

**DANUBE CITY COUNCIL  
Regular Council Meeting  
Wednesday, August 9, 2017 7:00 PM  
Danube City Council Chambers**

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on August 9, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Alex presiding.

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

Councilmembers absent: Dave Maurice

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

**Approval of Agenda**

*Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve the Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

*Councilmember Malvin moved and Councilmember Standfuss 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 12, 2017

**New Business – None**

**Open Forum – None**

**Employee Report – Public Works Director**

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

- Water – Sullivan’s has finished putting the controls in the wells and the water tower is up and running. It has been operational for two weeks without issue. It’s going to take a while though to get used to new operating system. Anyone who is interested in seeing how it works can stop by Dan’s office and Dan will try to give a demonstration. Dan is still working with Lec and Maguire Iron regarding some minor leaks on the circulation pump inside the tower base. Also, the grass does not seem to be growing very well. Dan has talked with the contractors to make them aware of the problem. Has the old tower been scheduled for take down? The wells averaged 55,000 gal/day for the month of July.

- Wastewater – The lift station had 3 clogged pumps for July. They were clogged with wipes again and a towel. Dan will be ordering some plugs to fix a few spots that are leaking on sanitary main clean outs that were found during smoke testing. The lift station averaged 35,000 gal/day for the month of July which is good. The Councilmembers discussed the wipes clogging the pumps again. Mayor Alex will talk to Stacey at Tri-Valley about the concern.
- School – Little lambs brought it to my attention that a bunch of sinks are not draining upstairs in the bathrooms. Dan would like to get a plumber in to clean out lines. Dan is guessing they are corroded after sitting with little use for so long. Dan will try to get them open himself first.
- Streets – Caldwell and Midwest asphalt are still on schedule to come and do street repairs. Dan will be contacting both to reconfirm with them and to get a timeline.

Mayor Alex also asked Councilmember Standfuss to have Dan report to the City Council on whether or not the roof drain at the school has been completed along the three places that had issues when the smoke testing was done to see if they have been or are being addressed.

### **Employee Report – Chief of Police**

Chief of Police Les Schneider was present to give a monthly employee and Police Department report. Statistics for July 2017 were higher compared to last year at the same time with 74 calls, 37 reports, 32 traffic stops, 16 citations, 39 mutual assists and 3 home security checks. Additional business discussed:

- School Building Updates – Schneider reported that the concert for the Danube Historical Society had their July 25<sup>th</sup> concert in the gym due to the weather. So far this summer 2 of the 5 concerts have been at the gym. Schneider also reported that Tri-Valley and Little Lambs has been using the gym daily. RCW volleyball will be on Wednesday night and Thursday morning because the floors are being redone at the Renville School. The schedule will pick up again starting in the fall.
- Officer Marc Brandt Status – Schneider reported that officer Marc Brandt was hired by Ramsey County and will start on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Marc was with the Danube Police Department for fifteen (15) months.
- POST Training Reimbursement Update – Schneider reported that he sent in the POST training reimbursement paperwork on July 28<sup>th</sup>. Last year the reimbursement was \$1,250.00 approximately.
- Radar Certification (Aug 9) – Schneider reported that the annual radar certification was going to be happening at 7:45pm tonight (Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>). Both radars will get tonight by Radar Direct out of Redwood Falls.
- Civil Defense Siren Update – Schneider reported that he spoke with Jim from Sullivan's Electric and Jim told him he was short an employee for a little while and the employee is back now. Schneider said that the siren will be done by August 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Blight Update – Schneider reported he has letters ready to be mailed to Paul Kokesch, Meredith Olsen and Audrey Kortz per the Council's decision on City of Danube letterhead.

Mayor Alex voiced concerns about the letters not being sent as directed from the last council meeting. Councilmember Malvin also voiced concerns about a residence that has

an issue with shingles. Mayor Alex reported that he spoke with the Postmaster regarding the weeds behind the Post Office building.

- State Stipend Retention Program (FD & MRU) – Schneider reported that the funds were received for the Fire Department and First Response and checks must be issued by September 1<sup>st</sup> and are included in the bills tonight. This is the third year for the stipends and as of now the program is done for the City of Danube unless they extend it.
- First Response Update – Schneider reported that the First Response was extremely busy with 7 calls in July and 5 calls already in August. They had two (2) calls at once on Saturday and the crew was split up to respond to them both.
- Dog Licenses – Mayor Alex brought up that the dog licenses not being done yet. The licenses are due by May 15<sup>th</sup> and Mayor Alex wants all the dog licensed and the counts down to two (2) per house per the ordinance and this should have done by June. Mayor Alex also wants something done about the dog that was supposed to be removed from town. Councilmember Malvin voiced concerns that the household that was granted a variance should no longer be valid if they are not licensing the dogs as required per the variance. Schneider will verify if they still have three dogs or not and will issue citations for all the dog owners who have not licensed their dog. Schneider will get this done as soon as he can.

