

DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Special & Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 08, 2023 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers

A special/regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on November 08, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Bentley opening the meeting. The meeting then was called to order at 6:00 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, Jeremy Boots – Moore Engineering and City Clerk-Treasurer Dotty Schnobrich.

Approval of Agenda

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

Evaluations

The Councilmembers met with each employee present to give them their review results.

Councilmember Schneider moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to award Les Schneider the following raise: \$35.18/per hour to \$36.94/per hour; Dan Kaufenberg the following raise: \$35.40/per hour increase to \$37.17/per hour; to award Dotty Schnobrich the following raise: \$25.87/per hour increase to \$27.68/per hour; no change to Les Schneider – maintenance, Jaime Aalderks – part-time maintenance and Valarie Trager – custodian; to increase starting pay for part-time officers the following increase: \$17.00/per hour increase to \$25.00/per hour.

There being no further business in the special meeting, Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to adjourn the special meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

The Special meeting ended and the Regular meeting started at 7:01p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve the Agenda for the Regular Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Standfuss 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 October 11, 2023
- Bar Door Open – Friday, November 17, 2023 – Turkey Bingo
- Building Permit – 102 1st Street – Greenhouse

Open Forum

None

Employee Report – Public Works Director

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

- School – The new door bottom has been installed on the overhead door. The boilers are running full time now as it's gotten colder out. Everything is running well at the moment. Some radiator valves and thermostats will need to be ordered from States Supply to have on hand after replacing a few already.
- Water – The wells averaged 26,000 gal/day for the month of October. No issues at this time.
- Sanitary – A line on the south side of town will need to be dug up and a section replaced. There is an open break on the top of the pipe. Will call Bonnema Excavating to repair. The lift station averaged 37,000 gal/day for the month of October.
- Dump Truck – The city dump truck was brought to Danube Auto for repair. The rear brakes were leaking fluid.
- City Shop – Pennings, Kopel, and Jansen are willing to do snow removal again this winter season. With the raising prices of fuel and insurance they have requested the following rates per hour.

- o Pennings – \$175.00
- o Kopel - \$100.00
- o Jansen - \$100.00

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve increasing the pay for Adam Pennings to \$175.00 per hour; Bob Kopel to \$100.00 per hour and Bob Jansen to \$100.00 per hour for snow removal. The motion carried unanimously.

Employee Report - Moore Engineering – Jeremy Boots

Dotty informed the Councilmembers that an advertisement for bids for the water treatment plant will be running in the newspaper on Thursday, November 16th. Jeremy will present the bids at the next Council meeting in December.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was present to give his monthly employee and Police Department report. Statistics for October 2023 were lower compared to last year at the same time with 34 calls, 17 reports, 16 traffic stops, 3 citations, 20 mutual assists and 2 home security checks.

- School Building Schedule – Tri-Valley Head Start’s last student day is Nov. 15, and their employees are out of the building from December to March. RCW JH boys’ basketball will start in the Danube gym on November 20. Scheduling for events during the winter months has picked up for the school gym.
- Chief’s Meeting – The six remaining cities in Renville County with municipal Police Depts. met in Olivia on Nov. 3. The Chiefs discussed many local issues including involvement from the Sheriff’s Office. These meetings will continue, possibly on a quarterly basis.
- Large Disturbance Event – We had a large disturbance incident called in on the afternoon of October 16. Six squad cars responded to the Main Street Square Apts., resulting in the arrest of a male party for multiple felony charges. I was advised on October 17 the new owners took possession of the building. I assisted owner Timothy Kirsch with the delivery of eviction notices, giving them access to begin cleaning up the Main Street Square Building.
- Part-Time Officer Salary - For 2024, I recommend a straight per hour wage for all officers that work for the Danube Police Department. That wage should be around \$25 an hour when looking at other area PD Officer’s wages.
- Siren Update – Schneider informed the Councilmembers that to fix the siren down at the park it would cost no more than \$1,500.00 plus the electrical work.

Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Schneider seconded a motion to approve hiring West Central Communication to install a new receiver not to exceed \$1,500.00 and Sullivans to do the electrical work for the siren. The motion carried unanimously.

Employee Report – City Clerk

- *Land Update* – Nothing new to report.
- *Completed Items* – Dotty has filed PERA and paid Payroll Taxes.
- *Office Closed & Vacation* – The Office will be closed Wednesday, November 22nd until 8am Wednesday, November 29th. Also the Office will be closed on Wednesday, December 20th until 8am Tuesday, January 2nd.
- *Assessments* – Assessments that need to be turned in are account 1-126-00 for outstanding water bill \$954.29. The property id is 30-00335-00 Curt and Sherri Swenson (404 4th Street).

Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Schneider seconded a motion to approve the Assessing property ID 30-00335-00 \$954.29 in past due water bills. The motion carried unanimously.

School Building Updates

The Councilmembers discussed lights being left on in the school building along with people going in the school when they are not suppose to be there. Councilmember Krogman reported that Santa’s Closet will be doing in person shopping again in the school.

Community Center/Park Building Updates

Mayor Bentley reported that Valarie turned the heat down in the park building as it was very warm inside. Dan did some weather stripping on the north door at the park building. The wall at the Community Center was removed and the cement ground down. Mayor Bentley commented if there is an issue they will have to paint it for people to see more visibly.

Unfinished Business

None

Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list from October 12, 2023 thru November 08, 2023. *Councilmember Schneider moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$45,493.71 (checks) and \$8,290.06 (electronic fund transfers). The motion carried unanimously.*

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from October 10, 2023 thru November 6, 2023. The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual verses Budget Comparison for 2023. The Councilmembers reviewed the Bank Reconciliation for October 2023.

Dotty informed the Councilmembers that with the new attorney the bills are coming much different and if any Councilmember wishes to see them to just ask to see them as they will no longer be put in the packets.

New Business

Resolution 05-2023 Joint Powers of Agreement with State of MN; Danube Pros Attny Court Amendment new city prosecutor & Danube Pros Attny Master JPA new city prosecutor – The Councilmembers reviewed the information prepared by the new attorney to be submitted.

Councilmember Krogman moved and Councilmember Garza seconded a motion to approve and sign the Joint Powers of Agreement with the State of Minnesota for the City Attorney Anderson, Larson, Saunders, Klaassen, Dahlager & Leitch, PLLP, sign the CJDN Amended Subscriber Agreement and to approve and sign the Resolution 2-2023 MN Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Danube for the City Attorney Jakob Maska or his/her successor. The motion carried unanimously

Future Business

Final Truth in Taxation at December Meeting.

Correspondence

None

There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Garza moved and Councilmember Schneider seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

Ryan Bentley, Mayor

Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk