

City of Gary, South Dakota
Joint Meeting- Board of Adjustment and Council Meeting
Monday, December 1, 2025 at 6:30 pm at Gary City Hall

The Gary City Council met in joint session on Monday, December 1, 2025, at 6:30 pm in the City Hall.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Mayor Larry Stoks presided. Aldermen Darwyn Engesser, Mike Nosbush, Doug Nelson, Jessica Christians, and Neil Schumacher were present. Jay Grabow was absent. Present also were Joni Kjelden, Austin Crocker, Robin Lanners, John DesLauriers, Pat Sears, Dave Mercer, Marlene Schumacher, Marilyn Koeppen, Billie Jo & Jeff Nordseth, Sherry Hemmingson, Bev Koeppen, Mark Johnson, Albert Bekaert, Jerry Tongen, Linda Weir, Gloria Dessler, Karen Keimig, Jim Kellen, Rod & Patty Meadors, Sara & Corey Stoks, Lori Nosbush, Lorna Melby, Craig Otto, Mel Borg, Judy Heth, Rachel Hinsvark, Jodie Engesser, Mary Nosbush, Jordan Hinsvark, Reed Mahlke, and Gary Hudiburgh.

Motion by Engesser, second by Nosbush to approve the agenda with a correction to line item 16 that Ordinance No. 387 is a first reading. All voting aye; carried.

Motion by Nosbush, second by Engesser to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2025 meeting. All voting aye; carried.

General-November 2025 Bills

Finance Office-2,157.58;Streets-3,255.88;Fire Dept-82.48;RUS-129.02;Library-790.00;Water-1,543.31;Sewer-2,629.49;Aflac-Oct premium-165.64;American Legal-draft billing-1,272.00;AT&T-data connect-44.19;Austin Crocker-cell phone-25.00;Bjerke Sanitation-2,448.80;BDRW-391,000 gallons-1,403.00;Christianson Plbg & Htg-repairs-3,622.84;City of Gary-wsg,firehall-41.42,garbage,city hall-17.00;Clear Lake Courier-proceedings,notices-85.29;Darrel TeKrony-water deposit refund-15.52;DCFU-fuel charges-148.10; DCSO-law enforcement-588.33;EFTPS/941 Tax-FWT-600.22,OASI-1,721.28;First District-zoning update-6,000.00;Florals & Finds-memorial-50.00;Gary Post Office-stamps-100.00;Gate City General-supplies-4.99;HD Electric-cemetery electricity-41.80;ITC-phone, internet, fax, alarm loop-96.20;Library-53.45;Milbank Winwater-150 water meter nodes-11,616.00;Ottetail Power Co.-electricity-715.21;Rangaard Electric, Inc-repairs/shop-263.83;Runnings-keys-3.99;SD Public Health Lab-20.00;SDML Worker's Comp-2026 WC renewal-4,788;SDRD-Nov contribution-1,214.22;Sun Life-465.00;Toshia Krantz-water deposit refund-80.00;Wellmark BCBS-Dec premium-2,640.66;Yellow Medicine Hwy Dept-cutting edge-829.30.

Liquor-November 2025 Bills

Liquor-13,492.10;Aflac-Oct premium-358.83;Cask & Cork-352.00;Chesterman-pop-543.50;City of Gary-wsg-195.02;Doll Distributing, LLX-beer,invoices-9,497.15;EFTPS/941 Tax-FWT-730.50,OASI-1,753.60;First Bank & Trust-credit card-563.79;Gary Post Office-39.00;Gate City General-food-3.96;Harry's Frozen Foods-pizza-693.00;Henry's Foods-tobacco,food,supplies-2,599.06;ITC-phone,DSL,TV-250.80;Johnson Bros.-liquor-1,940.55;Lizzy Hofer-November 8 entertainment-500.00;Office Peeps-supplies-thermal roll-82.40;Old Dutch Foods-chips-53.94;Ottetail Power Co-electricity-520.57;Pizza & Burger Shack-pizza-324.00;Porter Dist-beer,wine/coolers-930.30;Republic National Dist-liquor-1,133.55;Robin Lanners-cell phone-25.00;Southern Glaziers of SD-liquor-197.90;SD Dept of Rev-Nov sales tax-3,064.18;SDML Work Comp-2026 work comp renewal-1,596.00;SDRS-Nov contribution-1,360.82;Star Laundry-rugs,towels-92.40;Vibe Entertainment-Nov 22 entertainment-350.00;Wellmark BCBS-Dec premium-3,395.13;

Motion by Engesser, second by Schumacher to approve the verified claims and issue warrants in payment thereof. All voting aye; carried.

Employee, committee, and ward reports were heard. There were no public comments.

Motion by Schumacher, second by Engesser to convene jointly as Board of Adjustment and Gary City Council. All voting aye; carried.

A public hearing was held for a variance request by Craig Otto to relax the front yard setback to allow enough room for a garage. With no public concern Nosbush motioned to approve the request, second by Schumacher. All voting aye; carried. Nosbush moved to adjourn and convene as City Council only, second by Nelson. All voting aye; carried.

Sara Stoks, representing the Gary Community Club informed the council of their lighted parade event "Gate City Christmas" on Saturday December 20, 2025.

Gary Hudiburgh was not available at his scheduled time but was present by the end of the meeting. He has been to Washington to meet with the South Dakota congressional delegation to present Gary's infrastructure needs. He is working on federal funding projects and gave an update.

Motion by Nosbush, second by Nelson to give \$400 to the Deuel County Community Foundation. All voting aye; carried.

The first reading of Ordinance No. 387, supplementing the 2025 Appropriations was held. Second reading will be at the next meeting.

The eighth payment request from the State Revolving Fund loan in the amount of \$89,913.00 was approved to send in with a motion by Nelson, second by Engesser. All voting aye; carried.

A committee was formed to plan an Employee Christmas party and bring to the next meeting for approval.

Mark Johnson was present to discuss the sewer service line to his property and the surcharge being implemented January 1. There was a lengthy discussion involving other residents in attendance, with winter approaching digging will not be feasible. Schumacher made a motion to reimburse the sewer surcharge to residents who dig and find the sewer line is already capped at the property line, by June 15th, 2026, second by Christians. All voting aye; carried.

Attendees at the November 3rd meeting who voiced complaints during public input were instructed to submit those complaints in writing. Prior to the current meeting, a binder of complaints was hand delivered to council members who chose to accept it. Rachel Hinsvark acknowledging the delivery of the binders, asked the council where they want to go from there. Mayor Stoks stated the binder would be sent with City Attorney Reed Mahlke. Reed will have an update at the next meeting.

A written complaint received regarding barking dogs will be turned over to the Attorney to send a letter to the dog owner.

South Dakota Municipal League membership for 2026 is due. Motion by Engesser, second by Schumacher to pay the Municipal League dues of \$532.00. All voting aye; carried.

Motion by Nosbush, second by Engesser to renew the Municipal League Affiliate dues. All voting aye; carried.

Motion by Nelson, second by Christians to go into executive session for personnel and legal matters at 7:36 pm. All voting aye; carried. Motion by Schumacher, second by Nelson to exit at 8:30 pm. All voting aye; carried. No action was taken.

Building permits issued in November: Doug Hulscher.

The end of year meeting will be held on Monday, December 29, 2025 at 5:00 pm.

Motion by Engesser, second by Schumacher to adjourn. All voting aye; carried.

City Council, City of Gary

Joni Kjelden, Finance Officer

Published December 10, 2025

Published once at an approximate cost of \$