

**DANUBE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, August 14, 2024 7:00 PM**  
**Danube City Council Chambers**

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on August 14, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Bentley opening the meeting. The meeting then was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

The following Councilmembers were present: Carrie Garza, Sharon Krogman, Chris Schneider and Phil Standfuss

Councilmembers absent: None

Others Present: Public Works Director Dan Kaufenberg, Police Chief Les Schneider, City Engineer Lee Elfering, Kent Ritterman – Moore Engineering, Kevin Bucholz – President of Moore Engineering, Ryan Odder – Moore Engineering, Jessica Greene – Northland Security, and City Clerk-Treasurer Dotty Schnobrich

**Approval of Agenda**

*Councilmember Schneider moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the Agenda for the Regular Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

*Councilmember Garza 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, 2024

**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

School – The boilers are planned to inspected 8-13-24. If they pass, I will be putting them back together and ordering more treatment chemical for the upcoming season. The boiler inspection was completed on 8/13/2024.

Water – Well #3 had a bad ejector diaphragm go bad and water got sucked up into the cylinder head. I was able to get the water out and it seems to be working properly. The wells averaged 51,000 gal/day for the month of July.

Wastewater – The lift station averaged 61,000 gal/day for the month of July. Lift station alarm system has been fixed. There was a relay and relay junction box that was bad. Which caused constant power to high level alarm even though there wasn't one.

Streets – The intersection at Maple and 6<sup>th</sup> St is now a 4-way stop. The county came in and installed the new signs.

Mosquito Sprayer - 55 gallons of Kontrol 4-4 was ordered through Farmward. Mosquito spraying has been done once per week lately and will be lessened with the cooler temps.

### **Employee Report - Moore Engineering – Kent Ritterman**

Kent was present at the meeting along with Kevin Bucholz and Ryan Odder. Kent spoke with the Councilmembers about a variety of items that they need approved at the meeting. Kent, Kevin and Lee did have a meeting a couple weeks ago. Lee Elfering spoke with the Councilmembers about the questions he had for Moore Engineering that were answered and what items he requested to be changed on the engineering contract and the motion he felt they should approve to move forward. Kent mentioned that he would like to have a pre-construction subcommittee meeting with Rural Development, the contractor, Moore Engineering and 2 (two) Councilmembers possibly on August 29<sup>th</sup>. Kent will let Mayor Bentley and Councilmember Standfuss know the date and time of the meeting. Kent informed the Councilmembers that work on the water treatment plant should start in September 2024. Kent informed the Councilmembers that at the next meeting he would talk about Phase 2 the infrastructure project (which includes water mains, sewer mains and rain water runoff along with streets) and moving forward on that project.

*Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Schneider seconded a motion to approve signing the Construction Contracts. The motion carried unanimously.*

*Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Schneider seconded a motion to approve the new Engineering Agreement dated 8/14/2024 of \$1,215,989 contingent on the City Attorney Aaron Walton review and approval of the agreement. The motion carried unanimously.*

Lee Elfering also asked about if the Councilmembers would like him to continue on with being included in the water treatment plant. Dotty asked Kent if Lee Elfering's time could come from the grant funds. Kent informed the Councilmembers that his time could be covered by the grants. The Councilmembers did ask Lee to continue on with the water treatment plant.

### **Jessica Greene – Northland Security**

Jessica Greene spoke with the Councilmembers about the bond sale that occurred earlier today and the next steps in the bonding process and the resolution that needs to be passed to keep moving forward.

*Councilmember Schneider moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve Resolution 2-2024 a resolution providing for the issuance and sale of a \$1,915,000.00 general obligation temporary water revenue bond series 2024A, and pledging for the security thereof net revenues. 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.

