

**DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, December 9, 2015 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers**

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on December 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Alex presiding.

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

Councilmembers absent: None

Others Present: Harold Lambert, Susan Lambert, Les Schneider Sr., Calvin Lueck, Police Chief Les Schneider, City Clerk-Treasurer Dotty Schnobrich, and media.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to approve the Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Strunc 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 November 18, 2015
- Danube Firemen's Smelt Fry – Gambling Permit – Raffle – March 19, 2016

Truth In Taxation (TNT) Public Hearing

Les Schneider Sr. asked the Councilmembers why his market value went up from last year. The Councilmembers informed Les that the Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting isn't until April but he could go and speak with Randy Mertz's office regarding the valuation.

The Councilmembers reviewed the updated 2016 budget. After the review of the 2016 budget a resolution was made to adopt the 2016 budget.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to pass resolution 08-2015 adopting the final 2015 tax levy collectible in 2016 in the amount of \$207,414.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Krogman moved and Councilmember Strunc seconded a motion to close the TNT Public Hearing at 7:15 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Open Forum

Susan and Harold Lambert spoke with the Councilmembers about the dog ordinance and issues that they are having with their neighbors. After listening to the issues the Councilmembers advised Susan to continue to document the incidents as they occur and to work with Police Chief Schneider.

Cal Lueck spoke with the Councilmembers on any issues for demolition of a house. The Councilmembers informed Calvin that there were no issues nor a building permit required to demolish a home. The Councilmembers did remind Calvin that he has to remove everything from the basement and can't just demolish the house into the basement and cover with soil.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was present to his monthly employee and Police Department report. Statistics for November 2015 were higher to last year at the same time with 45 calls, 24 reports, 27 traffic stops, 10 citations, 29 mutual assists and 3 home security checks. Schneider reported on multiple thefts from the post office.

Additional business discussed:

- School Building Update – Schneider reported that the school is being used daily and the schedule is almost full thru April 2016.
- Equipment Purchases – Schneider reported that he has purchased uniforms and medical supplies.
- 2015 Budget Review – Schneider informed the Councilmembers that the Police Department stayed under budget in 2015.
- OSHA Safety Meeting (Dec. 16) – Schneider reported that he would be attending the OSHA safety meeting in Woodlake on Dec. 16, 2015.
- First Response Information – Schneider reported that the First Response had 24 calls in 2015 and \$1,500.00 was paid in wages, which is lower than last year. Schneider also reported that the First Response stayed under budget in 2015.

Employee Report – Public Works Director

There was no report from the Public Works Director Dan Kaufenberg.

- Vacation Days – Dan asked Dotty to report that he will be on vacation from Wednesday, December 25, 2015 and returning on Tuesday, January 5, 2016. Mayor Alex informed the Councilmembers that Christmas decorations will be put up Thursday afternoon, December 10, 2015. Councilmember Maurice informed the Councilmembers that he spoke with Dan about using up some of the comp time and Dan will be working three day weeks to use some of it up.

Employee Report – City Clerk

- Safety Group – Brenda, City Clerk from Woodlake, informed Dotty that they along with Echo may be leaving our safety group to join one closer to their area. Recently Dotty also was informed that the City Clerk of Sacred Heart is leaving as of November 30, 2015 and no one has been hired yet at this time to fill the position. Dotty is not sure if

Sacred Heart will stay in our safety group or not if the other towns leave. The cost is about \$2,400.00 to continue with the safety group and if there is just us do we want to continue with the safety class on our own or should we try to find another safety group we could try and join? Any suggestions regarding this issue?

The Councilmembers suggested that Dotty speak with surrounding towns about joining their safety group if the group Danube currently is in reduces in size or dissolves.

- LGA Payment – When the City of Danube receives the next LGA (Local Government Aid) the deposit will be put into Minnwest Bank and will cause our account to go over the \$250,000.00 FDIC insured amount. Would the city like to invest more at Edward Jones to prevent this from happening?

The Councilmembers discussed the issue and decided it was best to move \$75,000.00 to prevent going over the \$250,000.00 FDIC rules.

Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to move \$75,000.00 to Edward Jones and invest the money into a CD. The CD will be a 6 month, 9 month or 1 year depending on the best interest rate. The motion carried unanimously.

- Using Other Funds for the Water Tower – Dotty spoke with Sara Beavers, Dennis Oberloh, Ltd. CPA, and she told Dotty that yes the City could use the funds from the school & garbage department (for example) for the water tower project. The City just needs to decide at that time if it is going to be used or borrowed. If the funds are borrowed then the City would have to pay those departments back with interest on the funds borrowed.
- Sub-Committee Meeting – Reminder: The Sub-Committee meeting date is set for Monday, December 14, 2015 from 2 pm – 3 pm in the Council Chambers.
- City Office Closed – The Danube City Office will be closed on Friday, December 18, 2015 until Monday, December 28, 2015 for the City Clerk to take vacation.
- Fire Department Grant – Brian Block contacted Dotty and asked if she would present for him that the fire department would like permission to hire Redwood Area Development again to write another grant. The fire department was denied the last grant and would like to apply for a new one. The cost is anywhere from \$500.00 - \$1,000.00.
Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion for the fire department to hire Redwood Area Development to write a grant for \$500.00 - \$1,000.00.

School Building Updates

Councilmember Strunc informed the Councilmembers that Little Lambs is working on improving the home recreation room for school aged children for after school hours. Councilmember Strunc also informed the Councilmembers that the Danube Lions will be storing some stuff in one of the rooms in the upstairs at no cost.

Community Center Updates

Mayor Alex reported that Michelle and he haven't finished the Community Center yet at this time. The Community Center has been busy with events.

Unfinished Business - None

Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list and receipts list from November 18, 2015 thru December 9, 2015.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$25,752.81 (checks) and \$10,341.10 (electronic fund transfers). The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from November 18, 2015 thru December 7, 2015.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual verses Budget Comparison for 2015.

The Councilmembers reviewed the reconciled bank statement for November 2015.

New Business

Plastic Garbage Bag Agreement – ACTS – After reviewing the contract with ACTS the Councilmembers made a motion to accept the agreement with ACTS for the City of Danube garbage bags.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to sign the contract with ACTS regarding the City of Danube garbage bags. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 7-2015 – Supporting the Appleton Prison – The Councilmembers reviewed the information regarding the Appleton Prison and decided that they would support them in trying to lease their prison instead of the Minnesota Department of Corrections in constructing a new prison.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to sign Resolution 7-2015 supporting the leasing of the Appleton Prison. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 09-2015 – Supporting the Increasing LGA in the 2016 Legislative Session – *Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to sign Resolution 09-2015 supporting the increasing LGA in the 2016 Legislative session. The motion carried unanimously.*

Future Business - None

Correspondence

The Councilmembers received the following informational material in their packets:

1. American Legion Newsletter

Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Krogman moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk