

**DANUBE CITY COUNCIL  
Regular Council Meeting  
Wednesday, December 13, 2017 7:00 PM  
Danube City Council Chambers**

A regular meeting of the Danube City Council was conducted on December 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Alex presiding.

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

Councilmembers absent: None

Others Present: Ben Ryan, Nick Bruns, Michelle Malvin, 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 Maurice moved and Councilmember Malvin 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 8, 2017
- Minutes of Special Meeting of November 20, 2017
- Building Permit – Prairie Meats Inc – Enclosed Addition
- Bar Door Open - December 15, 2017 – Birthday Party
- Bar Door Open - January 20, 2018 – Birthday Party

**Open Forum**

Ben Ryan and Nick Bruns – Danube Area Athletic Club – Fish Houses on Pine Street – Ben Ryan gave an update to the Councilmembers about the upcoming Winter Fun Days on Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> down at the Danube Rink. They are looking at placing the fish houses on the football field unless there is a huge amount of snow. If RCW says no to letting them place the fish houses then they would look at using Pine Street for them and they would be removed within 24 hours. Ben also asked if the City would be willing to pay for the port-a-potties for down at the hockey rink again this winter. The on demand water heater is being installed. A 200 gallon propane tank was donated to the Danube Area Athletic Club for the on demand water heater and it is located down by the pump house.

*Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve the port-a-potties down at the hockey rink from Vosika not to exceed \$200.00. The motion carried unanimously.*

Michelle Malvin – Senior Citizens – Picture in the Community Center – Michelle Malvin asked the Councilmembers for permission to hang a picture in the Community Center in memory of Fern Wiehr. The picture is of a tree with the word Family, it is 20 x 16 with a small plaque at the bottom saying donated in memory of Fern Wiehr by her family. The Councilmembers discussed the request to hang the picture and where to hang the picture. The Councilmembers decided to allow the Senior Citizens to hang the picture and suggested possibly placing between the kitchen area and the double doors. Councilmember reminded them that the Community Center is not the Senior Citizens Hall but a Community Center for public use and if something happens to it the City is not responsible for it. The Councilmembers asked to have the picture secured to the wall and not just hung loosely.

### **Employee Report – Chief of Police**

Chief of Police Les Schneider was not present to give a monthly employee and Police Department report. Schneider will give a 2 month report at the next 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 – Sullivans installed a manual starter on the circulation pump for the boilers. This was done to prevent the pump motor from burning up if a phase was lost due to blown fuse. Dan believes that is what happened last year when we had to replace motor in an emergency. Dan will be ordering new valves for some rooms that are overheating. *Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to pay Sullivan's Electric for the manual starter on the circulation pump at the school for \$519.94. The motion carried unanimously.*

- Water – Maguire Iron had an electrician come and fix the breaker issue from the heaters in the tower. They installed a bigger breaker to supply enough power to all 3 heaters. Dan was talking with Jim at Sullivans and had him quote me installation of a new generator for the wellhouse. Right now, we use a 1975 gas generator that is used by the lift station and the wellhouse. In the event of a power failure the generator cannot be in both places at once. It is also becoming unreliable. Now with the new tower it would be wise to install a natural gas generator with automatic transfer switch. That way the city would never be without water in a power outage. Dan enclosed the quote. Option three is with new generator and auto switch. The same should be done on the Lift station also. Wells averaged 29,000 gal/day for November.

The Councilmembers discussed the quote from Sullivan's Electric and decided to have Dan get additional information for the same to be done at the Lift Station and to also speak to Ben Ryan about a generator. Dan will speak to the City Engineer. Lee Elfering about if an engineer would have to be involved and what is the amount that would require if the City would have to put it out to bids.

Councilmember Malvin asked if Mayor Alex talked with Dan about the back door seal at the Community Center. Mayor asked that when Councilmember Maurice calls Dan to speak to him also about the seal. Councilmember Maurice also informed the

Councilmembers that Lief Hanson is still planning on looking at the stucco wall that needs to be fixed outside.

- Wastewater – Dan did a second fall pond discharge in November. Hopefully the weather cooperates and the city only has to one in the Spring. The lift station averaged 41,000 gal/day for November.
- Christmas Lights – The lights are in bad shape. A lot of the bulbs are not working. Dan is trying to get them fixed but the wiring is very bad. If they are hung they may not be lit at all.

The Councilmembers decided not to hang the Christmas lights because of them not being able to light up and being in bad shape. The Councilmembers discussed purchasing new Christmas Lights. Dotty suggested that if the City purchased the decorations after the holiday season the City would get a much better deal on them. Mayor Alex mentioned that the EDA discussed possibly giving to Christmas decorations. The Councilmembers also asked Dotty to ask the Danube Lions if they would be willing to help donate to the purchase and/or help advertise it at their Waffle Feed in February.

Councilmember Malvin voiced concerns about the letter about lead in the water. The Councilmembers discussed the issue.

Mayor Alex mentioned that the back lights at the Community Center are not working. Dotty mentioned that the Community Center lights run on a timer. Councilmember Malvin will speak with Thomas about checking the timer and the bulbs.

### Employee Report – City Clerk

- Vacant Lot - Update – Dotty has no new information.
- Garbage Bags – Dotty was asked about when people purchase garbage bags and there is something wrong with them can Dotty open a bag of them and replace the bags that are not useable?

The Councilmembers discussed the issue and agreed to allow Dotty to open a package of garbage bags and replace the ones that are not useable. The residents will need to bring in the bad bags to get replaced for proof.

- Fire Department Payroll – Because there were 2 new firemen that joined and the correct paperwork wasn't filled out I was not able to get their payroll done in time for tonight's meeting. The payroll is November payroll taxes were paid. The amount is \$7,500.00 before taxes.
- *Councilmember Krogman moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve paying the Fire Department the annual payroll when all the required paperwork is turned in.* The motion carried unanimously.
- Liquor Store Sold – Millers on Main has been sold and the new owner is in the process of taking over the business on January 1, 2018.
- Council Chamber Chairs – Dotty has searched EBay, Amazon and furniture stores for different chairs for the Council Chambers but everything she is finding is either office chairs or dining room chairs. For that reason Dotty didn't include any quotes for this meeting because she was unsure if that is something the Councilmembers would be okay with and also she isn't having much luck with chairs without arms if they are swivel and on wheels the ones she has found look similar to a bar chair.
- OSHA Class Scheduled – Dotty attached a copy of the OSHA class schedule for 2018 for the Councilmembers

- Other Attachments – Dotty included a schedule for Council Meetings for 2018 and the recycling and garbage schedule for the Councilmembers.
- Completed Items – November payroll taxes were paid.
- Local Board of Appeals – Dotty informed the Councilmembers only 2 Councilmembers are certified for it. Councilmember Krogman is valid through July 1, 2019 and Councilmember Maurice is valid through July 1, 2020.
- Office Closed – The Danube City Office will be closed on Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> for Christmas, Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> for New Years Day and Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> for Martin Luther King Jr. The office will be closing early on January 3<sup>rd</sup> for the annual required OSHA class on ERTK, AWAIR, BBP and Haz Comm.

### School Building Updates - None

### Community Center Updates

Councilmember Malvin reported that she got a hold of Dan from Dan's Floor Covering in Olivia to come look at the front steps at the Community Center. Dan will come up some suggestions and quotes for what would be best for on the steps at the Community Center. Mayor Alex did get the South half of the Community Center floors redone and they look better than they did but Mayor Alex said they aren't as good as he had hoped because of the flooring itself. Councilmember Malvin also reported that the chemicals have been moved to the closet located in the North East corner of the Community Center so renters will not have access to them. Councilmember Malvin also reported that the renters will no longer receive a key for the inside doors of the Community Center. Only the outside door key will be given out to the renters. The Councilmembers discussed the key issue and decided it should be decided on a case by case basis for an inside key in case they may need extra chairs and tables. The clock at the Community Center is gone and Councilmember Malvin will get a new clock for the Community Center. Councilmember Malvin also reported that all the pictures have been taken down at the Community Center. Councilmember Malvin also reported that the Christmas tree at the Community Center is in real rough shape and thought maybe when Christmas trees go on sale that maybe a new one and ornaments could be purchased. Mayor Alex reported that Steve came over to look at the furnace for the back room and when they went to look at it the furnace was working, so Mayor Alex told Thomas to keep an eye on it.

### Unfinished Business

Truth In Taxation (TNT) Public Hearing - The Councilmembers reviewed the updated 2018 budget. After the review and some revisions to the 2018 budget a resolution was made to adopt the 2018 budget.

*Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Maurice seconded a motion to pass resolution 06-2017 adopting the final 2017 tax levy collectible in 2018 in the amount of \$268,746.00. The motion carried unanimously.*

### Financial Reports

The Councilmembers reviewed the claims list from November 8, 2017 thru December 11, 2017. *Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Malvin seconded a motion to approve the bills as submitted in the amount of \$34,495.12 (checks) and \$8,535.80 (electronic fund transfers). The motion carried unanimously.*

The Councilmembers reviewed the Receipts List from November 14, 2017 thru December 7, 2017.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Actual verses Budget Comparison for 2017.

The Councilmembers reviewed the Bank Reconciliations for November 2017.

### New Business

Police Officer Declaration Resolution 7-2017 – Resolution No 7-2017 is for PERA for the new police officer Dean Truax. He was hired on November 27, 2017. The Councilmembers reviewed the resolution and made a motion regarding the resolution.

*Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to adopt Resolution 7-2017 Police Officer Declaration for PERA.* The motion carried unanimously.

Polling Places Resolution 8-2017 – The Councilmembers reviewed the resolution designating the polling place for all elections to be held for the City of Danube.

*Councilmember Maurice moved and Councilmember Standfuss seconded a motion to approve Resolution 8-2017.* The motion carried unanimously.

Plastic Garbage Bag Agreement with ACTS – The Councilmembers reviewed the agreement with ACTS.

*Councilmember Standfuss moved and Councilmember Krogman seconded a motion to approve.* The motion carried unanimously.

TDS Telecom Request for Cable Television Franchise – The Councilmembers reviewed the request from TDS and decided to move forward with the request for a cable television franchise.

Proposed Taxes 2018 Sheet - School – The Councilmembers reviewed the proposed tax statement for the school.

Renville County Auditor – Treasurer – Ditch Assessment – The Councilmembers reviewed the ditch assessment sheet from Renville County.

### Future Business

### Correspondence

Renville County Letter  
Farmward Cooperative  
Mediacom Letter

*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 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk

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Gene Alex, Mayor

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Dotty Schnobrich, City Clerk