#### **Employee Report – City Clerk**

- Vacant Lot - Update – Dotty has had only one (1) person contact her regarding the property since the last City Council meeting. They are also interested in seeing if the property could be rezoned to commercial. Dotty informed them of what the Council already decided that as of now they are not looking at rezoning the property at this time.
- CD Rates – Edward Jones – Update – Dotty informed the Councilmembers that three (3) CDs were invested in per the last Council meeting and they can be found on the bank reconciliation statement
- Community Center Rent – Does the City of Danube charge government entities for renting the Community Center. The Councilmembers decided to have Dotty contact Renville and see what they do regarding government entities and do the same and report back the findings at the next meeting.
- Budget Preparation – This is just a reminder to Councilmember Maurice and Councilmember Standfuss that we have a meeting scheduled for Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 9am to work on the 2018 budget.
- Completed Items – Turn off letters have been issued to those who have not yet paid their water bills. The Councilmembers discussed doing additional fees when a letter is issued for those who don't pay their water bill on time.
- Office Closed – The Danube City Office will be closed on Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> for Labor Day.

#### **School Building Updates**

Mayor Alex didn't make it down to the school to look at the floor but will meet with Schneider on Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup> to look at the floor.

### **Community Center Updates**

Councilmember Malvin reported that the floors will be done by August 11<sup>th</sup>. Councilmember Malvin will check in at the Community Center after the 11<sup>th</sup>. Dotty reported that a meeting will be held at the Community Center on Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. The meeting is a Mayors Meeting and Dotty was unaware of it until an email came out from Mayor Hilgert stating a meeting was scheduled for the Council Chambers in Danube, Dotty called Mayor Hilgert right away to let her know that the Council Chambers was already in use and got the Community Center lined up for her. Councilmember Krogman forgot to go and look at the microwave at the Community Center but she will contact Thomas and ask if he could try running it while he is there working on the floor to see if it is working correctly.

### **Unfinished Business**

Water Tower Update – Lee Elfering had no new update for the meeting.

Water Tower – Existing Water Tower – General Construction \$28,500.00 – The Councilmembers had previously discussed this issue and made a motion regarding the quote submitted by General Construction.

*Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve the quote from General Construction to remove the old water tower and the additional work stated in the quote for \$28,500.00. The motion carried unanimously.*

LightBeam – Internet Service provider - Contract – Dotty reported that she was contacted by Dan Keltgen and he informed Dotty that he is not able to get a signal at the new water tower due to the trees. Dan will contact RCW School and see about putting it on their lights and seeing if there is another way to get the signal to Danube. The Councilmembers decided to wait to hear back from Dan about LightBeam Internet before going any further.

Ordinance Review – The Councilmembers reviewed Ordinance #51 – Unreasonable Acceleration; Ordinance #54 – Sanitary Sewer; Ordinance #56 – Civil Defense; Ordinance #57 – Transient Auctioneers & Merchants; Ordinance #58 – Municipal Improvements; Ordinance #62 – Firewood; Ordinance #63 – Urban & Rural Taxing Districts; Ordinance #64 – Payment Water & Sewer Charges; Ordinance #65 – Dutch Elm Disease and Ordinance #68 – Handling Toxic Liquids for codification. Ordinance #32, #41 and #48 all are expired so the Councilmembers did not review those ordinances. The Councilmembers decided to go with State Code for all the Ordinances reviewed except for #58. The State Codes will be edited to fit Danube as needed by Aaron Walton, City Attorney.

### **Financial Reports**

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list from July 12, 2017 thru August 9, 2017.

*Councilmember Malvin moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$29,968.34 (checks) and \$4,678.63 (electronic fund transfers). The motion carried unanimously.*

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from July 8, 2017 thru August 7, 2017.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual versus Budget Comparison for 2017.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Bank Reconciliations for July 2017.

**New Business**

*MediaCom Contract* – The Councilmembers reviewed the contract with Mediacom. Dotty informed the Councilmembers that the rate was increased to 5% (from 3%) for a kick back to the City of Danube.

*Councilmember Malvin moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve the contract with MediaCom. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Future Business - None**

**Correspondence - None**

*There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Krogman moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

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Gene Alex, Mayor

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Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk