

City Council
2026 May Council Meeting
Vergas Event Center & Zoom Id number 267-094-2170 password 56587
6:15 PM on Tuesday, May 19, 2026

- 1. Public Hearing-Proposed Vacation of Alley**
- 2. Call to Order at 6:30 pm or immediately following public hearing**
- 3. Citizens' Concerns**
- 4. Agenda Additions and Deletions**
- 5. Approval of Consent Agenda**
 - A. Council Minutes of April 21, 2026
 - B. Bills paid between Council meetings and Council bills
 - C. Liquor Store bills for April 2026
 - D. Late water/sewer bills
 - E. 2026 Investment Schedule/Bond Schedule
 - F. General Fund Special Revenue Money Market Account
 - G. 2026 Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances
 - H. League of MN Cities Insurance Trust Liability Coverage Waiver Form
 - I. Election Judges
 - H. Committee Reports
 1. EDA/HRA
 2. Planning Commission
 3. Streets/Sidewalks/Yard Waste Committee
- 6. Otter Tail County Giants**
- 7. Vacation of Alley**
- 8. Committee Reports**
 - A. Park Advisory Board
- 9. Staff Reports**
 - A. Engineering Report
 - B. Clerk Treasurer Report
 1. Ringdahl Subsidy
 2. Insurance Deductible
 3. Election Judges
 - C. Utilities Report
- 10. Information & Announcements**

Meetings and Events:

 - A. Household Hazardous Waste Day, Thursday, June 25, 2026, 10:00 - 2:00 Vergas Event Center Parking Lot

Employee 2026 Trainings:

 - A. League of MN Cities Annual Conference June 24-26, 2026, in Rochester (Bruhn, Albright and Stenger)
 - B. 16th Annual Operator Expo, (MN Rural Water) August 25, 2026, (Utilities Superintendent and Maintenance Operator)
 - C. Clerk's Advanced Academy- September 10-11, 2026, in Otsego, MN (Clerk-Treasurer)
- 11. Adjournment**

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City Council
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1. Public Hearing-Proposed Vacation of Alley

Files Attached

- Public Hearing Notice Vacation of Alley.pdf

CITY OF VERGAS
OTTER TAIL COUNTY, MINNESOTA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING PROPOSED VACATION OF ALLEY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Vergas Council, City of Vergas of Otter Tail County, Minnesota (the "City"), will hold a public hearing, at 6:15 p.m., on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, to be held at the Vergas Event Center, 140 W Linden Vergas, Minnesota, to consider a vacating an alley, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 412.851.

The alley proposed to be vacated is legally described as follows:

"The dedicated alley located in Block 9 of the Plat of the Original Town of Altona (now Vergas) Minnesota, lying between Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and Lots 7, 8,9,10,11,12 of said Block 9."

The proposed vacation was initiated by City Council resolution. The alley is proposed to be vacated to avoid spending public funds on property no longer serving a public purpose.

All interested parties are invited to attend and will be given the opportunity to ask questions and to provide public input and/or comments. If you are unable to attend the hearing, you are invited to submit your comments in writing to the City Clerk-Treasurer prior to the scheduled hearing. Written comments and questions will be addressed at the hearing and a written response will be provided by the city. Non-English-speaking residents and other persons with special needs who plan to attend the hearing are asked to contact City Hall (218) 302-5996 prior to the hearing so arrangements can be made to address any specific requirements.

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4. Agenda Additions and Deletions

Files Attached

- Fire Board meeting May 18 2026.pdf
- Planning Commission Minutes 5.18.26.pdf
- licence nuisance resolution.pdf
- City Employees Quote for Garage removal.pdf
- CCF_001383.pdf
- Loon Painting Quote.pdf

CDH-Vergas Fire & Rescue Board Meeting was held May 18, 2026. The following actions were taken.

1. Approved the transition to new board officers, which will begin at the November meeting.
Chair: Bruce Moe, Supervisor Candor Township
Vice Chair: Larry Hoffman, Supervisor Hobart Township
Secretary: Julie Bruhn Mayor City of Vergas
Board Member: David Helgerson, Supervisor Dora Township

2. Approved moving forward with solar installation on the Fire Hall. Based upon WCI solar analysis estimates the cost at \$100,356 with balance after incentives at \$20,071. ROI projected in 5 years. Fire Board wanted to reserve the right to pull out based upon what the Holsen proposal entails for solar configuration, final cost, and financing plan. One side of the fire hall is shingled and though over 20 years old remains in good shape. This was raised as an issue dependent where the solar panels would be installed and Holsen's assessment. Holsen to evaluate the fire hall on May 27, 2026.

3. Approved moving forward with the refurbishing of one of the tanker trucks. A new tanker costs \$500,000. Both Fire Department tankers are over 20 years old. Would refurbish one truck this year and the other next year. Bids were solicited. Quote estimate \$82,000.00 for tanker 1. The Fire Department is contributing \$50,000.00 and remainder would come from the Truck Fund that the city and each township contribute to.

4. Bids were obtained to repair the concrete retaining wall that is crumbling and at risk of collapsing toward Hanson's Plumbing and Heating storage building. The work would entail the following:
Concrete wall removal and lowering parking lot
Excavation for concrete walls
Excavation to lower the parking lot to street level
Installation of footings for new retaining wall
Installation of new retaining wall
Installation of steel where existing retaining wall is
Installation of foam- 4' down and 4' out from building
Paving of the parking lot with 2 ½" asphalt

Lowest bid accepted at cost of \$48,871.02 with construction this year.

Recommendation: City of Vergas and each of the Townships approve and contribute funding based on their percentage of budget. Vergas is 11% entailing a cost of \$5,375.81.

Submitted by;
/es/Julie Bruhn

City of Vergas Planning Commission Minutes
Monday, May 18, 2026 at 6:00 PM
Government Services Building and Zoom

The City of Vergas Planning Commission held a regular hybrid meeting on Monday, May 18, 2026, on Zoom and at the Vergas Government Services Building.

2026	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Alex Ohman, Chair	A	P	P	P	P							
Bruce Albright, Liaison	P	P	P	P	P							
Dave Johnston, Member	P	P	P	P	P							
Rebecca Hasse, Member	P	P	P	A	A							
Jim Courneya, Member	P	A	P	P	P							
Julie Lammers, Clerk-Treasurer	P	P	P	P	P							
Mike Dufrane, Utilities Superintendent	P	A	A	A	P							

P: Present. A: Absent N/A: No Meeting

Present in person: Employees of Mark Sand and Gravel Brianne Balcer.

Present via zoom: Citizen James Stenger and Jeff Iphone; Employee of Mark Sand and Gravel Brandon Brusven and Engineer Blaine Green of Widseth.

Call to Order

Chair Ohman called the Planning Commission meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Agenda Additions or Deletions

City Ordinance Update, was removed from the agenda.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Johnston, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Motion by Albright, seconded by Courneya, to approve the minutes from April 27, 2026 with noted corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

Status of Council Recommendations

None.

Construction Permits

Active Construction Permits

Lammers reported that several permits on the active list had been renewed in recent weeks, as indicated by dual dates on the permit list. No permits have been fully completed. Albright noted that he and another Commissioner intended to conduct site visits prior to the June meeting to review and close out applicable permits.

Construction Permits Approved by Clerk

124 Main St, New Roof

Lammers confirmed that the new roof permit for 124 Main Street had been approved. No further action was required.

Construction Permit Applications

401 W Lake St – Deck

Lammers presented the permit application for a deck at 401 West Lake Street, noting that the structure would be situated within the footprint of the property with approximately 40 feet of setback on each side. No setback or zoning issues were identified.

Motion by Ohman, seconded by Courneya, to approve the construction permit for a deck at 401 West Lake Street. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Interim Use Permit — Mark Sand & Gravel

Green appeared via Zoom to present his site inspection report for Mark's Sand and Gravel. He provided the following executive summary:

- **Screening:** Trees on site are growing well and being maintained.
- **Access Roads:** Access roads are in good condition; a previously paved entrance has helped reduce dust onto the roadway.
- **Slopes:** All slopes meet the required standards.
- **Setbacks:** Setback noncompliance remains the primary ongoing issue, inherited from prior ownership. Approximately 1.21 acres remain noncompliant, consistent with the prior year's figures. However, Green noted that the operator has hauled an estimated 28,000 cubic yards of material off-site between 2025 and 2026, and piles appear to be actively shifting southward toward the noncompliant zones, indicating a meaningful effort to achieve compliance.

Green concluded that, while noncompliance in those areas persists, the operator's actions are consistent with stated intentions to make progress, and he stated he had no objection to issuing the permit for the coming year. Albright noted that the full written report would be distributed to both the City and Mark's Sand and Gravel upon completion.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Courneya, to issue the 2026 Interim Use Permit to Mark's Sand and Gravel for operation covering the period of June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2027. The motion passed unanimously.

Nuisance Properties

350 South Pelican Avenue — Garage Removal Authorization

Lammers advised that the property owner at 350 South Pelican Avenue had signed a consent form authorizing the City to remove the dilapidated garage. The City Attorney requested a formal motion from the Planning Commission recommending that the City Council proceed with abatement of the property. Lammers indicated she would move the matter from the consent agenda to a committee item for the following day's council meeting and would present bid information, including an estimate from a private contractor and an approximate cost for City crews.

Motion by Ohman, seconded by Courneya, that the garage at 350 South Pelican Avenue has not been cleaned up, that it still needs to be removed, and recommending that the City Council proceed with abatement of the property. The motion passed unanimously.

Nuisance Property Inspections — General Review

Albright and Johnston reported that they had conducted inspections throughout the City earlier in the day and compiled a list of properties warranting notice letters. The following properties and concerns were identified:

- **Vergas Ford Equipment property:** Two tractors and associated equipment stored in the front yard. The property is zoned commercial, prompting discussion regarding what outdoor storage standards apply. It was noted that a conditional use permit is required for outdoor storage incidental to a principal use on commercial property (City Code §151.25(D)(3)). The primary businesses operating from the property do not appear to have a functional use for the equipment stored.
- **Red car at Skal:** Vehicle observed with an expired license plate (February 2026).
- **West Lake Street (hilltop property):** Multiple unlicensed vehicles observed, including a school bus, which would be subject to vehicle licensing requirements.
- **130 East Elm Street:** Garbage and discarded items present in both the front and rear yards; general cleanup needed. This property has appeared on prior nuisance lists.
- **161 S 3rd Ave:** An ice fish house has been parked in the front yard, which City Code prohibits for periods longer than 24 hours unless more than 100 feet from the front property line.
- **201 W Hill St:** Approximately six partial or shell vehicles observed on the property. City Code §92.19 limits outdoor storage of vehicles on residential property to a maximum of four, and requires vehicles to be in operating condition and properly licensed. A letter was deemed appropriate.

- **306 E Frazee Ave:** Discussed regarding vehicles and heavy equipment, ordinance violation City Code §92.19 limits outdoor storage of vehicles on residential property to a maximum of four, and requires vehicles to be in operating condition and properly licensed was identified items given the configuration of the property.
- **840 East Sharf Avenue:** A camper appears to be connected to water and sewer on the residential property. Construction materials, including lumber, have also been stored on site for an extended period, potentially in violation of the ordinance prohibiting outdoor storage of building materials on residential property unless screened from public view.
- **390 S Pelican Ave:** Two vehicles parked along the tree line that have not appeared to move; licensing status uncertain. History indicates the owner has typically come into compliance upon receiving notice.

The following properties were discussed but not included in the initial letter round:

- **Parcels 82000990120001 and 82000990120002:** Various equipment and materials stored on the lot(s), including a snowplow, snowblower, and tractor attachment. The Commission could not identify a clear ordinance violation for all items, as some may be customary for residential use. The matter was tabled pending further review.
- Various other properties were discussed in passing, including a property associated with a dilapidated barn, for which letters had already been sent in a prior cycle.

An anonymous letter received by the City referencing two specific properties was acknowledged but not acted upon as both properties were already in the General Review.

Motion by Ohman, seconded by Courneya, to send initial nuisance notice letters to all properties identified by Albright and Johnston during their inspection. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Ohman, to table the matter of Parcels 82000990120001 and 82000990120002 pending further investigation. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

Motion by Courneya, seconded by Johnston, to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Recorded by Rachel Nustad (assisted by ClerkMinutes)

Secretary,
Julie Lammers, CMC
Vergas City Clerk-Treasurer

Council Recommendations

Recommend to City Council that the garage at 350 South Pelican Avenue has not been cleaned up, that it still needs to be removed, and proceed with abatement of the property.

Follow Up Actions

- Albright: Investigate further the situation at Merle Quam's property (behind Cliff Moe's) to determine if the stored items violate residential ordinances before sending a letter. And visit the property owner to discuss the items stored on his property as part of the ongoing investigation.
- Lammers: Obtain a bid for removal of the garage at 350 South Pelican Avenue and provide cost estimates for both contractor and city options.
- City Office Employees: Send initial letters to property owners identified as having potential ordinance violations (as discussed and listed during the meeting), referencing relevant city ordinances and requesting compliance or contact with the Commission.

CITY OF VERGAS, MINNESOTA

RESOLUTION DECLARING NUISANCE, ORDERING ABATEMENT
AND ASSESSING COSTS AS A SERVICE FEE

RECITALS

1. Anthony Licence is the record owner and occupant of real property in located at 350 Pelican Avenue South, Vergas, Minnesota, identified as Otter Tail County Tax Parcel No. 82000990127000 and legally described as Lot Seven (7), Block One, (1), NESBITT’S FIRST ADDITION , Minnesota (hereinafter the “Property”):
2. On _____, 2026 Anthony Licence and the City of Vergas, Minnesota executed a Consent and Agreement to Abate a Public Nuisance whereby Anthony Licence stipulated that the unsafe and unsanitary conditions currently existing with respect to the garage located on the Real Estate is a nuisance as defined by Vergas City Code §92.15. Licence stipulated that by no later than 5:00 p.m. on 15 May 2026, he would abate all hazardous conditions and nuisances currently existing on the Real Estate.
3. Licence further agreed that should he fail to abate the nuisance by 5:00 p.m. on 15 May 2026, the City of Vergas would have the right and without further notice or order from the City Council or any court of law remove, eliminate and/or correct any nuisance then existing on the Real Estate.
4. At the Planning Commission meeting on the 18th day of May, 2026 the Planning Commission found that the nuisance had not been abated by the agreed upon deadline.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The condition of the Property is hereby declared a Nuisance in violation of Vergas City Code §92.15.
2. The Nuisance shall be Abated by the City through its agents. City Staff are directed to make arrangements for the abatement. If items to be removed from the property in the abatement have value, they may be sold and the proceeds applied to the cost of the abatement. All items removed from the property may be disposed of by the City in the manner deemed by City Staff to be the most economical, in compliance with all applicable codes and regulations.
3. The cost of completing that abatement and administrative costs will be charged to Anthony Licence as a personal obligation. If the costs of abatement and administrative costs are not paid in full to the City within thirty (30) days after the date of abatement, the costs of abatement and administrative costs will also be specially assessed against the Property and

added to the real estate taxes as a service charge pursuant to Minn. Stat. §429.101 after proper notice and hearing.

4. The City shall serve this Resolution and Abatement Order upon the owner of the property and _____ by Certified Mail, First Class Mail, personal service if possible and posting on the property if personal service is not possible.
5. The abatement by the City shall be completed within sixty (60) days after service of this Resolution and abatement order.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2026 by the vote of _____ of the five (5) members of the City Council of the City of Vergas, Minnesota.

CITY OF VERGAS

Dated: 19 May 2026

By: Julie Bruhn
Its: Mayor

Attest:

By: Julie Lammers
Its: Clerk

City of Vergas
Clerk-Treasurer Office
Vergas, MN 56587

Quote#: 2026-001
Date: May 19, 2026

Description of Work

Removal of garage structure by Vergas City employees, including labor, equipment, and disposal.

Labor & Equipment Charges

Description	Quantity	Rate	Amount
Employee Labor	16 hours	\$ <u>60.00</u> / hour	\$ <u>960.00</u>
Loader & Operator	16 hours	\$ <u>150.00</u> / hour	\$ <u>2,400.00</u>
Dumpster / Disposal Fee	1	\$ <u>1206.00</u>	\$ <u>1206.00</u>

Total Due

\$ 4,566.00

Notes

- Work includes demolition, loading, hauling, and disposal of garage materials.
- Labor reflects two city employees on-site for 16 hours total.
- Equipment includes loader usage and waste disposal via dumpster.

Sonnenberg Excavating
48990 COUNTY HIGHWAY 17 VERGAS, MN 56587
218-342-2167

Date:5/18/26

Bid is for: City of Vergas Shed removal

Dig Basement:

- Remove shed and debris in shed\$5500

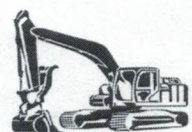
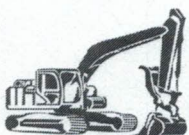
TOTAL LESS ALLOTMENTS.....\$5500

- ❖ Does not include any de-watering that may need to be done
- ❖ Does not include any material other than material on site unless specified
- ❖ Does not include any needed permits
- ❖ Does not include any drain tile or sump pail
- ❖ Any extra rock if needed.....\$300/lb
- ❖ Allotment price is a budget number and will be billed per amount used
- ❖ Does not include price for culvert unless stated above

- **50% down payment required before work begins**
- **Remaining 50% due upon completion**
- **Anything extra will be at \$120/machine & \$60/man per hour**
- **Silt fence will be at additional charge of \$8/ft**

Sonnenberg Excavating Contractor

Homeowner Signature





Invoice

DATE	INVOICE #
05/19/26	

BILL TO			TERMS	
City of Vergas, MN 56587			Due on receipt	
ITEM	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION	RATE	AMOUNT
Custom Paint	1	<p>Re-Paint of the "Loon" mascot,</p> <p>Pressure wash clean, repaint , protective clearcoat</p> <p>All commercial exterior materials most upgraded to water-based materials.</p> <p>Estimate adjusted due to material cost changes.</p>		\$2250.00
<p>Thank you for your business! 1099 information:Howard Elijah SS# 469-96-0966</p>			Total	\$ 2250.00
<p>Finance charges will be assessed on balances not received within the 10 day grace period, at an annual percentage rate of 18% (1.5%/month).</p>			Payments/Credits	
			Balance Due	

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5. Approval of Consent Agenda

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- B. Bills paid between Council meetings and Council bills
- C. Liquor Store bills for April 2026
- D. Late water/sewer bills
- E. 2026 Investment Schedule/Bond Schedule
- F. General Fund Special Revenue Money Market Account
- G. 2026 Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances
- H. League of MN Cities Insurance Trust Liability Coverage Waiver Form
- I. Election Judges
- H. Committee Reports
 - 1. EDA/HRA
 - 2. Planning Commission
 - 3. Streets/Sidewalks/Yard Waste Committee

Files Attached

- Council Minutes 4.21.26.pdf
- 04.2026 City Bill Listing.pdf
- 05.19.26 Claims List.pdf
- 04.2026 Liquor Store Bill Listing.pdf
- 05.14.26 past_due_customers.pdf
- 04.2026 Investment Schedule & Bond Schedule.pdf
- 04.2026 General Fund_Special Revenue Money Market Account Report.pdf
- 04.30.26 Statemnt of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances.pdf
- ITADMIN-LH-20260101C-FORM-Liability Coverage Waiver Form.pdf
- Election Judges.pdf
- 5.4.26 EDA.HRA Minutes.pdf
- Planning Commission and Public Hearing Minutes 4.27.26.pdf
- 5.14.26 Streets Committee Minutes.pdf

**CITY OF VERGAS
COUNCIL MINUTES
VERGAS EVENTS CENTER & ZOOM
Tuesday, April 21, 2026**

The City Council of Vergas met at 6:30 PM, on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at the Vergas Event Center and on a Zoom for a hybrid regular public hearing.

2026	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Julie Bruhn, Mayor	P	P	P	P/P								
Bruce Albright, Member	P	P	P	P/P								
Paul Pinke, Member	P	P	P	P/P								
Dean Haarstick, Member	P	P	P	P/P								
James Stenger, Member	P	P	P	P/P								
Julie Lammers, Clerk-Treasurer	P	P	P	P/P								
Mike Dufrane, Utilities Superintendent	P	A	A	A/A								
Kyle Theisen, Liquor Store Manager	P	A	A	A/A								

P: Present. A: Absent N/A: No meeting

Present via Zoom: Engineer Blaine Green of Widseth, Editor Bob Williams of the Frazee-Vergas Forum; and Citizens, Tami Rust.

Present in person: Attorney Karen Skoyles, and Citizens, Mary Anderson, Paul Sonnenberg, Loren Menz and Vanessa Perry.

Call to Order

Mayor Julie Bruhn called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Citizens' Concerns

None.

Agenda Additions and Deletions

Bruhn noted one addition to the agenda: a cannabis license item, to be inserted immediately following the consent agenda as Item 5.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Stenger to approve the agenda as amended was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Haaarstick, to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Cannabis License — Full Spectrum Wellness

Lammers presented a cannabis license application for Full Spectrum Wellness, located at 235 East Frazee Avenue. The registration was approved by the Council on July 14, 2025. The business has three owners: Kyle Theisen, Jordan Sleen, and Vanessa Perry. They are applying for a Cannabis Micro Business with Retail Endorsement, Cannabis Retailer, and Lower Potency Hemp Edible Retailer licenses. Lammers reported that she had toured the facility and confirmed that state-required items, including a camera system and proper lighting, are in place. Owner Vanessa Perry explained that the City's approval is a prerequisite for the business to obtain its state license, creating a procedural dependency between the two approvals. Accordingly, Lammers recommended that any approval be made subject to subsequent state approval.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Albright, to approve the cannabis license application for Full Spectrum Wellness, subject to approval by the State of Minnesota. The motion passed unanimously.

Energy and Resiliency Plan

Bruhn presented the completed Energy and Resiliency Plan, noting that the effort began in 2023 following participation in the League of Minnesota Cities. She summarized the extensive work undertaken over the past two years, including energy use trending, energy efficiency assessments through Otter Tail Power Company, and a building envelope assessment by the University of Minnesota's sustainability program involving infrared and blower-door testing. Weatherization needs identified through those assessments were addressed using funding from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. The City also joined a solar installation cohort with West Central Initiative, with solar panels expected to be installed in May 2026. Bruhn highlighted the range of partners involved, including CERTs, the Center for Sustainable Building Research, RDSP, and MVCA. She noted that the plan includes a multi-tiered action plan with 5-, 10-, and 15-year goals, which will be managed by the Energy and Resiliency Advisory Board and incorporated into the City's annual comprehensive plan reporting.

A question was raised about the plan's life expectancy, and Bruhn confirmed the actions extend to 15 years but can be revised by the advisory board as circumstances change.

One specific concern was raised regarding tree-planting goals on page 19 of the action plan, which called for 10 public trees and 20 public-private resilient trees planted per year. Bruhn felt these figures may be overly ambitious for a community of Vergas's size. After discussion, council

members noted that with new housing developments and natural regeneration from homeowners, the goals of 10 and 20 trees annually were likely already being approached and should be retained as aspirational targets. The goals were kept at 10 and 20 per year.

Bruhn noted that the plan is currently in draft form and will be reformatted by the University of Minnesota to meet ADA requirements before being published on their website. The city will also publish its own version. She further noted that a \$8,000 grant from Empowerment of Small Minnesota Communities is available to fund initial action items, such as a planned energy fair following solar installation.

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Pinke, to approve the Energy and Resiliency Plan. The motion passed unanimously.

Resignation from Energy and Resiliency Advisory Committee

Bruhn reported that Cal Miller had submitted his resignation from the Energy and Resiliency Advisory Committee and that the committee lacked a quorum at its most recent meeting. She noted the city will be seeking a replacement member.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Stenger, to accept Cal Miller's resignation from the Energy and Resiliency Advisory Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Vergas Community Club - Shops and Hops

Lammers presented a request from the Vergas Community Club for their annual Shops and Hops event on May 30, 2026, from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The request included:

1. A partial street closure from Billy's Corner Bar to the Vergas Liquor Store (the lower portion of the street), consistent with prior years.
2. Permission to operate a beer garden, with a request to waive the \$125 fee.

Council members noted this arrangement is consistent with what has been done in previous years.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Stenger, to approve the street closure and beer garden requests, including the fee waiver, for the Vergas Community Club Shops and Hops event on May 30, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

Otter Coffee - Live Music and Food Trucks

Lammers presented Otter Coffee's annual request to utilize a portion of Main Street for their Thursday evening Live Music and Food Truck series running from June 4 through approximately August 13, 2026, from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The requests included:

1. Closure of street parking spaces in front of the business for food truck use during event hours.
2. City employees to remove trash from park area cans on Thursday and Friday mornings.

Stenger clarified that the closure pertains to the parking spaces in front of the business, not the travel lane of the street itself, consistent with prior years. Bruhn acknowledged that maintenance staff had previously expressed reservations about the trash removal obligation, but noted that the events provide meaningful traffic to the community and surrounding businesses. The motion proceeded as proposed.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Stenger, to approve the Otter Coffee Live Music and Food Trucks requests as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Streets/Sidewalks/Yard Waste Committee

West Elm Street Alley Vacation

The Streets Committee reported that landowners adjacent to a dead-end alley on West Elm Street had appeared at a prior meeting requesting that the city add gravel to the alley. The Committee recommended against this, noting the alley leads directly into a swamp and serves no public benefit. The Committee's recommendation was instead to initiate vacation proceedings for the alley. It was noted that the affected property owners had previously indicated willingness to accept vacation, though they had not wished to bear the cost of filing a petition themselves. The Committee noted that vacation can be initiated either by petition or by a four-fifths vote of the council, with the vacated right-of-way to be divided equally between the two adjacent property owners. Council members confirmed the alley in question and noted that one neighbor's fence may already encroach into the right-of-way.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Pinke, to initiate vacation proceedings for the West Elm Street alley by Council action. Voting yes: Albright, Stenger, Pinke and Bruhn. Voting no: Haarstick. The motion carried.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Pinke, to schedule the public hearing for the alley vacation at the May 19, 2026 City Council meeting at 6:15 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Gravel Near Fire Hydrant on West Elm Street

The Committee noted a recommendation to add gravel near a fire hydrant on West Elm Street. This was identified as a routine City maintenance matter not requiring council action.

Yard Waste Site Policy

The Committee reported that the yard waste site had been opened and was operating in an orderly manner following action taken at the April 8 equalization meeting. Discussion turned to updating the yard waste policy. Key concerns included unauthorized dumping of garbage, oversized

wood, and use of the site by non-permit holders, including out-of-state visitors. The council discussed requiring permit holders to sign an acknowledgment of the rules at the time of permit issuance, so that violations can be more effectively enforced. It was also suggested that signage at the site be improved and that a separate area for larger logs be designated, allowing community members to take firewood, which could reduce the volume of material in the burn pile.

No formal motion was required; staff was directed to bring a revised yard waste policy to the May Council meeting incorporating the discussed changes, including a signed permit acknowledgment and a no-garbage clause.

Dust Control

Lammers presented the first-year implementation of the City's Dust Control Policy, pertaining to West Glenn Street and West Lake Street. Applications from residents were due by April 30, with nine applications already received. Discussion centered on two unresolved policy questions:

1. **Cost allocation method** — Whether to divide costs by linear footage of each property's frontage, or equally among all participating property owners. Residents present, including Tami Rust and Paul Sonnenberg, expressed a strong preference for equal division, noting that a per-foot approach would disproportionately burden corner and larger lots, and that equal division would likely yield higher participation. The Council agreed this approach was consistent with the policy's language, which defers cost allocation to the resident point of contact.
2. **City property participation** — The City has two properties along the affected roads (the shop and a park parcel). The Council debated whether the City should share in the cost of dust control as it does for standard road maintenance.

Tami Rust, speaking as a resident of Glenn Street, expressed appreciation for the discussion and noted that with the City's two properties counted, the group would be at approximately 13 participants, making the project financially manageable. She also raised concern about the administrative burden of residents collecting money from neighbors and suggested payments be made directly to the City office. The Council voted to include the City's two lots in the Dust Control Program and directed staff to coordinate with Cindy Hurt, the designated resident point of contact, to confirm the start and end points of the treatment area, obtain competitive bids, and report back at the May Council meeting.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Pinke, that the city participate in the dust control program and be responsible for its share of costs on the two City-owned lots on West Glenn Street. The motion passed unanimously.

