

VERGAS COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MEETING MINUTES
VERGAS EVENTS CENTER & ZOOM
Wednesday, June 29, 2022

The City Council of Vergas met at 7:00 pm, on Wednesday, June 29, 2022, at the Vergas Event Center and on a Zoom for a hybrid special council meeting with the following members present: Mayor Julie Bruhn, Council Members: Logan Dahlgren, Paul Pinke and Bruce Albright. Absent: Natalie Fischer. Also present: Clerk/Treasurer Julie Lammers, Celeste Koppe, Emily Reno, Marsha Huddleston, David Helgersen and Patrick Hollister.

Mayor Julie Bruhn called the Public Hearing to order and gave a review of comprehensive plan.

A comprehensive plan is an expression of a community's vision for the future and a strategic map to reach that vision. Comprehensive planning is an important tool for cities to guide future development of land to ensure a safe, pleasant, and economical environment for residents to live work and play. The Comprehensive Planning Steering Committee has sought to engage the community's input throughout the planning process by providing information on the city's website, conducting a community wide survey, and by hosting a series of public engagement opportunities. The Steering Committee, Planning Commission and City Staff have worked hard to not only seek public input throughout this process but also to translate local community input into tangible goals and strategies that can be used by both city staff and elected officials to guide the community in the coming years.

Celeste Koppe and Emily Reno reviewed the proposed Comprehensive Plan and Council, and guests were encouraged to discuss the plan. Citizen expressed concerns regarding parking and blocked traffic from train, which are addressed in the comprehensive plan.

The following items will be reviewed before plan is brought to Council for approval:

What was done well:

- 1) The formatting and overall look of the plan is organized in a way that makes sense.
- 2) The Introduction section is a good foundation and overview of the City of Vergas and purpose of a Comprehensive Plan.
- 3) The Process section clearly identifies how community engagement was accomplished.

What could be expanded on or is missing:

- 1) A Vision Statement is missing.
- 2) The Community Profile section is a little lacking in supporting data and could be improved.
- 3) Action sections were left blank in some of the goals as it correlates with the strategies.
- 4) Duplicate Zoning Map has no purpose.
- 5) A Future Land Use Plan Map should be included and is essential for a Comp Plan implementation strategy.
- 6) More detail is needed for Transportation, Utilities, Parks, Community Services, Trails.
- 7) The City of Vergas is subject to the President Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bill to Preserve Agricultural, Forest, Wildlife and Open Space Land. (Minn. Stat. 462.357).

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Julie Lammers, CMC
Vergas Clerk-Treasurer