

City of Gary, South Dakota  
Regular Council Meeting  
Monday, May 4, 2026 at 7:30 pm at Gary City Hall

The Gary City Council met in regular session on Monday, May 4, 2026, at 7:30 pm in the City Hall.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Mayor Larry Stoks presided. Alderman Neil Schumacher, Darwyn Engesser, Jessica Christians were present. Mike Nosbush was available by phone. Jay Grabow was absent. Doug Nelson arrived at 7:32 pm. Present also were Joni Kjelden, Austin Crocker, Robin Lanners, Koyla Kruse Albert Bekaert, John Deslauriers, Amy Knutson, Laura Zehnpfennig, Marilyn Koeppen, Bev Koeppen, Rod & Patty Meadors, Gary Hudiburgh, Sara Guest, Patricia Fields, Shasta Fields, Joe Kolbach, Jim Kellen, Pat Sears, Rachel Hinsvark, Jodie Engesser, Mary Nosbush, Darren Engesser, Angel Oeltjenbruns, Jen Pederson, Elio Andrade and Reed Mahlke.

Motion by Schumacher, second by Engesser to approve the agenda with removing item 22 b. All voting aye; carried.

Motion by Engesser, second by Schumacher to approve the minutes of the April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. All voting aye; carried.

**General-April 2026 Bills**

Finance Office-2,052.46;Fire Dept-70.77;Streets-3,999.53;Library-665.51;Parks-686.75;Golf-1,070.66;RUS-74.58;Water-1,294.75;Sewer-1,337.29;Aflac-March premium-165.64;AT&T-data connect-44.69;Austin Crocker-cell phone-25.00;Banyon Data Systems-software support-2,764.00;Bjerke Sanitation-garbage-2,898.36;BDRW-371,000 gallons-1,480.75;City of Clear Lake-fire hydrant, vac trailer-1,720.00;City of Gary-firehall-wsg-83.17,city hall-garbage,surcharges-171.20;Clear Lake Courier-city notices/proceedings-208.66;Code Enforcement Specialist-2026 retainer fee-1,500.00;DCFU-fuel charges-276.16;DCSO-law enforcement-605.90;DNB National Bank-ach fee,UB-15.53;EFTPS/941 Tax-FWT-590.82,OASI-1,809.78;First Bank & Trust-credit card-468.84;Gary Post Office-stamps-100.00;HD Electric-cemetery electricity-61.76;Helsper, McCarty & Rasmussen, PC-March Atty fees-4,372.50;ITC-phone,internet,alarm loop-95.62,Library-DSL,static IP-53.45;Logan Gjerset-level, clean headstones-1,175.00;Maguire Iron, Inc-water tower clean-1,850.00;Menards-supplies-82.65;Milbank Winwater-water meter supplies-109.00;Ottetail Power Co.-electricity-783.33;Sodak Gardens-2 trees-169.50;SDARWS-2026 Class B membership-385.00;SD DANR-fee-100.00;SD Public Health Lab-coliform test-20.00;SD DOR-Mar & Apr garbage tax-344.62;SD One Call-Jan-Mar messages-17.85;SDRS-April contribution-1,228.86;Sun Life-April premium-493.87;VanDiest Supply-mosquito chemical-1,620.00;Wellmark BCBS-May premium-2,716.52.

**Liquor-April 2026 Bills**

Municipal Liquor-13,742.04;Aflac-March premium-358.83;Blue Sky Security-recorder-1,635.60;Cask & Cork-liquor-466.00;Chesterman-pop-681.65;City of Gary-wsg-239.35;CoreMark-tobacco,food,supplies-2,000.00;Dan's Refrigeration-ice machine repair-1,072.00;Doll Distributing-beer-5,377.73;EFTPS/941 Tax-FWT-669.63,OASI-1,797.62;First Bank & Trust-credit card-502.03;Gary Post Office-stamps-39.00;Harry's Pizza-pizza-495.00;Henry's Foods-tobacco, food, supplies-958.69;ITC-phone,DSL,TV-252.59;Jim Dandy-jerky-99.00;Johnson Bros-liquor-884.21;Lizzy Hofer-April 4 entertainment-500.00;Madison Bottling Co-pop-325.50;Nosbush Plbg & Htg-water softener rent & ice machine filters-343.86;Old Dutch Foods-chips-167.04;Ottetail Power Co-electricity-541.64;Pizza & Burger Shack-pizza-216.00;Porter Dist Co-beer,wine/coolers-2,527.25;RNDC-liquor-416.20;Robin Lanners-cell phone-98.74;Southern Glazers-liquor-913.30;SD DOR-April liquor sales tax-2,818.44;SDRS-April contribution-1,347.40;Star Laundry-rugs,towels-91.18;Technicolor Screen Printing-apparel-378.74;Wellmark BCBS-May premium-3,492.68.

**Wastewater-April 2026 Bills**

D & G Excavating-construction-30,834.50; Helms & Associates-const observation, project coord-9,716.71.

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

Public comment: Rachel Hinsvark addressed concerns about the City Attorney. Gary Hudiburgh introduced himself as a candidate running for District 4 House of Representatives.

Reed Mahlke, City Attorney summarized the complaint binder, noting that many entries were submitted by the same two individuals, were employee related, incomplete, undated, or several years old, and he recommended moving forward. The City has implemented a new complaint process to ensure timely intake and handling.

Gary Hudiburgh gave an update that the City did not receive the \$2 million in Community Project Funding that was submitted in March through the SD congressional offices.

The heating and cooling system at the firehall needs repair. Darren Engesser, representing the Fire Department presented an estimate from Nosbush Plumbing & Heating for the work and asked whether the City would contribute toward the project. Motion by Christians, second by Nosbush to pay half the cost. Schumacher, Engesser, Nosbush, Christians; aye, Nelson, no; carried.

A public hearing was held on the Retail On-Off Sale Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine application submitted by Jennifer Pederson, Gate City General Store, Inc with no public comment. Following discussion, Nelson moved to approve an off sale only Malt Beverage & SD Farm Fine license, second by Schumacher. All voting aye; carried.

Patricia Fields expressed concerns about the minimal fee mobile food trucks are charged.

Joe Kolbach presented the preliminary drawings for the sewer system at Kolbach Addition on Lac Qui Parle Street.

A Conditional Use application submitted by Pat Sears to place a commercial storage building at his residential property will be heard by the Board of Adjustment at a public hearing on June 1, 2026 at 7:30 pm.

Motion by Engesser, second by Nosbush to approve the following Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine License renewals for 2026-2027: The Alibi, LLC. Lots 5 & 6, Block 1, Original Plat, Town of Gary, SD. On & off sale. Peden-Cole American Legion Post 109, E 24' Lot 11, all Lots 12-13-14, Block 1, Original Plat, Town of Gary, SD. On sale only. All voting aye; carried.

Motion by Nelson, second by Schumacher to enter executive session for legal matters at 8:08 pm. All voting aye; carried. Mayor declared out at 8:21 pm. No action was taken.

Koyla Kruse, Librarian shared details of an upcoming Summer Reading program for school aged children, aimed at encouraging library activities and reducing screen time, with rewards based on hours read. Nelson moved to give \$60 for Gary Bucks for the rewards, second by Schumacher. All voting aye; carried.

Motion by Schumacher, second by Engesser to approve the second change order for the Wastewater project. This change includes additional street repairs. All voting aye; carried.

The twelfth payment request from the State Revolving Fund loan in the amount of \$60,402 was approved to send in with a motion by Nelson, second by Nosbush. All voting aye; carried.

Motion by Nelson, second by Engesser to reinvest \$150,000 in a 15-month Treasury note with SD FIT. All voting aye; carried. Rates range 3.64%-3.69%.

Expiring Council terms in 2026 are two-year terms for Mayor, Alderman in Ward I, II, III. City election will be held November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Gary Liquor Store requested a special temporary liquor license for a beer garden on July 3 & 4, 2026 at lot 8 less W 13', all of lot 9, Original Plat, Town of Gary, SD. On sale only. Motion by Engesser, second by Schumacher to approve, all voting aye; carried.

Employee contribution, committee & ward reports were heard.

Building permits issued in April: Jim Kellen, Pat Sears.

The next regular council meeting will be Monday, June 1, 2026, at 7:30 pm at the Gary City Hall.

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

City Council, City of Gary

Joni Kjelden, Finance Officer

Published May 13, 2026

Published once at an approximate cost of \$