

Davenport City Council meeting 1-5-2026

Present: Mayor Lotzer, Alderman Dale Leslie, Oscar Hanson, Stephen Beauclair, Nick Gjestvang, City Maintenance Steve Hans, Auditor Mark Roster.

Guest: Sheriff Deputy Bushaw, Eric Larson – Interstate Engineering, Kurt Lysene – Moore Engineering, Bridget Bessett – Park Board and Brady Good, Steve Serrao and Ryan McGregor-Davenport Supper Club and Lounge

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm, Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Guests recognized first.

Office Bushaw gave a monthly report of activity and an annual breakdown of Sheriff presence in Davenport and surrounding area. in the area that involved sheriff department presence. Asked that residents be notified and keep a vigilant eye out for suspicious vehicles in the area. If you have concerns, contact the Cass county dispatch via the non-emergency # 701-451-7660.

Eric Larson, Interstate Engineering, updated on pump in pumphouse – fortunately it was only a broken shaft and bearings that had to be replaced. The unit itself was in good shape. City has an extended warranty on the pumps, so costs will be prorated – no bill at this time. CC Steel came out and cut the hatches in the roof in the designated spots. That was to be done when the new pumphouse was built but no one checked because from the inside of the building it looked like they were in place. CC Steel will complete the job properly this spring at no charge. Pumps are working normally.

Bridget Bessett and Brady Good – presented some fact-finding material regarding the property that the ice-skating rink is on. The Park is interested in selling it back to Doug Trom, owner of the trust, and using the money to be spent back in the playground and the park area. As a realtor, Mr. Good is working with the ins and outs of this transaction for the park, pro bono. They asked the council to pay for the survey of the property and permission to pursue this endeavor with final information and plans to be presented later. Council gave verbal okay to pursue information. Larson was asked about survey cost. No hard answer but estimate between \$2000 and \$3000. Council will revisit the idea of paying for survey.

Steve Serrao, current owner of the Davenport Supper Club and Lounge, introduced Ryan McGregor as the new owner as Serrao is selling the entity. Tentatively, the establishment has a goal of reopening sometime between the first and 2nd week of February. McGregor was informed about the beer and liquor license and if on track with opening date, will be issued the January – June license on a prorated base starting February 1st. It was noted that the Gaming License under the same contract may have to be refiled with the Plains Art contact for change of ownership. Serrao will send the information.

Motion made by Alderman Leslie and Seconded by Alderman Hanson to grant a prorated liquor and beer license. Passed.

Kurt Lysene – updated the council on the dike progress. Everything is in place with most entities involved, with the exception of locking down the time commitment from the railroad so the track can be shut down for the box culverts that need to be placed. Lotzer and Lysene will be in contact with the state water board in February to pursue additional finances for project

costs increases due to delays. Project is still slated for ground breaking in May after road restrictions are lifted.

Last month's minutes were presented and read. Motion to approve made by Alderman Hanson, Seconded by Alderman Leslie, Passed. January bills were presented for payment. Motion to approve Alderman Gjestvang, Seconded by Alderman Beauclair, Passed.

Consent items presented 1/5/26 for payment of December 2025 bills: (OVER)

Ottertail Power 2136.28
Cass Rural Water 1632.41
Steve Hans 1291.17
Mark Roster 1493.11
Carol Mitchell 215.87
Fat Man Trash 1546.74
City of Fargo 14.00
MLGC 203.49 (2 months)
City of Davenport 75.50
Cass County Reporter 101.86
ND One Call 0.90
Park Board TBD
Cemetery Board 55.05
Airport Authority TBD
Kindred True Value 24.04
Office Max 340.02 (PAID)
Best Buy 279.98
Cass County Gov. taxes 98.72
Job Service 4th qtr 7,74
State tax commissioner 4th qtr. 141.84
IRS 4th qtr 2530.46
Mark Roster 73.49

NOTED: a second City of Fargo bill – disputing nonpayment charges again in the amount of \$29.49 dating back to April 2025. Sent copies of canceled checks – again. No explanation or response from City of Fargo Finances, just reoccurring bill.

Old Business:

Auditor reported that there has been no response from our city attorney yet regarding securing the Cass County municipal court system to handle legal hearings.

The auditor reported that there is no update on the electronic /credit card payment program for utilities. Will pursue action with hopes of installing in time for March payments.

The private entity that was pursuing renting the gym and some rooms to develop an event establishment has dropped the idea due to cost of such project.

At this time Mayor Lotzer was called out of meeting due to a family emergency. Alderman Leslie took over duties as acting mayor to continue the meeting.

Ordinance regarding the mandated SB 2027 law updating the floodplain management and community requirements has been tabled till next month due to it was on the mayors laptop.

New Business:

Fat Man trash has contacted the Auditor asking him to inform the city council that they will be at the February meeting to discuss a price increase and renew their contract. Discussion ensued about raising the beer and liquor permits for the Supper Club and Lounge as they have not been increased for over 10 years. It was decided to let the new owner get the establishment up running and revisit this idea later. Auditor asked to do some fact finding pursuant to other establishments in the area as to what they charge for permits. Auditor informed city council that 2026 elections are coming up and that those that are fulfilling their terms this year want to run for reelection, there is paperwork that needs to be filed out and returned by March 31, 2026. Auditor stated information will be also posted in the Post Office around the end of January. Auditor asked if the city should join the Grant Finder program promoted by the League of Cities for a \$90 fee. Discussion ensued. Decision was not to pursue. Motion to adjourn made by Alderman Beauclair, seconded by Alderman Hanson, passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm

Next meeting: Monday, February 2nd, 2026, at 7 pm at community center. Public welcome.
Faithfully submitted,
Mark Roster – city auditor