

**DANUBE CITY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, December 10 2014 7:00 PM
Danube City Council Chambers**

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on December 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Alex presiding.

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

Councilmembers absent: Dave Maurice

Others Present: Ben Ryan from Danube Area Athletic Club, Darnell Bratsch & Marv Lentz from the American Legion, Brian Bollig & Rustin Lingbeek from Bollig, Inc, Public Works Director Dan Kaufenberg, Police Chief Les Schneider, City Clerk-Treasurer Dotty Schnobrich, and media.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilmember Strunc 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 November 12, 2014
- Danube Firemen's Smelt Fry – Gambling Permit – Raffle – February 21, 2015

Truth In Taxation (TNT) Public Hearing

The Councilmembers reviewed the updated 2015 budget. After a discussion and some changes the to the 2015 budget a resolution was made to adopt the 2015 budget.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to pass resolution 05-2014 adopting the final 2014 tax levy collectible in 2015 in the amount of \$196,279.50. The motion carried unanimously.

With no residents present, Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to close the TNT Public Hearing at 7:15 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Open Forum

Ben Ryan – Danube Area Athletic Club – Hockey Rink Update – Ben Ryan informed the Councilmembers that the Danube Area Athletic Club had a goal of raising \$10,000.00 for the hockey rink project. Ben stated that the Danube Lions donated \$1,900.00 towards getting the lights and the Danube Fire Department donated \$1,500.00 towards the warming house. The Sons of the American Legion held a fundraiser and raised \$1,500.00 for the hockey rink. That money is being used to purchase nets, shovels and other items. Bob Kopel donated hoses for the Athletic Club. Ben stated that they are approximately \$3,000.00 short of their \$10,000.00 goal. The Councilmembers discussed the issue of them being short and decided that they would donate the cost of the butterfly valve for the Danube Area Athletic Club. The club is looking at possibly raising additional funds by asking the local businesses about donating in turn for displaying signage down at the hockey rink advertising the business.

Darnell Bratsch & Marv Lentz – Danube American Legion – Darnell asked the Councilmembers for permission to put up a new display case (8' x 4' and 10" deep) in the Community Center. The new display case would go on the south wall east of the liquor store door. After a brief discussion with the Councilmembers regarding the display case a motion was made. *Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve the Danube American Legion to put up the new display case in the Community Center.* The motion carried unanimously.

Bollig Inc. – Rustin Lingbeck & Brian Bollig – Brian Bollig gave a presentation of their findings on the water and sewer concerns that the Councilmembers had. After the presentation the Councilmembers discussed the different options that the City had regarding the water and sewer concerns. Some of the options include increasing the pump size at the lift station, performing a smoke test in the lines, using flow monitoring equipment in the lines, and performing dye tests. Brian reported that an estimated cost for a new water system would be \$3.7 million. The Councilmembers discussed the issue and did not see a need to replace the entire water system at this time. The Councilmembers decided to table the issue at this time and discuss the water tower issue at a future meeting.

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 – I've gone through the most of the classrooms at school and there are some that are in need of new thermostats and/or valves. Currently I will need to order about 6 thermostats and 3 valves. The thermostats are leaking and are causing the room to overheat. The same goes for the valves. They are not closing off completely allowing steam through and causing rooms to overheat. The thermostats are \$200.00 a piece and the valves are \$250.00. Will need to put in order. There is a spot in the sidewalk where water main breaks were that has sunken in. It must have washed out underneath during break and when the skid loader went over it to remove snow it collapsed. There is a cone marking the spot and it will be addressed in the spring.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to purchase valves and thermostats up to \$2,500.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Dan also reported that the boilers are working great and there is no need to purchase a new boiler at this time.

- Monsons – I talked with Chad at Monsons concerning our bill for the street repairs from the water main breaks. Their original estimate was for less square feet than what we were billed. However the amount of work that we were billed for is the amount that was done. There must have been a mix up in numbers on original quote. The original estimate was for \$9,651.25 @ \$12.75 sq/ft. When they billed us it came to \$11,652 @ 12.00 sq/ft. After talking with Chad we came to an agreement to pay \$10.00 sq/ft for a total of \$9710.00.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to pay \$9,710.00 to Monson's for the street repairs they performed. The motion carried unanimously.

- Hockey Rink – The valves that were in the pump house that were to be used for filling the rink need replacement. They are cracked and leak when opened. I contacted Zach @ Their well and after some searching he found me some used valves that should work. This brought price down. I received the valves and they look brand new. The total will probably be around \$500.00. I will also have some additional costs for bolts. Council will have to decide whether the City will pay for this or Hockey Committee will pay.
- Waste Water – The Omni-site monitoring system we use for our lift station stopped working recently. The cell service it was designed for was 2g service and the cell provider recently dropped all 2g service in our area. The unit was shipped back to Omni-site to receive a radio upgrade and is now back in an operational. The cost was \$217.00 plus some shipping costs to send it there. Overall the Lift station averaged 40,000 gal/day in November which was a little higher than normal. This was caused by a toilet in the school that was flushing nonstop for 3 days over the weekend that ended up more than doubling our daily intake at Lift station for those days.
- Water – There are currently no issues with pump houses. Wells averaged 32,000 gal/day for November.
- Shop – The overhead door at the shop has been acting up lately. There are time is doesn't want to close. It also decides to open up on its own in the middle of the night. Jim has said he's seen it open numerous times early in the morning and has closed it. I believe the eye sensors are going bad and are losing connectivity with each other which is causing door to open. Will need to get replaced.

The Councilmembers discussed the issue and asked Dan to contact Excel Overhead Doors to resolve the issue at the shop.

Employee Report – Chief of Police

Chief of Police Les Schneider was present to give a two month employee and Police Department report. Statistics for October 2014 were lower to last year at the same time with 48 calls, 27 reports, 38 traffic stops, 17 citations, 29 mutual assists and 3 home security checks. Statistics for November 2014 were lower to last year at the same time with 39 calls, 21 reports, 35 traffic stops, 13 citations, 24 mutual assists and 3 home security checks.

Additional business discussed:

- School Building Update – Schneider informed the Councilmembers the school use really started to pick up starting October. RCW closed the Sacred Heart School and will be using the Danube School building for sporting events.
- LETG Reporting Issues – Schneider reported that there are still some issues with the software and the current computer.
- Public Works Assists – Schneider informed the Councilmembers that while Dan was on vacation that he filled in.
- First Response Information – Schneider reported that they responded to 24 calls in 2014 and salary for the year was \$1,530.00. This amount in calls and payroll is down from 2013.
- County I.T. Quote – New Laptop & Power Port – Schneider informed the Councilmembers that he is in need of a new laptop and power port for the police department.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to order and issue a check to Renville County I.T. for a new computer and power port from the capital outlay funds for \$2,907.29. The motion carried unanimously.

Employee Report – City Clerk

- Refunds & Reimbursement Account – Dotty reported that the money that is in that account is largely due to the repayment of insurance from the Danube EDA.
- Snow Removal & Street Sweeping – Dotty invoiced Renville County for the Snow removal for winter 2013-2014 (\$5,600.00) and Street Sweeping for summer 2014 (\$2,000.00). The funds have also been received from Renville County for a total of \$7,600.00. The last time Renville County was billed for snow removal and street sweeping was 2010 that Dotty could find payment for in the accounting program.
- Utility Connections Update – Dotty researched the question of how many connections does the City of Danube bill out and how connections are paid in to Minnesota Department of Health. What was reported to the Minnesota Department of Health is 252 connections. In the third quarter of 2014 Dotty billed out 230 customers for services and according to the meter book there is only 8 connections that are off. So if the count is correct there should be 238 connections for Danube. This information was verified with Dan. Dan used the number in the back of the water meter book for the number of connections. Dotty and Dan reviewed the numbers Dotty discovered were not being used and Dan did not realize that there were numbers missing throughout the water meter book. The account numbers 1, 18, 19, 25, 51, 65, 66, 80, 84, 90, 92, 118, 153, & 200 are not being used. However, starting the last quarterly billing this number will increase to 240 for additional connections that are at the fertilizer plant and an additional connection will be added to 241 when the Danube resident gets that meter installed at their residence.
- Danube Square Garbage – Dotty was contacted by Laura Winters (Delores Bright's daughter) and was asked how much would it cost to get a second dumpster at the apartments on Main Street? The dumpster is rented to them by West Central Sanitation but the cost of the garbage is what the City of Danube bills them. Currently they pay \$154.27 per quarter for garbage. If a second dumpster is put at the apartments would the garbage amount double? I did tell Laura maybe they would look into getting a recycling dumpster instead to encourage the individuals in the apartments to recycle instead of throwing everything away.

School Building Updates

Councilmember Strunc informed the Councilmembers that he had a meeting with TriVally and Little Lambs Daycare regarding issues that may arise. Councilmember Strunc stated that Little Lambs Daycare is aware that they are to contact TriValley and if they are unable to contact TriValley they are to contact Councilmember Strunc. Councilmember Strunc also stated that TriValley is responsible for any consumable items for down at the school and that they need to hire their own custodian to do minor repairs.

Community Center Updates

Councilmember Strunc informed the Councilmembers that he spoke with Randy Grunke about doing a better job on the snow removal at the Community Center. The Councilmembers discussed the issue and Councilmember Strunc will speak with Randy again and follow up to verify that the snow is getting timely removed and the Community Center cleaning is being kept up with. Dotty asked permission of the Councilmembers to purchase a new peg dish rack for the Community Center. The current dish rack has spots on it like mold. The Councilmembers were in favor of purchasing a dish rack for the Community Center but had concerns about the new dish rack also getting wrecked due to using the dishwasher and shutting the door causing mold to build on the dish rack. Dotty stated that she would be willing to make a laminated sign to hang on the dish washer informing people not to shut the dishwasher after use to prevent the same problem in the future.

Unfinished Business - None

Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list and receipts list from November 13, 2014 thru December 10, 2014.

Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$27,534.45 (checks) and \$5,440.57 (electronic fund transfers). The motion carried unanimously.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual versus Budget Comparison for 2014.

The Councilmembers reviewed the reconciled bank statement for November 2014.

Councilmember Strunc asked Dotty to look into when the final LGA payment is to be received by the City of Danube for the January 2015 meeting.

New Business

Snow Removal Agreement – Art Nyquist & Bob Kopel – Dotty informed the Councilmembers that Both Art and Bob have signed and sent their contracts back to be approved. The Councilmembers reviewed the contracts.

Councilmember Strunc moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the snow removal contracts with Art Nyquist & Bob Kopel. The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

The Councilmembers received the following informational material in their packets:

1. David Drown Associates Email – Related to Bollig
2. Minnesota Rural Water

Adjournment

There being no further business before the council, Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. With all members voting in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

Gene Alex, Mayor

Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk