

October 6th, 2025
City of Davenport city Council minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm by Mayor Lotzer

Present: Mayor Lotzer, Aldermen Leslie, Hanson, Beauclair, Gjestvang, City Maintenance personnel, Steve Hans, City Auditor Mark Roster. Guests present: Deputy Sheriff Bushaw, Cass County Sheriff Jesse Jahner

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Guests recognized: Officer Bushaw presented the monthly community calls for service report. 36 various types of calls were made in or near Davenport in September. He asked if there has been any more reporting of solicitors in town, which the auditor had stated he had not heard of any, since notice was posted in the Post Office. He reminded the council to make sure that our residents are aware of staying vigilant and to report anything they deem suspicious to the sheriff's office.

Sheriff Jahner gave a slide presentation on the sheriffs' department and duties. He broke down the budget expenses over the last several years since being elected Sheriff, noting that they have stayed well within their budget despite the growing population of the county, the new addition to the county jail, forensic training that numerous officers have gone or are going through, response times, equipment needs, how the department works with other county, state and federal officers, community situations and needs, exact number of hours each month are spent with officers cruising Davenport and other communities in the county. He answered all questions without hesitation, proving his department's transparency. It was a very good presentation.

The September 2025 minutes were read. Motion made by Alderman Hanson to accept as read, Alderman Beauclair seconded. Passed

Consent bills to be paid were presented with a note that the 3rd qtr. taxes are yet to be determined and there was a last-minute bill paid by Mayor Lotzer for annual subscription for the city web domain. Alderman Leslie motioned to accept bills, Alderman Gjestvang seconded. Passed.

10/6/2025 presented consent bills to be paid

Ottertail Power Co.	1512.48
Cass Rural Water	1657.40
Steve Hans	1191.11
Mark Roster	2014.14
Carol Mitchell	215.87
Fat Man Trash	1546.74
City of Fargo	14.00
MLGC	96.67
City Utilities Office	75.50
Cass county Reporter	87.10
Express Lane	45.00
Safe Yard	375.00
League of Cities	505.00

Cass County Government	29.52
IRS 3rd Qtr. taxes	TBD
Job Service 3rd qtr.	TBD
State Tax Commissioner 3rd qtr.	TBD
Great Plains Site works	4273.99
Safe Yard -2 previous sprayings	750.00
Jason Lotzer	203.88

OLD Business:

The auditor noted that a resident with overgrown lawn in ditch attached to their property and other situations that need to be addressed was notified in their utility bill.

Auditor presented the 2026 budget that will be turned into the county auditor's office this week. He noted that the city requested just under the 3% cap set by the state. That increase has been earmarked for more street repairs in 2026. Discussion followed. The Mayor called for a motion to accept. Motion made by Alder Gjestvang to accept the budget, seconded by Alderman Hanson. Passed

Discussion ensued about the final cost of the skeeter/bug abatement program we used this past summer including city, Safe Yard (2x a month) and county vector control. Tabled.

The Mayor brought forth discussion on the new utility billing system. Auditor noted they are now printed on perforated paper. The mayor is actively pursuing our programming carrier so we can offer online payments before the end of the year.

Discussion about building permits in Davenport ensued. Residents are reminded that if a building is to be moved in, the residents need a moving permit along with a building permit. The movers need to meet city business requirements and be approved before being allowed to move a building. If the moved-in building is designated as a residence, it needs to have an inspection permit and be inspected and passed before occupancy can take place.

Discussion pursued as to what constitutes a maintenance improvement that does not have to be permitted vs an improvement that needs a permit. If residents have concerns, please contact the city auditor for Ordinance ruling or contact the company handling all our permits/inspections, Midwest Inspection Services Inc in Mapleton.

Motion to adjourn made by Alderman Hanson, Seconded by Alderman Beauclair. Passed.

Adjourned at 8:10 pm

Next meeting is Monday, November 3rd, 2025, at the community center. All are welcome.

Faithfully submitted: Mark Roster, City auditor