

DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, August 14, 2013 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on August 14, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Gene Alex presiding.

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

Councilmembers absent: none

Others Present: Chief of Police Les Schneider, City Clerk-Treasurer Sara Wilson, and media.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of Water Rates under new business. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Krogman 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 10, 2013
- Building Permit Application – 402 4th Street

Open Forum

Employee Report – Public Works Director

In the council packets, councilmembers received a monthly report for Public Works Director Dan Kaufenberg. The report is hereby attached.

As per Kaufenberg's report, a decision needs to be made do repair or replace the boilers at the school because heating season is coming. Councilmember Strunc would like 2 firm quotes on

repairs and on replacement. Kaufenberg will contact Mayor Alex to hold a special meeting when he gets this information together.

Kaufenberg will get quotes on installing a valve outside of Well #3.

The Council asked how things were coming with inspecting the manholes. Kaufenberg has contacted someone to get prices and will contact another.

Mayor Alex asked Kaufenberg to spray the weeds by the trees behind the EDA 4plex.

Discussion took place about replacing gutters on the south side of the City Office Building and Firehall. Kaufenberg will get quotes.

Councilmember Maurice asked if Kaufenberg has been to any OSHA training yet. He didn't make it to a meeting he was going to go to in Olivia last week but couldn't make it.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was present to give his monthly employee and Police Department report. Call statistics for July 2013 were standard for summer time with 63 calls, 50 reports, 72 traffic stops, 25 citations, 53 mutual assists and 3 home security checks.

Schneider reported old business as follows:

- The school building was used quite a bit during Fun Days for various events. Just For Kix is getting their schedule together for the school year. Renville County Relay for Life asked to store items in the old Home Ec room at the school.
- The Police Department received \$1,367.01 in POST Board Continuing Education reimbursement.
- Fun Days was busy at night but the Police Department had enough coverage. The Clerk will send a thank you to the City of Olivia for use of the barricades and Renville County for use of the picnic tables.
- Blighted properties are getting cleaned up.

In new business:

- Schneider has been verifying some addresses for the 911 system.
- Radar certifications were done on August 7
- Dan Hotovec retired as of April 30, 2013.

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to accept the retirement of Daniel Hotovec from the Danube Police Department as of April 30, 2013.

School Building Updates - none

Community Center Updates - none

Unfinished Business

OSHA Informal Conference – On July 24 Mayor Alex, Councilmember Maurice, Clerk Wilson and Public Works Director Kaufenberg met with an OSHA investigator in Hutchinson for an informal conference to discuss the citations and the items contested. Provided the City follows some guidelines, the fines will be reduced from \$5,800 to \$918.

Sump Pumps – Clerk Wilson sent letters to homes that Kaufenberg wanted to check for sump pumps. He's been checking those during the month of August.

Ordinance 71 – This is an ordinance prohibiting discharge of any storm water or surface water into the sanitary sewer system and to provide for inspection of property to determine illegal connections to the sanitary sewer system and to provide a surcharge for non-compliance with inspection and connection requirements. The ordinance was reviewed by the council and everything seems fine.

Curb/Gutter on Main Street – Clerk Wilson contacted the County regarding who pays for the curb and gutter on Main Street since it's a County road. The County only pays for the street. The curb and gutter is the City's responsibility.

Ordinance 32 – This is an ordinance clarifying and confirming previous city policy regarding municipal improvements, and the proportion thereof subject to special assessment. The ordinance was reviewed by the council.

Ordinance 83 – This is an ordinance establishing sidewalk improvement districts and assessments. The ordinance was reviewed by the council.

The council will wait to address any changes to the above 2 ordinances when they review the Basic Code of Ordinances.

Approval of Bills

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$50,816.22. The motion carried unanimously.

2014 Proposed Tax Levy

The council took part in budget discussion in preparation for approving the 2014 Proposed Tax Levy. The Proposed Tax Levy will be approved at the September 11 meeting.

Water Rates

Councilmember Strunc addressed the council and told them about all the different fees he sees on the different water bills he gets. He suggested a \$15/quarter base water charge to help fund upcoming repairs such as water tower work that needs to be done. The water fund currently tends to only be funding general operating expenses for the water department.

Councilmember Maurice is also concerned about the sewer fund balance and upcoming expenses. The suggestion was made to charge another \$15/quarter next year for sewer.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Sara Wilson, City Clerk

Gene Alex, Mayor

Sara Wilson, City Clerk