

April 6th, 2026, Davenport City Council meeting minutes

Members present: Mayor Lotzer, Aldermen Leslie, Hanson, Gjestvang, Beauclair, city maintenance Hans, Auditor Roster.

Guests present: Kianna Neeb, county assessor representative, Deputy Sheriff Bushaw, Jessica Haugen, Community Club representative, Lloyd Hunter – Davenport Fire Chief

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm. Pledge of Allegiance said.

Guests recognized first:

Kianna Neeb, county assessor representative, presented statements as to how our residential property is assessed based on Cass County and Fargo/West Fargo values. She was questioned as to how Davenport property values could rise when our property value is stagnant due to being mapped into the flood plain. She had no answer but would find one for us.

The 2026 assessment had to be voted on to meet the approval deadline. Motion made by Alderman Gjestvang and seconded by Alderman Hanson to accept this year's assessment. The vote was contingent on the county assessor's office getting the council an answer on limiting increases of property value until the flood mitigation project is complete and certified. Motion passed. She then requested a copy of the minutes be sent to Matt Stanger – County Assessor. Officer Bushaw gave the monthly incident report for our area. Locally in town, we are quiet but reminds us not to get complacent. There was a burglary south of town on a farmstead. Most likely done by "professionals". It is an active case. Reiterated once again – please EVERYONE be vigilant. Activity is climbing due to nicer weather. Invest in security cameras if you can, always lock up and don't leave anything exposed that can be swiped in a drive by. He stated no call of concern is downplayed or ignored. If you want to remain totally anonymous, he suggests using TIP 411. Users can download the NDTip app, use online forms, or text keyword (e.g., WFPD or NDCASS) followed by message to 847411. Not to be used for emergencies which require 911. Deputy was asked about a report to a city council member of unknown trucks using Davenport streets for truck driving training. Deputy responded there are only a few certified training schools and areas, but since laws have been relaxed there are several "mom and pop" shops operating under the law. Semi's /trucks being used in training are usually marked, so if you are suspicious, please call the same number listed about, get photo of the truck /semi in question and license plate DOT information if possible.

Jessica Haugen, representing the Community Club, inquired about port-a-potties and deputy sheriff security for Davenport Days. It was reaffirmed that the city will pay for the port-a-potty rentals and the cost for a deputy sheriff to be present for a street dance as in the past, however, it is the community club or park boards responsibility to procure and return the potties. The council also asked the community club to contact the sheriffs dept ASAP finalizing the date and time needed so the Sheriff's department can get their people scheduled.

Lloyd Hunter, Davenport Fire Chief, was observing as a guest with no questions or concerns at this time.

The minutes of the last meeting were read. Motion to accept made by Alderman Leslie, Seconded by Alderman Hanson, passed.

The following March bills are presented for consent to pay. Motion to pay made by Alderman Beauclair, Seconded by Alderman Gjestvang, passed.

Ottertail: 2446.65

Cass Rural Water: 1414.82

Steve Hans: 637.39
Mark Roster: 1555.09
Carol Mitchell: 215.87
Fat Man Trash: 1546.74
City of Fargo: 14.00
MLGC 106.50
City Utilities 75.50
Park board: 4347.44
Cemetery Fund: 504.48
Airport Authority: 60.56
Cass County Reporter: 99.40
ND one call – TBD
WSI Annual Premium 250.00
Davenport Post Office 7.47
Davenport Post Office 14.67
My Parking Signs 78.48
Office Max 182.97
IRS 1st quarter taxes TBD
Job Service 1st Quarter TBD
ND State tax commissioner 1st quarter taxes TBD
WSI 1st quarter TBD

Old Business:

The 2nd and final reading of Ordinance 2026-03-03, 20 year contract with Ottertail Power Company pertaining to the services and upkeep of power to the city of Davenport was read. Motion to accept made by Alderman Hanson, second by Alderman Beauclair, passed. This will be noted as Ordinance 2026-03-03. Full copy of ordinance shall be found on the city website at davenportnd.com

The Green River Ordinance signs for the city arrived and Steve Hans will post one on 5th street by the county road, one on Main Street by the county road and one by the curve on the gravel road SW of town. Officer Bushaw was very glad to see this as it gives the sheriffs department the support to handle unsolicited complaints. A question was brought forth regarding if a resident also has a No Solicitation sign posted on their property, can that be enforced if solicitor did not see the Green River Ordinance sign. Officer replied yes as that is considered trespassing, if owner wants to pursue that. The city council has reaffirmed that this ordinance will not apply to local Scouts making solicitations, school sanctified solicitations or drives or community sponsored events. The signs will be posted soon.

The requested information regarding scoping the city sewer lines was received from city engineer, Interstate Engineering. This should be part of the regular maintenance of the system. It has not been done since 2009 when the new lines were put in along with the lift station. Alderman Gjestvang will get 3 quotes from individual companies based on cost of scoping ½ project this year and ½ project next year vs having it done in one session. He will report on findings at the next city council meeting.

Discussion on street repair has been tabled until next month when we can have a better look at the streets due to current ground movement with frost leaving.

Decision to have SafeYard mosquito control be an additional entity to spray mosquitos has been tabled till May.

Auditor if training for online utility payments has started yet. Response: No. He was asked to contact Nuvie to get the ball rolling.

New Business:

Auditor gave the council a price quote from Pioneer Roll offs for 2 30-yard dumpsters. This is the company we used last year, and the price came in the same as last years, including dunnage dumping. \$1200. Motion made by Alderman Gjestvang, seconded by Alderman Hanson to accept quote and to have cleanup day the weekend of May 16th. After discussion with Steve Hans, to make sure he was available that weekend, motion passed.

Mayor presented information dealing with the ice-skating lot that is currently under the care of the park board. Years ago, this land was donated via an irrevocable trust to the city by the Trom family to be utilized for recreation purposes only. The city then turned it over to the park board to utilize. Due to so many years of uncooperative warm weather, flooding it for skating has become a timing nightmare and the cost of keeping it up the rest of the year keeps rising; the park board does not want it anymore and is turning it back over to the city. Discussion ensued. The city council has decided that the city will offer to turn it back over to the family of the trust for them to do what they want with that property.

Motion to adjourn made by Aldermen Leslie, Seconded by Alderman Beauclair, passed.

Adjourned 8:03 pm

Next meeting is Monday, May 4th, 2026, at 7 pm at the community center. All are welcome.

Faithfully submitted,

Mark Roster Davenport City Auditor