

DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 14, 2018 6:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on November 14, 2018 at 6:00 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: Diane Pfarr, Jeff Freitag, Carrie Garza, Julie Krueger, Bryan Beckendorf, Trenton Dammann (filling in for Aaron Walton, City attorney), Public Works Director Dan Kaufenberg, Police Chief Les Schneider, City Clerk-Treasurer Dotty Schnobrich, and media.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of Little lambs under School Building Update; Removal of Old Siren and Auditor Dennis Oberloh under New Business. The motion carried unanimously.

Evaluations

The Councilmembers met with each employee present to give them their review results. After the evaluation a closed meeting was called.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to approve to closing the meeting to discuss personnel matters at 6:38pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve to reopen the meeting at 7:14pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to not award Les Schneider a raise with the option to review his performance in six (6) months for reconsideration; to award Dan Kaufenberg the following raise: \$24.36/per hour increase to \$25.36/per hour; to award Dotty Schnobrich the following raise: \$18.38/per hour increase to \$19.38/per hour; to award Randy Grunke the following raise: \$15.50/per hour increase to \$16.50/per hour; to award Damon Bratsch the following raise: \$18.00/per hour increase to \$19.00/per hour; to award Les Schneider – maintenance position the following raise: \$18.00/per hour increase to \$19.00/per hour; to award Rebecca Pieper the following raise: \$17.00/per hour increase to \$20.00/per hour; to award Dean Truax the following raise: \$15.00/per hour increase to \$20.00/per hour; to award Joey Jensen the following raise: \$18.00/per hour increase to \$18.50/per hour.

Open Forum

Bryan Beckendorf – Bryan Beckendorf spoke to the Councilmembers regarding questions about his dog and the meeting that was held. The Councilmembers did not discuss the dog issue with Bryan Beckendorf due to the City Attorney's advice.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Maurice 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 October 10, 2018

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 – Chappell Central has been in the school to fix various items and tune the boilers. Boiler #1 has been tuned but not #2 due to some leaks on a low water cutout that we are waiting to get replaced. Currently boiler #2 is offline until new cutout can be installed then it will be tuned. I will also have them assist me in locating some bad steam traps and getting them fixed. The boilers were inspected by the state this year at last minute and not Hartford Insurance. Insurance companies were switched on the boilers and I was never informed that Hartford was no longer going to be doing the inspections.
- Sanitary – The lift station averaged 77,000gal/day for the month of October. If sample results are good, I will be attempting another discharge if possible, to make room in ponds for winter/spring storage. I would like to have Lauritsen come jet out a few Sanitary lines.
- Water – The wells averaged 30,000 gal/day for the month of October. I will be taking some water quality parameter samples this month for MDH.
- Streets – Midwest Asphalt was here to do the air patching. They did a lot of work on Oak and Pine St. I had them do some work along the edge of streets where it was alligated to help prevent further damage from garbage trucks.
- Community Center – One of the downspouts fell of on the back of C. Center. I reattached the brackets and mounted it back on the wall with some fabrication to hold it in place. I tried ordering some post covers but was having issues with credit card. As soon as it is resolved with put order through.
- Plow Truck – I will be ordering out a new cutting edge for the plow blade. Some lights also need to be replaced on it. Damon is set to drive again this year if needed.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was present to give his monthly employee and Police Department report. Statistics for October 2018 were slightly lower compared to last year at the same time with 42 calls, 25 reports, 17 traffic stops, 7 citations, 19 mutual assists and 2 home security checks. Additional business discussed:

- School Building Updates – Schneider reported that RCW play used the school on October 9th & 10th. Junior High boys started using the gym on November 12th. The roof was fixed on October 25th. Schneider is working with Tri-Valley and Lloyd Security on doing a fire inspection at the school.
- FEMA Update – Schneider reported that he has entered all the information into the FEMA grants portal and is waiting for a response from them now to respond.
- Main Street Square Building Update – Schneider reported that he spoke with the owners and the residents regarding what was brought up at the last Council meeting. Dave Distad also was contacted about the issues and concerns. Dave Distad mentioned that the City could look into doing a Renters Ordinance which would help in preventing this issue in the future. Schneider reported that it has been getting cleaned up since he spoke with them. Councilmember Maurice commented wouldn't it have been handled just as efficiently if the process would have been started earlier.
- Officer Pieper's Use Of Force and Fire Arms Instructor Trainings and Reimbursement – Schneider reported that Rebecca Pieper's trainings have been completed and she has presented the reimbursement for the trainings of \$1,155.64.
- MN Dept. of Public Safety Information – Schneider reported that he completed the information online.
- US Dept. of Justice 2018 Census Information – Schneider reported that completed the information and mailed it in.
- Police Dept. Lights Quote – Schneider reported that he spoke to Sullivan's Electric about the lights at the police department.
Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed below. The motion carried unanimously.
- Driver's Education Presentation – Schneider reported that he spoke with the driver's education class on November 5th at RCW.
- County Road #1 Parking – Mayor Alex asked about a follow up on the County about parking on County Road #1. Schneider reported that he has not heard back yet but will contact them again.
- Dogs Licensing – Councilmember Maurice asked if all the dogs have been licensed and fees paid. Schneider reported that all dogs have been licensed and fees paid, over 70 dogs licensed. Dotty mentioned two residents she is aware of who have not licensed their dog. One just moved to town and will license when they find their information from the veterinarian. Schneider said he would double check the list at the City Office.

Open Forum

Julie Krueger – Playground Update – Julie Krueger spoke with the Councilmembers to update them on the park. The group did not receive the Otto Bremer grant but they did receive a very large anonymous donation of \$130,000.00. The group is about \$60,000 away from their goal. Currently they are applying for five (5) or six (6) additional grants. The group did purchase the equipment from St. Croix Recreation for \$66,210.00. The group will issue a check to the City and in turn the City will issue a check to St. Croix Recreation. The equipment will arrive in December and Al Strunc will store the equipment at his buildings until it can be installed in the fall of 2019. The Councilmembers asked that the group speak with Dan regarding wires down at the park and any other concerns about things they have and any other buried lines there could be. The Councilmembers just asked for updates on their progress.

Employee Report – City Clerk

- Land Update – Nothing new to report.
- Utility Rates – Dotty made in error on the last Utility Fee Schedule so it needs to be revisited. The salmon sheet has updated base rates that did not get changed on previous sheet. The Councilmembers discussed the rates.
Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to approve going with the \$2.00 increase to the base rates for water and sewer per quarter. The motion carried unanimously.
- Dog Appeal Fees – Dotty received an email from City attorney stating that at this time the City has not approved doing any fees for requesting a dog hearing. This is from Aaron: The new code will require that “The owner must pay the fee for an appeal hearing along with the request for the hearing before a hearing will be scheduled.” I have suggested a \$100 fee for potentially dangerous and \$200 for dangerous dog hearings for other cities. The council can determine these amounts
Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve adding the fees of \$100 for potentially dangerous dog hearing and \$200 for dangerous dog hearing to Ordinance #74. The motion carried unanimously.
- Completed Items – Dotty has filed the monthly payroll taxes.
- Office Closed – The Danube City Office will be closed Monday, November 19th thru Monday, November 26th for vacation and Thanksgiving, Monday, December 24th thru Wednesday, January 2nd for vacation, Christmas and New Years (this is to use up a majority of my vacation before I lose it). I have to work for other jobs on Friday, November 23rd so I am hoping to get the Christmas tree up then but if the weather is looking iffy I will find a day that week to get it up. Also there is an OSHA meeting in December – Dotty could not recall the exact date.

School Building Updates

Mayor Alex reported that the Councilmembers had to approve the rent of \$200.00 per month for Little Lambs on the rooms they are using at the school that is not part of the area of Tri-Valley leases from the City. The Councilmembers asked that Mayor Alex find out more information about what rooms they are using and how big they are. This will be addressed at the December meeting.

Community Center Updates

Councilmember Krogman reported the Christmas tree will be going up the day after Thanksgiving. Dotty reported that she ordered the ceiling tiles from Grizzly’s and should have them next week. Councilmember Krogman asked Dotty to have Dan look into getting some thermostat covers. Mayor Alex will be meeting with Joey about the floors and delimiting.

Unfinished Business

Garbage Rates – The Councilmembers reviewed the garbage rates for both residents and businesses and discussed the rates and weights.
Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve increasing Main Street Apartments to \$310.00 per quarter and Van Binsbergen one (1) story apartment to \$125.00 per quarter. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list from October 15, 2018 thru November 13, 2018. *Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$105,259.23 (checks) and \$10,098.72 (electronic fund transfers).* The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from October 9, 2018 thru November 6, 2018. The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual versus Budget Comparison for 2018. The Councilmembers reviewed the Bank Reconciliations for October 2018.

New Business

Election Results – The Councilmembers reviewed the election results from November 6, 2018. The election had 162 people come in and vote and 27 absentee/early ballots.

Mayor		
Gene Alex Sr	Jim Aalderks	Write-In
91 Votes	89 Votes	7 Votes

Councilmembers		
Sharon Krogman	Carrie Garza	Write-In
131 Votes	115 Votes	55 Votes

The Councilmembers and City Clerk Dotty Schnobrich signed the canvassing board sheet from the election for verification. *Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to approve the 2018 election results.* The motion carried unanimously.

2018 Assessments – Dotty needs approval to turn in one item to be assessed on the property. The Councilmembers reviewed the assessment. *Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve turning in the one (1) property to be assessed to Marc Iverson on their 2019 property taxes.* The motion passed unanimously.

Removal of Old Siren – Mayor Alex reported that Terry has requested that the old siren to be removed because he is selling the building. The Councilmembers asked Mayor Alex to get a quote for the removal of the siren and pole and bring it to the next meeting.

City of Danube Auditor for 2018 – Dennis E. Oberloh, LTD – *Councilmember Malvin moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to accept the audit proposal from Dennis E. Oberloh, LTD with the condition the audit is not to exceed \$5,100.00 for the year 2018.* The motion carried unanimously.

Bar Door Open – Dotty reported that the Danube legion has requested the bar door be open for their Turkey Bingo on Friday, November 16, 2018. *Councilmember Krogman moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to approve the bar door being open on Thursday, November 16th for Turkey Bingo.* The motion passed unanimously.

Future Business - None

Correspondence

MN Dept of Health – Quarterly Results
Renville County Planning Commission

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 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

Gene Alex, Mayor

Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk