

Minutes of Davenport city council meeting July 7th, 2026

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

Members present: Mayor Lotzer, Aldermen Leslie, Hanson, Balderas, Gjestvang, Auditor Roster, City Maintenance Hans

Guests present: Deputy Sheriff Bushaw, Jim Dahlman, Interstate Engineering, Stephen Beauclair, resident, Matt Palluck, fire Department

Guests recognized first:

Officer Bushaw presented monthly report of area activity. Relatively quiet.

Dahlman representing Interstate Engineering, presented himself to newly elected Alderman Balderas. Then he addressed a few minor concerns and clarifications about pumphouse and infrastructure in Fredrick edition.

Palluck gave a preliminary report about the availability of a tornado siren for the city, as the city is on the receiving list sometime over the next 4 years. He stated there is grant money to help offset cost. Units cost estimate just below \$50,000 per siren - maybe as low as \$43-44,000. Grant program would be a 75/25 split of cost with 25% being the local share - approximately \$12,500. Palluck was wondering if the city could help with the cost share when they are notified. Council asked numerous questions such as terms, when the finances would be due, who is responsible for unit damage due to wind etc., if there are weather service costs, possible locations for siren to benefit the majority of the residents, and more. Being open to the idea from the council, Palluck was tasked by city council to gather these hard facts and present them to the council for further discussion.

Beauclair was present to inform the council everything is in place for this summer's upcoming street repairs to begin in August.

Minutes were presented for approval. Motion to accept made by Alderman Leslie, seconded by Alderman Hanson, passed.

The JUNE bills were presented for consent to be paid. Motion made to pay made by Alderman Hanson, seconded by Alderman Gjestvang. Passed.

JUNE 2026 bills presented:

Ottertail Power 1844.88

Cass Rural Water 2138.22

Steve Hans 1072.71

Mark Roster 1679.81

Carol Mitchell 215.87

Fat Man Trash 1546.74

City of Fargo 14.00

MKLGC 107.28

City Utilities 75.50

Cass County Reporter 111.70

ND One call – 1.80

Park board 268.21

Cemetery Board 14.55

Airport Authority 1.74

City of Fargo 60.00

Davenport post office 6.66
Express Lane 91.00
Cass County Gov 380.00
Port-a-potties bill – NA - TBD
World Insurance – 3968.00
CHS – NA yet
League of Cities -520.00
IRS – 2nd quarter – TBD
ND State tax commissioner TBD
Job service – TBD
Ty Kunnanz - \$200.00
Jeremy Lequire 75.00
Darrel Malone 25.00
Davenport Post office - 910.75
Office Max – 89.61 PD
Old Business:

Mayor Lotzer gave updates on the dike/flood control project. Construction bids have been opened. 8 were submitted. With the lowest bid of \$3,635,113.50, the construction contract was awarded to RJ Zavoral & Sons, coming in nearly \$600k less than estimate. Final permits have been sent; there is one permit needed dealing with flow easement for the 50-year flood prediction across Glasow property and one easement being pursued for crossing the railroad tracks on the south side of town. Kurt Lysene, Moore engineering meets this upcoming Thursday for final easements. Construction of the dike will commence in September 2026.

NEW BUSINESS:

Auditor Roster and City Maintenance personnel, Steve Hans spoke of their meeting with the NDRWA, (North Dakota Rural Water Association) Mr. Dan Overmoe and Mr. Jeremy Aasen, about the sewer smoke test, sewer line camera work, and the GSI mapping of the city. They confirmed the requests to do the smoke test and push camera sewer lines this year and to get the city registered for the GSI mapping of the city next spring. The smoke test will commence soon, no date given, however the auditor needs to notify the residents ahead of smoke test in case they experience smoke in their house, which would indicate a break in their line somewhere between their connection to the main pipe and in their house. After that, several hours were spent checking and noting where back flow prevention valves need to be added on all the city property and fire hall to be compliant with the back flow program. 11 pressure vacuum breakers are needed on various faucets that hoses can be attached to. That can be done by Hans. One horizontal reduced pressure zone is required of the firehall, which has to be installed by a professional plumber and then reinspected. We were reminded that the city must not sell water to any contractors (which we do not), as we would then need to install a meter and back flow system to said outlet. After that . they helped Hans get his portal set up for his recertification tests and assisted auditor fill out and submit 2 forms to the state to be compliant with the backflow program. This needs to be done annually.

Discussion ensued about tree stumps/branches and grass clipping in the city's trucks. Hans noted several plastic garbage bags in the grass clipping however, the perpetrator did come to him, admitted it was he and that he removed the bags. Hans thanked him. Hans did note that

some party started to pile up lumber behind the tree truck. The offender was located and was informed that this action be stopped immediately and that the area was for tree stumps and branches only. The person complied. The auditor was tasked to order instruction signs for the city trucks and to purchase surveillance cameras. Council members were informed that the city will temporarily use city property west of the elevator to burn the tree branches. This will be closed to all residents' use, only for our tree refuse in the city truck. No trespassing signs will be posted as well as surveillance cameras.

The Mayor stated that Davenport is finally in the 21st century. The utility bills can now be paid online via credit card, ACH or by phone. Go to davenportnd.com, click on pay bill icon, register and follow instructions! Notice of this new feature will be in the monthly utility bills plus being posted at the Post Office.

Auditor brought forth recent communications received regarding the lead/copper abatement program. He explained what he has done over the past 2 years about it and the number of non-compliant residents. The liaison in Bismarck asked if it was possible for the Mayor get involved and contact those not in compliance. The auditor noted that the liaison stated that failing to comply will result in mandatory home inspection by either the auditor, city maintenance personnel, or appointed person. Dahlman, when asked by Mayor where this is coming from, noted that this is a mandate NOT from Bismarck or the state per say but from the Federal level of government that the states/cities/towns must abide by. Mayor asked the auditor for names and addresses of the non-compliant residents.

Auditor asked the council for a date change for the August meeting due to personal conflict. Granted. Date for the city council meeting in August is MONDAY AUGUST 10th at 7 pm at community center.

Motion called for adjournment made by Alderman Hanson, seconded by Alderman Gjestvang, passed.

Adjourn at 8:13 pm

Faithfully submitted, Mark Roster, city auditor.