day.

School Building Updates - None

Community Center Updates

Councilmember Krogman asked Mayor Alex if he had contacted Rick Vogt about the Community Center. Mayor Alex reported that he found out that Rick Vogt was retired. Councilmember Krogman reported that she is unable to get a hold of Chuck Baumgartner. Mayor Alex asked if he should talk to Lief regarding the Community Center. Councilmember Krogman reported that he was interested but he is unable to get the product in order to fix it. Councilmember Maurice stated that he would be willing to go and get the stuff. Mayor Alex also reported he could go get the stuff in Sartell. Mayor Alex will call Lief and speak with him about this. Councilmember Krogman reported that she spoke with Al about the Community Center and he suggested placing cement poles to prevent it from being hit again. Councilmember Krogman also brought up that the inside will need to be painted so to keep that in mind when working on the budget for repairs and maintenance on the Community Center. Councilmember Krogman stated she has Rick Vogt's phone number and Mayor Alex said he only had his home phone number and was unable to get a hold of him. Councilmember Krogman will contact Rick Vogt about the corner and cement poles at the Community Center.

Unfinished Business

Vacant Lot – Unfortunately the person who was interested in the vacant lot has decided to back out and not purchase the lot. Last month Dotty attached a copy of the Ordinance pertaining to 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. The Councilmembers discussed the vacant lot and Councilmember Standfuss asked that it get discussed at the next EDA meeting in September. The Councilmembers discussed the bill that was received from the attorney regarding the vacant lot. The Councilmembers decided to send the person who was going to buy the lot a letter asking to reimburse the City of Danube \$300.00 for the attorney bill. Councilmember Krogman will come to the City Office to help prepare the letter to the individual. The Councilmembers agreed to wait until the next Council meeting to discuss the vacant lot again to allow the EDA a chance to discuss the lot.

Golf Cart Ordinance – This was discussed under the Employee Report - Chief of Police.

Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list from July 09, 2018 thru August 08, 2018. *Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$31,947.27 (checks) and \$12,865.25 (electronic fund transfers).* The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from July 06, 2018 thru August 02, 2018. The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual versus Budget Comparison for 2018. The Councilmembers reviewed the Bank Reconciliations for July 2018.

The checking account is rather high again and wondering if you would like to do another CD at Edward Jones current rate for one (1) year is 2.3%; nine (9) month is 2.15%; and six (6) month is 2.00%. Dotty would suggest at least \$50,000.00. The Councilmembers discussed the upcoming bills and how much to put into a CD. *Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve invest \$150,000.00 into a 1 year CD at Edward Jones.* The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Council Wages – Mayor Alex reported that the last time the Councilmember wages was increased was from 1989 and thinks that it is time for it to be raised. Mayor Alex suggested a 10% increase to the regular pay and no change to the special meeting pay. The current pay for the Mayor is \$1,440.00 per year and the pay for the Councilmembers \$1,200.00 per year. The Councilmembers discussed the wages. *Mayor Alex moved a motion to approve increasing the Mayor pay to \$1,584.00 per year and Councilmember pay to \$1,320.00 per year.* The motion failed due to lack of a second.

Future Business - None

Correspondence

Mediacom

The Councilmembers briefly discussed TDS Telecom and LightBeam.

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 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

Gene Alex, Mayor

Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk