

City of Gary, South Dakota
Board of Adjustment, Planning & Zoning Commission, City Council
Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 7:30 pm at Gary City Hall

The Gary City Council met in joint session on Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 7:30 pm at the Gary City Hall.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Mayor Larry Stoks presided. Alderman Neil Schumacher, Darwyn Engesser, Mike Nosbush, Jay Grabow, and Jessica Lambertz, were present. Doug Nelson was absent. Also present, Joni Kjelden, Austin Crocker, John Deslauriers, Jim Kellen, Albert Bekeart, John Ask, Joe Kolbach, Pat Sears, Lynda Rol, Bev Koeppen, Joey Gislason, Kelly & Wendi Schuerman, Marilyn Koeppen, Jeff Nordseth, Anna Baumiller, Kitty Kloos, Lorna Melby, Crystal Gislason, Steve & Sandy Strong, Vera Meyer, Mel Borg, Rod & Patty Meadors, Gloria Dessler, Angel Oeltjenbruns, Judy Heth, Mary Nosbush, Jerry Tongen, Jim Thorpe, Mike Hinsvark, Luccus Ippolito, Darren Engesser.

Motion by Nosbush, second by Grabow to approve the agenda as written. All voting aye; carried.

The Finance Officer noted that conflict of interest declaration will be a standing agenda item going forward. There were no disclosed conflicts.

Motion by Engesser, second by Nosbush to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2026 meeting. All voting aye; carried.

General-August 2026 bills-Aflac-July premium-165.64;AT&T-data connect-45.69;Austin Crocker-cell phone-25.00;Banner Associates-design, funding application-8,850.20;Bjerke Sanitation-garbage-3,117.43;Bobcat of Brookings-service bobcat-2,236.46;BDRW-561,000 gallons-2,098.25;City of Gary-wsg-firehall-184.91,garbage-city hall-171.20;Clear Lake Courier-city notices,proceedings-190.05;D & L Digging, Inc-black dirt-450.00;DCFU-fuel charges-2,869.22;DCSO-law enforcement-605.90;DNB National Bank-ach fee-15.81;EFTPS/941 Tax-FWT-622.99,OASI-2,084.20;Gary Post Office-stamps, annual PO box renewal-237.00;Grease Monkey Truck-plow truck repairs-4,073.55;HD Electric-cemetery electricity-61.49;Independent Audit Services-2025 audit-1,625.00;ITC-phone, internet, fax, alarm loop-96.07,Library-static IP, DSL-53.45;Menards-supplies-10.44;Office Peeps-toner-558.97;OTPCO-electricity-883.40;Riteway Business Forms-2,000 laser checks-151.78;SD Public Health Lab-coliform test-20.00;SDRS-August contribution-1,322.46;SD DOR-July & August garbage tax-367.87;Sun Life-August premium-493.87;VanDiest-Mosquito chemical-756.00;Wellmark BCBS-Sept premium-2,716.52.

Liquor- August 2026 bills-Aflac-July premium-358.83;Cash-Wa Distributing-food/supplies-798.78;Cask & Cork-beer-2,962.00;Chesterman Coca-Cola-pop-441.30;City of Gary-wsg-229.27;Doll Distributing-beer-9,720.54;EFTPS/941 Tax-FWT-643.92,OASI-1,830.70;Eric Hansen-28 miles @ .70-19.60;First Bank & Trust-credit card-440.92;Gary Liquor Store-open juke box-20.00;Glacial Lakes Ice-trailer rent 8/8-500.00;Harry's Pizza-pizza-693.00;Henry's Foods-tobacco,food,supplies-1,264.14;ITC-phone,DSL,TV-254.12;Johnson Bros-liquor-1,807.60;Old Dutch Foods-chips-132.24;OTPCO-electricity-621.81;Porter Distributing Co-beer, wine/coolers-2,744.60;Quality Brands South Dakota-liquor-477.00;Riteway Business Forms-2,000 laser checks-151.78;Robin Lanners-cell phone,86 miles @ .70-85.20;SD Lottery-2027 video lottery renewal-100.00;SDRS-August contribution-1,210.60;SD DOR-August sales tax-4,161.21;Southern Glazers of SD-liquor-260.80;Star Laundry-rugs,towels-95.10;Sultans of Sing-Aug 15 entertainment-350.00;Wellmark BCBS-September premium-3,492.68.

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

There was no public comment.

Second reading of the 2027 Appropriation Ordinance #389 was held. Motion by Nosbush, second by Engesser to adopt. Roll call vote, all aye; carried.

The Lac Qui Parle St and Second Ave bridges were awarded the design grant by the SD Transportation Commission through the Federal Local Bridge Program. Motion by Grabow, second by Schumacher to sign the agreement with South Dakota Dept of Transportation. All voting aye; carried.

Code Enforcement Officer conducted routine inspections and followed up on previously identified violations.

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

A public hearing has held for a Conditional Use permit by Kelly & Wendi Schuerman. Their request to place a storage container on their property was approved with a motion by Schumacher, second by Grabow. All voting aye; carried.

Motion to adjourn Board of Adjustment and convene jointly with the Planning & Zoning Commission by Grabow, second by Nosbush. All voting aye; carried.

Patricia Fields presented a plat map to the city office for review by the Planning Commission. Motion was made by Grabow, second by Nosbush to approve resolution 2026-05 as stated.

RESOLUTION NO: 2026-05

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF GARY, SOUTH DAKOTA

Whereas Patricia Fields, owner of the hereinafter described real property, has submitted to the governing board a proposed plat of the following described real estate situated in the City of Gary in the State of South Dakota to-wit:

“Buffalo Prairie Addition to the City of Gary, Deuel County, South Dakota”

The governing board of said City having examined the proposed plat and it appearing that all municipal taxes and special assessments, if any, upon said plat and survey have been executed according to the law and that all streets, alleys and easements conform to all requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that said plat and survey be and are hereby in all things accepted and approved on this _____ day of _____, 20____.
(seal)

CITY OF GARY:

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Finance Officer

All voting aye; carried.

Grabow moved, second by Engesser to adjourn Planning & Zoning Commission and reconvene as City Council only. All voting aye; carried.

Angel Oeltjenbruns representing Gate City Development Association addressed the Council regarding funding. She stated she is continuing efforts to obtain confirmation from the IRS regarding the 501(c) tax-exempt status. Motion by Engesser, second by Schumacher to hold funds while the IRS compliance status has been determined. All voting aye; carried.

Members of the Gate City Development Association appeared before the Council regarding efforts to obtain financial records from the GCDA Board, noting that only certain financial information had been provided in response to the request. The members requested City support in pursuing access to additional financial records and in requesting a forensic audit. Discussion was held regarding the need for a forensic audit, including the cost in comparison to a certified audit, the appropriate scope of the audit, and the possibility of obtaining proposals from other auditing firms. Schumacher made a motion to support their request, with an audit for transparency and to involve the City Attorney and Eide Bailly in determining the appropriate scope and next steps, second by Engesser. Motion passed with Schumacher & Engesser; aye, Lambertz & Nosbush; no, and Grabow recused himself. The Mayor casting the tie-breaking vote in favor.

With the absence of the senior center in town, a request was presented to use the Firehall/Community Center for social activities, including card and board games. Motion by Schumacher, second by Grabow to allow the use at no cost. All voting aye; carried. Once the days for these activities are determined, notice will be provided for anyone interested in attending. Users will be expected to leave the facility as they found it.

Motion by Nosbush, second by Engesser to approve the letter of acceptance from the DLA for the 2025-year end Audit. All voting aye; carried.

Letter of comments provided by the auditor following the 2025 audit were reviewed. Motion by Grabow, second by Schumacher to accept the comments. All voting aye; carried.

Motion by Nosbush, second by Engesser to accept the proposal from Ben Elliott, CPA to complete the 2026-year end audit for a fixed rate of \$7,500. All voting aye; carried.

Approving the payment request and the completion form for the wastewater project is on hold pending discussion of items with the contractor.

Motion by Engesser, second by Schumacher to approve the 2026 Law Enforcement contract with Deuel County. All voting aye; carried.

Motion by Schumacher, second by Nosbush to continue the advertising membership with Glacial Lakes & Prairies for \$240. All voting aye; carried.

November 3, 2026 will be the municipal election for Ward I Alderman. Motion by Grabow, second by Lambertz to designate the Firehall as the official polling place and appoint John Ask, Judy Heth, Patty Meadors as the election board paying \$205 for the day. All voting aye; carried.

Motion by Engesser, second by Grabow to fill the propane tanks at the Firehall, Liquor Store and City Hall utilizing the summer fill rate @ \$1.49 with Deuel County Farmers Union and contract 2,000 gallons at \$1.59. All voting aye; carried.

Motion by Grabow, second by Nosbush to prepay \$558.60 for pest control with Minn-Kota Pest Services at the liquor store. All voting aye; carried.

Employee, Committee & Ward reports were heard.

No executive session was entered.

Building permits issued in August: Dennis Nosbush, Paul Rodriguez, John Deslauriers, Larry Stoks, Pamela Burns.

Next regular council meeting will be October 5, 2026 at 7:30 pm at the Gary City Hall.

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

City Council, City of Gary

Joni Kjelden, Finance Officer

Published September 16, 2026

Published once at an approximate cost of \$