

MINUTES
DANBURY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
DANBURY LIBRARY
MAY 27, 2026

A meeting of the Danbury Town Council was held at the Danbury Library on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Gary East and Council members Steve Shelton, Shannon Conner, and Andrew Mathys. Town Administrator Mike Barsness, Town Clerk Renea Brown and Town Attorney Eugene Russell were also present. A quorum was recorded.

Absent: Jacob Tilley

Visitors present: None

Gary East called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Shannon Conner, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the agenda as proposed.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT:

Gary East asked if any council member had a Conflict of Interest regarding items on the meeting agenda. Steve Shelton stated that if any discussion comes up about Camping Island Creek St. improvements, he may need to recuse himself and will consult the town attorney.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Steve Shelton stated that there are only three meetings left before it will be time for the Stokes Stomp Parade.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Gary East stated that the LOG dinner went great. He suggested it was the best LOG meeting to date.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. On motion of Shannon Conner, seconded by Steve Shelton, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the April 22, 2026, meeting.

2. On motion of Andrew Mathys, seconded by Steve Shelton, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Accounts Payable for the period of April 23, 2026 to May 27, 2026.
3. On motion of Andrew Mathys, seconded by Shannon Conner, it was unanimously RESOLVED to open the Public Hearing to receive comment on the proposed budget. The time was 6:38 PM.

On motion of Andrew Mathys, seconded by Steve Shelton, it was unanimously RESOLVED to close the Public Hearing. The time was 6:38 PM. No public comment was received.

4. On motion of Andrew Mathys, seconded by Shannon Conner, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the FYE 6-30-26 contract for auditing services proposed by Gardner & Co. CPA , in the amount not to exceed \$8,700.00.
5. Mike Barsness gave an update on the quote that Destination by Design created for the Town of Danbury. The quote consisted of updating the towns current Comp Plan and a plan for renovating the town's 1 acre park. The cost was quoted at \$48,750. Gary East asked what the risk could be for the town if the comp plan was not updated. Eugene Russell stated that the town could be at risk of losing planning authority. Mike Barsness stated that the last time the town worked on the Comp Plan was ten years ago when the county created one for the entire county and Danbury paid a small portion of that plan. Steven Shelton would like to see the park portion broken out separately and review that quote. Eugene Russell also stated that when you have a professional Comp Plan, it may help the town in acquiring grants. Mike Barsness will contact Destination by Design and ask them to break out the park portion of the quote. He will also speak with PTRC to understand if less expensive comp plan options are available. Steve Shelton spoke on the Trail Head project. He and Mike Barsness are still communicating with Carter Spradling of PTRC and others to clarify trail routes, trail heads, and grant options. They will talk again on June 9, 2026.
6. The council discussed the upcoming Stokes Stomp Parade and will revisit the subject at the next meeting.
7. Administrator's Report
 - a. Ken Carrick has received a zoning permit to open a motorcycle equipment & apparel shop.

- b. The Christmas lights are still on the tree and will need to be removed soon or they may be damaged for the upcoming year. Gary East said that he would get the group that put them up to remove them.
- c. John Turpin is working on his building on Courthouse Circle and wants to reroute electrical service to the rear of the building and then remove the overhead service on Courthouse Circle. Duke Energy has requested that an easement be granted by the Town to allow a power pole to be placed on Town property in order to accomplish the requested change. Eugene Russell and Mike Barsness will be discussing the terms of the easement before a recommendation to Council will be made.
- d. The Arts Place is in the process of creating a plan to have a Social District developed. They would like for visitors to be able to enjoy beverages outside of the Arts Place building. Mike Barsness stated that he will discuss this with Eddy McGee before drafting an ordinance for consideration.

On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Shannon Conner, it was unanimously RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 pm.

Gary East
Mayor

Attest:

Renea Brown
Town Clerk

(Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 24, 2026, 6:30 PM, at the Danbury Library.)