- School Building Updates – The schedule at the school has slowed down since Tri-Valley began with students. They did use the gym for a parent’s event due to the rain.
- Fun Days Update – Two officers worked the Friday and Saturday of Fun Days, and overall, the events were busy and went well with humid weather.
- POST Training Reimbursement – The continuing education funding application from the POST Board was sent in. This funding covers the training expenditures from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024.
- POST Board Updates – The POST Board approved modifications to the Police Pursuit Policy, which we adopted and put into department policy once receiving the final copy. I also received notice that our department is scheduled for a compliance review on September 5.
- Mosquito Spraying – I have been spraying one night a week depending on the weather.
- Radar Calibration – Our radar unit was calibrated by Direct Radar on July 31. This is done annually to check the radar equipment is working correctly.
- Voelz Park Update – The Ring cameras pointing towards both sides of the park building have been purchased and were installed by Ben Ryan on July 27. We now have video of the west and east sides of the park building. Both cameras had a total cost of \$159.52 during Amazon prime week. We also purchased a case of toilet paper for the dispensers in that building, totaling \$33.42.
- City Attorney Update – While checking past cases at the City Atty’s Office on July 31, I was advised that the attorney who managed criminal prosecution for the office no longer works there. I was introduced to Caitlin Baker, who has taken over and advised her on past city cases

Mayor Bentley spoke with Les Schneider and the Councilmembers about the remaining vacation time that Les has and they asked that he use up the vacation prior to his retirement on December 1, 2024.

### **Employee Report – City Clerk**

- Land Update – Dotty reported nothing new to report.
- Completed Items - Dotty has filed PERA and paid the monthly Federal and State Payroll Taxes for July.
- Office Closed & Vacation – The Danube City Office will be closed Monday, September 2, 2024 for Labor Day.
- Rural Development Meeting – Dotty informed the Councilmembers that she had a meeting with two (2) people from Rural Development on Wednesday, August 14, 2024 and gave the Councilmembers a summary sheet of the items that were discussed during the meeting for them to review. Dotty asked Dan if he contacted Rural Water to come in and do evaluation on how to set rates in the City. Dan said they did an asset management and he is unsure if that is in the information they prepared. Dan will bring the paperwork up to the City Office for Dotty to read through. Dotty also informed the Councilmembers she had another meeting on Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> with Jessica Greene regarding the bond sale.

### **School Building Updates** – None

### **Community Center & Park Building Updates**

Mayor Bentley asked Dan to look at the weather stripping on the windows at the Community Center and address any issues along with checking to make sure they are all shut. Dan informed the Councilmembers that he replaced 33 light bulbs at the Community Center. The Councilmembers discussed the bathrooms again down at the park. It was decided to get a port-a-potty from Vosika for a couple months this year and then next Spring they will try opening the bathrooms again and if vandalism occurs again, they will lock them up again. Mayor Bentley informed the Councilmembers that Jaime Aalderks is going to try the custodian position at the Community Center and Park Building as Madison will be going back to school soon.

### **Unfinished Business** - None

### **Financial Reports**

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list from July 11, 2024 thru August 14, 2024.

*Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Schneider seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$46,034.11 (checks) and \$16,805.76 (electronic fund transfers).* The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from July 10, 2024 thru August 12, 2024.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual versus Budget Comparison for 2024.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Bank Reconciliations for July 2024.

**New Business**

*Water Treatment Plant Address – 407 6<sup>th</sup> Street* – The Councilmembers reviewed the address that was provided to them by Scott Hable and Dotty Schnobrich.

*Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Schneider seconded a motion to approve the 407 6<sup>th</sup> Street as the address for the Water Treatment Plant located on the Northwest side of town. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Future Business**

The Councilmembers discussed whether to search for another police chief or to contract out the policing for Danube. Mayor Bentley will reach out to the Renville County Sheriff’s Department and the City of Olivia Police Department about getting quotes for a 1 (one) year contract for 20 (twenty) hours per week and what the contract all includes. This will be addressed at a future meeting.

**Correspondence** – None

*There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Schneider moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

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Ryan Bentley, Mayor

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Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk