

DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 12, 2018 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on September 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Alex presiding.

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

Councilmembers absent: None

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

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Malvin moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of Brian Block – Fire Department under Open Forum and TDS Fiber Optic Line 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 August 8, 2018

Open Forum

Brian Block – Fire Department – Fire Chief Brian Block spoke with the Councilmembers regarding the cascade system. The cascade system is used to fill the firemen's air tanks. The system started to leak and an estimate came in just to look at it would cost \$1,500 and the more things they find wrong the price will continue to increase. New London has a cascade system that they are looking at selling for \$3,000.00. Their system is newer than and twice as big as the current cascade system the fire department uses. The Councilmembers discussed the cascade system with Brian and the difference between high and low pressure as far as costs and what the surrounding towns use.

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve purchasing the cascade system from New London Fire Department for \$3,000.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Employee Report – Public Works Director

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

- Wastewater – The lift station averaged 54,000 gal/day for the month of August. Still on the high side of normal. William E. Young Company was out to calibrate the flow meter for lift station.
- Storm Sewer – The pipe that that caused the sink hole in alley behind elevator office was repaired. The joint that was put in place to join two pipes was cracked and caused gravel to leak through.
- Water – The wells averaged 47,000 for the month of August. Dan will be doing more lead/copper samples in the month of September. No known issues at present time.
- Streets – Caldwell Asphalt was back in town to repair the sink hole and a spot on Pine ST that was busting up. Still waiting for Midwest Asphalt to come and do Air patching yet. Dan has been in contact with them. The County came in and put down the bottom posts for the 4-way stop signs on Pine and 6th ST. Dan will be getting posts and finishing. The signs have been ordered and are in.
- Generators – Dan contacted Jim with Sullivan’s Electric for an update on the quote for the well and a new one for the lift station. The price of the generator did go up but the company will honor the price that was quoted since was in the last year. The price is about the same for the lift station since it will require the same size generator. There are some options that Dan will explain in meeting. Dan did include quotes with report. The Councilmembers and Dan discussed the different quotes from Sullivan’s Electric for the generator for the Water Tower and the generator and the adders for the Lift Station. *Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve Option #3 for the Water Tower Generator (\$33,645.00) and the Base Bid and both Adder #1 & #2 for the Lift Station (\$32,865.00) for a grand total of \$66,510.00 from Sullivan’s Electric plus gas line expenses.* The motion carried unanimously.
- Community Center – Dan put a patch on the roof of the Community Center that should fix the leak, it should be sealed up and should not leak. Dan thinks the heat tape should still be used in the Winter though as a safety measure to keep ice from forming.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was present to give his monthly employee and Police Department report. Statistics for August 2018 were lower compared to last year at the same time with 58 calls, 31 reports, 30 traffic stops, 12 citations, 33 mutual assists and 2 home security checks. Additional business discussed:

- School Building Updates – Schneider reported that RCW volleyball senior practice used the gym August 6th & 9th while the floors in Renville were being redone. Tri-Valley reported a roof leak to Schneider and Schneider reported the leak to Dan. There was also an issue reported with the northeast door having a gap and Dan also will fix the issue.
- POST Training Reimbursement Received – Schneider reported that the funds (\$2,871.01) has been received for the training and it is up from last year. Last year’s amount was \$1,250.65.

- Radar Certification – Schneider reported that both radars were certified for a cost of \$64.00. This is done annually.
- Dog Ordinance #74 – Schneider reported that he spoke with Mayor Alex regarding the issue. Schneider did go around and speak with residents regarding the dogs and some tickets were issued. Schneider will update the list this week with Dotty. A master list will be at the City Office.
- Blighted Property Ordinance #84 – Schneider reported that he will be citing three (3) more residents next for not complying with the ordinance. Schneider is working with the other residents on continuing to finish cleaning up the things left.
- Golf Cart Ordinance – Schneider handed out a copy of Ordinance #100 along with an Ordinance and application that he put together regarding golf carts. The Councilmembers discussed the information Schneider presented and suggested some changes and Schneider will take the information to the city attorney for him to review next.
- POST Mandated Policy Compliance Forms (Oct. 1) – Schneider reported that he submitted the paperwork on Wednesday, September 11, 2018.
- Finance During Disaster Workshop in Olivia (Aug. 22) – Schneider informed the Councilmembers that he attended the workshop in Olivia. Schneider will bring a copy of the paperwork that was handed out at the meeting for Dotty since she was unable to attend.
- LMC Mental Health Workshop in Paynesville (Sept. 26) – Schneider reported that he will be attending the training because it is now required according to state law. The class is 9 credits and valid for three (3) years.
- First Response Training Contract With Ridgewater College – Schneider reported that the contract was signed by both himself and Dotty and mailed in.
- Semi(s) – Councilmember Standfuss brought up semi(s) still driving on the side streets. Schneider stated he has spoken with the individual but will talk to them again or issue a ticket if they continue to drive and park on the side streets. Councilmember Malvin brought up the parking of vehicles on County Road 1. The Councilmembers discussed the issue and Schneider will check with Jeff Marlow at Renville County about either no parking on both sides of the street or no parking one side of the street.

Employee Report – City Clerk

- Water Bill – Dotty had a resident come in after they received the letter informing them that their water bill was outstanding and scheduled for shut off if it was not paid by Monday, August 27th, they informed Dotty that they did not receive a bill from the City and was wondering if the late fees could be removed since they did not receive their bill. The late fees are \$12.62.
Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve removing the late fee of \$12.62 from the resident's bill. The motion carried unanimously.
- Finance During Disaster Workshop – Dotty was not able to attend the meeting. On Wednesday she had many residents come in to pay their water bill and new residents set up service and by the time she helped everyone the meeting was already going for an hour so she decided to just not attend.

- USDA Loans/Grants – Dotty was asked by Councilmember Standfuss to look into the information that was published in the Renville County Register on Thursday, August 16th. Dotty went onto the website www.rd.usda.gov to review what loans and grants are out there. She found some for government facilities, streets and water, waste water and solid waste. When she reviewed the information for them she found some were just loans and no grants. She did find one that had loan and grants but to qualify for grants with population under 5,000 the City of Danube must be below the higher of the poverty line or 60% of the State nonmetropolitan median household income. Dotty looked into the nonmetropolitan median household income and found two (2) different figures. The first was \$71,008 (in which 60% of that would be \$42,605) and the second was \$75,432 (in which 60% of that would be \$45,259). Danube's median household income is \$49,904 which means we are not below the 60% as required for the grants from the USDA.
- Thank You(s) – Dotty mailed a thank you on Thursday, August 9th to the City of Olivia for the use of the barricades and Renville County for the use of the picnic tables
- Completed Items – Dotty has filed the monthly payroll taxes.
- Office Closed – The Danube City Office will be closed Thursday, October 24, 2018.

School Building Updates

Mayor Alex reported that he spoke with Al Strunc and there was nothing new to report. Mayor Alex also reported that Dan looked at the roof and there were no leaks. Councilmember Maurice asked about the front door closure and Mayor Alex will follow up with Dan about the door and putting a new closure on it.

Community Center Updates

Councilmember Krogman reported that she contacted Rick Vogt about the Community Center and will start as soon as he can on fixing the damaged corner and installing bullard in the corner. Rick has made the call in for the utilities to be marked. He will install a steel plate after cutting back the damage and then paint and seal the fix. Councilmember Malvin reported she contacted Joey about the weeds in the front area. Councilmember Malvin asked Mayor Alex about the floors at the Community Center. Councilmember Malvin will check out the floors and text Joey about getting together with Mayor Alex to get the floors done before Thanksgiving.

Unfinished Business

Vacant Lot – Mayor Alex said that the EDA did not receive the information from Suzie Lang to make a decision regarding the land and suggested that the City go ahead and sell the land if they could. The next EDA meeting isn't until December and at that time the EDA will discuss the land again. The Councilmembers discussed the land and decided to advertise the land again for sale as residential. Dotty will put the flyer back on the bulletin board and on the website advertising the land for sale. Councilmember Maurice asked Mayor Alex about the inquiry of storage units with Suzie Lang by the EDA. Mayor Alex reported that Keith Sharpe asked Suzie Lang about commercial grants. He doesn't know why but he did not necessarily directed at that lot just commercial grants.

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

Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list from August 09, 2018 thru September 10, 2018. *Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$217,239.94 (checks) and \$9,754.79 (electronic fund transfers).* The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from August 07, 2018 thru September 06, 2018. The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual versus Budget Comparison for 2018. The Councilmembers reviewed the Bank Reconciliations for August 2018.

The Councilmembers discussed looking at the garbage rates for Commercial along with getting some weights for the apartments and the bar for a couple of weeks. The Councilmembers will review this issue at a future meeting.

Dotty did not get current interest rates from Edward Jones so the Councilmembers will discuss the funds at Edward Jones at the October meeting.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Financials for the Garbage Department, School, Sewer Department and Water Department.

New Business

2019 Budget – Proposed Tax Levy – Resolution 02-2018 – The Councilmembers went through line by line of the budget that was put together by Councilmember Malvin, Councilmember Standfuss and Dotty Schnobrich. After making changes throughout the budget the Councilmembers made a resolution for adopting the 2019 tax levy of \$330,459.00. *Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to pass resolution 2-2018 for the proposed tax levy of \$330,459.00.* The motion carried unanimously.

Stop Signs at 4th Street and Oak Street – The Councilmembers discussed changing the yield signs at 4th and Oak Street to stop signs. *Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to approve changing the yield signs to stop signs at the intersection of 4th Street and Oak with the stop signs being on Oak Street.* The motion carried unanimously.

TDS Fiber Optic Line – Dotty was contacted by Arvig about installing a new fiber optic line in the City of Danube. The Councilmembers reviewed the information and map that was provided by Arvig and TDS and it was decided as long as they stay in easement of the right of way that they would not need a permit.

Council Wages – Councilmember Standfuss brought up the Council wages that was brought up at the last meeting. The Councilmembers discussed the wages. *Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to approve increasing the Mayor pay to \$1,540.00 per year and Councilmember pay to \$1,320.00 per year.* Mayor Alex, Councilmember Krogman, Councilmember Malvin and Councilmember Standfuss voted in favor and Councilmember Maurice opposed. Motion carried with a vote of four (4) to one (1).

Future Business - None

Correspondence - None

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 9:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

Gene Alex, Mayor

Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk