

FEBRUARY

February Mayor Message

The State of the City address was given at the January 9th City Council meeting. In 2023 the City of Vergas began the steps to move Vergas toward the vision outlined in the city comprehensive plan. The comprehensive plan had 58 strategic actions across components of Land Use, Housing, Transportation, Business & Economic Development, Public Services & Facilities and Parks & Open Spaces. At the one-year mark of the plan; beginning steps and progress was noted in 29 (50%) of the 58 strategic actions.

It would be difficult to touch on every aspect, but wanted to highlight two of the key priorities that were outlined in the plan.

Parking was voiced as a priority in the comprehensive plan. With Vergas securing the lot, where the Otter Tail County garage was located, there are 21 new parking spaces to the downtown. There will be finishing touches of asphaltting, parking lines and fencing this spring.

Housing was another voiced priority. With new housing developments, there are 51 new housing lots available in city limits; Lawrence Lake 24, Keily Shores 16, and Sunny Oaks 11. OTC will have 3 of the Sunny Oaks lots with a future plan for 6 Senior Living Units.

The Comprehensive plan and established VISION Statement for Vergas have driven a number of actions and accomplishments that aligns Vergas for continued success. The full State of the City Address can be found on the city website www.cityofvergas.com. Is located in City Tab under City Officials and entitled 2024 Mayor's City of Vergas Address.

Looking forward to another successful year in Vergas!



On the move...
the City Office will be moving to 131 E. Main Street in March. We look forward to serving you in our new space. Thank you for your patience during the transition.

The City Office will be closed Mon., Feb. 19 In observance of



Where all the profits, profit Vergas

The Vergas Liquor Store

218-302-1516

MON-THU 11am- 9 pm

FRI-SAT 9am-9:55pm

SUN 11am – 5pm

Celebrate with your Sweetie!



Happy Valentine's Day



The Mayor's State of the City Address

Can be found at www.cityofvergas.com under the City tab. Click on City Officials

2024
CITY MEETINGS
To access Hybrid Meetings
Via Zoom: Meeting ID:
267 094 2170
Password 56587
or Attend In Person
@ VEC Smart Room or
Government Service Center 131 E. Main

Changes in our meetings to be posted on the City of Vergas website www.cityofvergas.com And Vergas Event Center sign

If you would like to be on the agenda of any of these meetings, please have information to City Clerk by the Wed. before the meeting.

Vergas City Council Meeting:
Tuesday - Feb. 13th 6:30 p.m.

Vergas Event Center
 (2nd Tuesday of the month)

Planning Commission Mtg:
Monday -Feb. 26th 6:00 p.m.
 Government Service Center 131 E. Main
 (4th Monday of the month)

Vergas Event Center Advisory Board:
Tuesday- Feb. 27th 5:30 p.m.
 Vergas Event Center- Smart Room
 (4th Tuesday of the month)

Park Board Meeting:
Thursday - Feb. 22nd 3:00 p.m.
 Government Service Center 131 E. Main
 (4th Thursday of the month)

EDA/HRA Meeting:
Tuesday- Feb. 13th 2:00 p.m.
NOTE DATE CHANGE
 Government Service Center 131 E. Main
 (Usually 1st Tuesday of the month)

Presidential Primary MARCH 5





2024 Cat & Dog Licenses
 Available at the City Office or LiquorStore
 Documentation of Distemper & Rabies
 Vaccination Required



\$10.00 per pet OR \$8.00 per pet if your pet has been neutered.
 All Cat & Dog Residents are required to have current a City License & up to date vaccinations. If your pet's license tag is **PURPLE**, it's expired & needs to be replaced now. Deadline for current license holders is March 31.



NEW UTILITY RATES Effective Jan. 1, 2024
Water: Base - \$28.50 Usage \$4.25 per 1,000 gal.
Sewer: Base - \$28.50 Usage \$2.75 per 1,000 gal.



**Hansel & Gretel
 Musical & Theater
 Production
 Coming to Vergas!
 July 8 – 13, 2024**

Sponsored by the Vergas Community Club

2024 Golf Carts Permits

Available at the City Office or Liquor Store

2024 Non-Resident Yard Waste Permits

Available for everyone who does not reside within the City of Vergas.

If you ARE a City resident, there is a special FREE permit for you. They were available last year & are valid as long as you own your property. If you've not picked one up, please stop by. It's purple, so if that's what you have, you're good to go! These are available in the City Office only.

**A new Utility Billing Program
Muni Billing**

The City of Vergas has purchased a new utility billing program. You will notice a change in the look of your utility bill. The city would like to invite you to receive your utility bill by email and pay with Automatic Clearing House (ach). If you sign up for both email and ach payments, a credit of \$1.00 will be applied to your bill. The city will be discontinuing our current ach payments through Vergas State Bank, the municipal pay and DOXIO. You are still able to pay your bill at Vergas State Bank, the Vergas Liquor Store, or the Vergas City Office. If you have any questions about the new system, please contact us at 218-302-5996 ext. 0 or email rrichards@cityofvergas.com.

**HOUSEHOLD
 HAZARDOUS WASTE
 COLLECTION**

Thursday, June 20, 2024
 10:00am – 2:00pm
 121 W Linden Street
 (behind the Event Center)
 Accepted materials include:
 Paint (Latex & Oil),
 Pesticides & Cleaners,
 Automotive fluids, Gasoline,
 Oil & Oil Filters, Fluorescent
 bulbs (maximum of 10).
**Volunteers are needed to
 help with collections!**
 Please call City Office at
 218-302-5996 for more info.



**2024
 COMMUNITY
 MEETINGS**

Changes in our meetings
 to be posted on the
 City of Vergas website
www.cityofvergas.com

and on the
Vergas Event Center sign

Vergas Lions Club:

Tuesday – Feb. 13th 5:30 p.m.

Vergas Event Center
 (2nd Tuesday of the month)

Vergas Arts Club

Thursday - Mar. 14th 2:00 p.m.

Billy's Corner Bar & Grill
 (2nd Thursday of the month)

Community Club Meeting:

Monday – Mar. 4th 5:30 p.m.

Vergas State Bank/ Lower Level
 (1st Monday of the month)

2024 Save the Date

- Billy's Hook and Slice- Mar. 2
- Presidential Preference Primary
 --March 5-
- Maple Syrup Fest - Apr. 13
- Fire & Rescue Pancake Fundraiser
 - Date to be determined -
- Lions Blood Drive – June 6
- Shops & Hops – June 8
- Downtown Art Camp - June 15
- Hazardous Waste – June 20
- Hansel & Gretel Musical
 -July 8 – 13-
- Looney Days - Aug. 8 - 11
- Presidential Primary - Aug 13
- Backroads Studio Art Crawl
 -Sept. 21 –
- Hairyman Festival - Sept. 28
- Wine Walk – Oct. 19
- CDH-Vergas
- Fire & Rescue Fundraiser
 – Oct. 26 -
- Halloween Party – Oct. 31
- General Election November 5
- Festival of Trees - Nov. 23
- Small Town Christmas
 -Nov. 30-