Event Center

Stenger presented a proposal to dissolve the Event Center Advisory Board. He explained that with the addition of the Deputy Clerk position overseeing the Event Center Coordinator, the advisory board had become redundant, creating duplicative meeting layers. He proposed that the Municipal Building Committee assume the board's responsibilities, specifically those related to the physical building, while the Event Center Coordinator manages all operational matters and provides quarterly reports to the council. Lammers read the revised duties to be assigned to the Municipal Building Committee: providing input on the event center's physical structure, utilities, and maintenance; overseeing building improvements and maintenance; collaborating with the Event Center Coordinator on building needs and improvements; and providing budget input related to building structure, utilities, and maintenance only. Bruhn noted that the original duties proposed in the packet were too operational in nature and that the revised language appropriately limits the Committee's role to the building itself.

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Pinke, to dissolve the Event Center Advisory Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Stenger, to assign the revised duties as read by Lammers to the Municipal Building Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Bruhn noted that the Event Center Advisory Board will be removed from the City Ordinance and that thank-you letters will be sent to committee members for their service.

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission recommended that the Council enter into a Joint Powers Agreement with the City Attorney and adopt abatement language into City Ordinances to enable prosecution of ordinance violations. City Attorney Karen Skoyles explained that current enforcement steps proceed through warning letters, a served notice with a fee, and an attorney letter. The Joint Powers Agreement would add a fourth step — the ability to file charges — by authorizing use of the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) eCharging system, which is now required for all municipal prosecutions in Minnesota. Skoyles noted that the City would share the flat quarterly fee for BCA system access with approximately nine other cities she serves, including Detroit Lakes, Lake Park, Frazee, Callaway, Audubon, Verndale, Nimrod, and Aldrich, resulting in a cost of approximately \$40 per quarter per City. Lammers noted the agreement can be terminated with 30 days' notice.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Stenger, to approve Resolution No. 2026-005, authorizing the City to enter into the Joint Powers Agreement with the BCA eCharging system. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Reports

Engineering Report

City Engineer Blaine Green participated via Zoom. He reported on two matters:

Dianne Avenue Fill Proposal: A developer working on a lot in the subdivision sought permission to deposit excess excavated fill material at the end of Dianne Avenue, extending it southward toward the gravel pit. Green indicated that based on GIS data and 2019 record drawings, the volume of material could likely fit within the right-of-way. He identified several conditions that would need to be addressed in a Grade and Fill Permit: removal

of existing trees and stumps prior to filling to prevent future road cavitation; installation of erosion control measures; and potential extension of the existing storm sewer outlet. Council members discussed the relationship to adjacent vacant lots, including EDA-owned parcels. The Council approved allowing the applicant to proceed with a Grade and Fill Permit application subject to the stated conditions.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Pinke, to indicate City approval for the applicant to proceed with a Grade and Fill Permit application for the Dianne Avenue fill project, subject to conditions including tree and stump removal, erosion control, and storm sewer extension as needed. The motion passed unanimously.

Gravel Pit Aerial Survey: Green noted that an aerial survey of the gravel pit, used to monitor activity under the Conditional Use Permit, was delayed due to logistical issues and is now expected to be completed in early May. He will provide a preliminary report as data becomes available. The existing gravel pit permit expires June 1, and the Planning Commission will address renewal at upcoming meetings.

Clerk Treasurer Report

Lammers noted that her full report was included in the council packet and that no items required specific highlighting.

Utilities Report

Lammers noted that hydrant flushing is scheduled for the following Monday through Wednesday. All gravel roads have been graded. She also announced that the City's Safety Committee meeting, normally held in Fergus Falls, will convene at the Vergas park on May 26, 2026.

Liquor Store Manager Report

Lammers reported on behalf of Liquor Store Manager Kyle Theisen. The store completed a cooler reset. The store is currently approximately \$60,000 in the negative through the end of March. However, Lammers noted that \$17,552 in capital outlay expenses — including sewer line replacement and gutter replacement — were incurred early in the year and were largely outside the store's operational control. Excluding those expenses, the negative balance would be approximately \$42,662. This compares to a \$52,143 deficit at the same point in 2024, and a historical baseline closer to \$28,000. Bruhn expressed concern about the current trajectory and noted the store is also obligated to contribute \$30,000 to the general fund. The manager will develop a plan to improve profitability.

Information & Announcements

Bruhn noted the following upcoming meetings, events, and employee training opportunities:

Meetings and Events:

- A. Household Hazardous Waste Day — Thursday, June 25, 2026, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Vergas Event Center Parking Lot

Employee 2026 Trainings:

- A. League of MN Cities Annual Conference — June 24–26, 2026, Rochester (Bruhn, Albright, and Stenger)
- B. 16th Annual Operator Expo (MN Rural Water) — August 25, 2026 (Utilities Superintendent and Maintenance Operator)
- C. Clerk's Advanced Academy — September 10–11, 2026, Otsego, MN (Clerk-Treasurer)

Bruhn also noted that she will be presenting at the West Central Solar Celebration the following day, and at the League of Minnesota Cities Annual Conference on the City's energy and resiliency work.

Adjournment

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Pinke, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The business for which the meeting was called was completed and adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Recorded by
Deputy Clerk
Rachel Nustad (assisted by ClerkMinutes)

Julie Lammers, CMC
Vergas City Clerk-Treasurer

CITY OF VERGAS
 Bill Listing for April 23 to May 14, 2026

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
City of Vergas	GG, water and sewer	
Bashmann, Heather	Event Center, return deposit	75.00
City of Vergas	Dust Control, Shop and Park	263.14
MN Paid Leave	Employee, mandated leave program	266.38
City of Vergas	Payroll	4,079.10
Courneya, Jim	Refund Construction Permit	30.00
Internal Revenue Services	Withholding Tax	1,014.56
Lake Region Electric	Sign, electricity	68.39
Beck, Michelle	Event Center, return deposit	300.00
MN Dept. of Revenue	Sales Tax	233.00
MN Dept. Revenue	Withholding Tax	126.49
Public Employees Retirement Assoc.	Payroll	758.54
Vergas State Bank	Employee, HSA	210.00
Total for bills paid between Council Meetings		<u>\$7,424.60</u>

Date Range : 4/14/2026 To 5/20/2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Claim #</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Detail</u>
05/19/2026	ASP of Moorhead, Inc	Event, security gaurds 05/02/2026	25986	\$210.00	100-45110-300-	EVENT CENTER	\$210.00
05/19/2026	Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota	Employees Health Insurance Premium June 2026	25987	\$5,013.30	100-41405-131- 601-49440-131- 602-49490-131- 100-43110-131- 100-45210-131- 609-49751-131-	Clerk Water Utilities - Administration and General Sewer Utilities - Administration and General Highways, Streets & Roadways Parks Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale	\$454.21 \$780.33 \$780.33 \$326.12 \$326.12 \$2,346.19
05/19/2026	CDH-Vergas Fire Department	Fire and Rescue, 2026 2nd Quarter	25988	\$3,764.83	100-42010-405-	PUBLIC SAFETY	\$3,764.83
05/19/2026	Colonial Life	2026 Employee Reimbursed Insurance	25989	\$232.82	100-41405-999- 609-49751-999- 100-43110-999- 100-45210-999- 100-41405-999-	Clerk Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale Highways, Streets & Roadways Parks Clerk	\$135.66 \$51.26 \$11.87 \$11.87 \$22.16
05/19/2026	Corporate Technologies, LLC	All Depts, Tech, Computer Inv #231996	25990	\$165.00	100-41010-200- 601-49440-200- 602-49490-200- 100-43110-200- 100-45210-200- 609-49751-200- 100-45110-200-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT Water Utilities - Administration and General Sewer Utilities - Administration and General Highways, Streets & Roadways Parks Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale EVENT CENTER	\$23.57 \$23.57 \$23.57 \$23.57 \$23.57 \$23.57 \$23.58

Date Range : 4/14/2026 To 5/20/2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Claim #</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Detail</u>
05/19/2026	Michael DuFrane	St, Park, Sewer, Water, cell phone reimbursment	25991	\$75.00			
					601-49440-321-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$18.75
					602-49490-321-	Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	\$18.75
					100-43110-321-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$18.75
					100-45210-321-	Parks	\$18.75
05/19/2026	Matthew Engebretson	St, Pk, reimbursed cell phone	25992	\$25.00			
					100-43110-321-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$12.50
					100-45210-321-	Parks	\$12.50
05/19/2026	Elan Financial Services	GG, computer programs, office supplies, MCFOA hotel LS, cannibus and training	25993	\$544.62			
					100-41010-200-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$195.16
					100-45110-210-	EVENT CENTER	\$221.41
					100-45110-210-	EVENT CENTER	\$109.75
					290-41010-210-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$18.30
05/19/2026	Flow Measurement and Control	WW, Certification Closed Pipe Flow Meter	25994	\$830.75			
					602-49490-400-	Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	\$830.75
05/19/2026	Hawkins, Inc	Wtr, 2026 chemicals Inv #7406467	25995	\$518.36			
					601-49440-218-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$518.36
05/19/2026	Gopher State One Call	Wtr, Swr, One Calls operator fee and call Inv #6040812	25996	\$9.45			
					602-49490-210-	Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	\$4.73
					601-49440-210-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$4.72
05/19/2026	Great Plains Natural Gas Company	Shop, Event Center utility	25997	\$228.02			

Date Range : 4/14/2026 To 5/20/2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Claim #</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Detail</u>
					100-45110-380-	EVENT CENTER	\$141.52
					100-43010-380-	City Shop	\$86.50
05/19/2026	L & M Supply, Inc.	St., oil	25998	\$36.97			
					100-43110-210-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$36.97
05/19/2026	Julie Lammers	All depts, cell phone reimbursed	25999	\$75.00			
					100-41405-321-	Clerk	\$25.00
					601-49440-331-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$25.00
					602-49490-331-	Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	\$25.00
05/19/2026	Otter Tail County Highway Dept.	St, salt/sand (2026)	26000	\$291.89			
					100-43125-210-	Ice and Snow Removal	\$291.89
05/19/2026	Olson Oil Co.	St, operating supplies	26001	\$384.58			
					100-43110-210-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$384.58
05/19/2026	Productive Alternatives, Inc.	Event Center, 2026 Cleaning Inv#7201	26002	\$116.87			
					100-45110-300-	EVENT CENTER	\$116.87
05/19/2026	RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc	Water, 2026 Chemicals Inv D087859, D087644	26003	\$608.20			
					601-49440-218-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$608.20
05/19/2026	Ramstad, Skoyles & Bakken, PA	Attorney fees	26004	\$223.55			
					100-41010-304-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$223.55
05/19/2026	Dawn Riggs	Event, return deposit	26005	\$75.00			
					100-45110-999-	EVENT CENTER	\$75.00
05/19/2026	Steve's Sanitation, Inc.	Event, Parks, garbage pickup	26006	\$514.84			
					100-45110-384-	EVENT CENTER	\$207.04
					100-45210-384-	Parks	\$307.80
05/19/2026	TEAM LAB	WW, super bugs	26007	\$2,025.00			

Date Range : 4/14/2026 To 5/20/2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Claim #</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Detail</u>
					602-49490-210-	Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	\$2,025.00
05/19/2026	Kyle Theisen	LS, phone reimbursement	26008	\$25.00			
					609-49751-321-	Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale	\$25.00
05/19/2026	Verizon	GG & Event, 2026 internet and cell phone	26009	\$78.40			
					100-45110-321-	EVENT CENTER	\$38.39
					100-41010-321-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$40.01
05/19/2026	Vestis	Event, 2026 rugs and supplies Inv 2520773449	26010	\$157.76			
					609-49751-210-	Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale	\$157.76
Total For Selected Claims				\$16,230.21			\$16,230.21

Date Range : 4/14/2026 To 5/20/2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Claim #</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Account #</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Detail</u>
	Bruce E Albright		City Council/Town Board				Date
	Dean Haarstick		City Council/Town Board				Date
	James Stenger		City Council/Town Board				Date
	Julie A Bruhn		City Council/Town Board, Mayor				Date
	Paul Pinke		City Council/Town Board				Date

City of Vergas Liquor Store Checks Paid in April 2026

Vendor	Description	Total
Absolute Ice		\$107.70
Artisan Beer Company		\$396.65
Arvig	Internet, security	\$156.95
Bergseth Bros		8,643.32
Beverage Wholesalers		3,254.31
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Employee Health Insurance	2,346.19
Breakthru Beverage MN Wine and Spirits		259.98
Bucks Mills Brewing		153.60
City of Vergas	Water/Sewer	68.76
City of Vergas	Payroll	6,641.80
Colonial Life	Employee Reimbursed Insurance	51.26
Corporate Technologies, LLC	Technology	39.60
D-S Beverage		10,252.91
Elan Financial Services	Cannabis and training	265.00
Fricke Consultin	POS System	165.00
Great Plains Nat Gas	Utility	152.79
Internal Revenue Service	Withholding Tax	1,888.00
Johnson Brothers Liquor Co		6,625.76
Madison National Life Ins	Employees Life Ins	34.12
Merchant Services	Credit Card Fees	1,144.16
MN Dept. of Revenue	Sales Tax	5,070.00
MN Dept. Revenue	Withholding Tax	266.54
MN Life Ins	Short term disability Insurance	37.20
MN Paid Leave	MN mandated leave program	213.36
Otter Tail County	Property Taxes	651.00
Otter Tail Power Company	Utility	359.93
Phillips Wine & Spirits		2,217.55
Public Employees Retirement Assoc.	Payroll	\$1,164.72
Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits		903.66
Theisen, Kyle	Cell phone reimbursement	25.00
Vergas Hardware	Supplies	47.48
Vergas State Bank	HSA Contributions	461.00
Vestis	Floor Mats	108.66
Viking Coca-Cola Bottling Company		521.45
Total		\$54,695.41
April Receipts		
ATM Payment for March		168.75
Property Tax paid by Step Up		651.00
Scrap Iron Sold		20.00
April Sales Receipts		58,304.58
April Receipts		\$59,144.33
	April Operating Income (Loss)	4,448.92
	Jan-March Operating Income (Loss)	(60,214.87)
2026 Total Operating Income (Loss)		(55,765.95)

Account Type All
 Account Category All
 Route: All
 Past Due Days 90
 Status Active
 Exclude Payment Plans Filter

Past Due Customers

Route	Sort Account #	Customer Name	Status	Parcel #	Service Address	Aged Days	Past Due Amt.	Total Balance	Deposit Balance	Last Pymt. Date	Last Pymt. Amount	Meter #	Meter Type	Pay Plan
2	0 2011	Endersby, James	Active	82000990155000	415 S Unit Ave	101	30.13	585.23	0.00	04/12/2026	300.00	92144741	WATER	No
2	0 3001	Meyer, Jesse	Active	82000990214000	102 Altona Ave	101	74.38	409.97	0.00	04/30/2026	100.00	88707172	WATER	No
2	0 361	Ueke, Rhonda	Active	82000990141000	371 S Pelican Ave	101	102.10	469.92	0.00	01/30/2026	453.65	88707173	WATER	No
2	0 7701	Estate, BJ's Real	Active	82000990046000	130 E Elm St	101	69.06	652.67	0.00	05/07/2026	200.00	88917785	WATER	Shut off
2	0 80	Penney, Joyce	Active	82000990045000	120 E Elm St	164	231.76	620.88	0.00	01/06/2026	150.00	88707227	WATER	Shut off
Total						Count: 6	578.08							
								3,064.60						

City of Vergas Investments

	<u>Account Number</u>	<u>12/31/25 Purchase</u>	<u>Sold</u>	<u>Interest Earned</u>	<u>04/30/26</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>
General Fund	325657	283,731.72	0.00	43,160.71	703.43	241,274.44	0.75% MMDA
2019 Street Debt Fund	325657	203,073.29	0.00	0.00	544.49	203,617.78	0.75% MMDA
Parking Lot/Alley	325657	138,334.17	0.00	138,334.17	0.00	0.00	
Liquor Store Fund	325657	77,360.14	0.00	77,360.14	0.00	0.00	
Sewer Reserve	19753	28,962.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	28,962.87	3.50% 12/27/2026
Sewer and Water Debt Service	19759	39,441.07	0.00	0.00	497.07	39,938.14	2.50% 7/17/2026
Liquor Fund	20338	156,645.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	156,645.95	2.50% 12/14/2026
Totals		<u>927,549.21</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>258,855.02</u>	<u>1,744.99</u>	<u>670,439.18</u>	

City of Vergas Bond Schedule

<u>Title</u>	<u>Purchase Date</u>	<u>Req. Balance</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Bank</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/2025</u>	<u>Interest Paid in 2026</u>	<u>Balance 4/30/2026</u>	<u>Amount Paid in 2026</u>
Street Debt Service Fund									
General Obligation Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series 2015A	12/15/2015	\$299,000.00	2.42%	Vergas State Bank	2/1/27	61,000.00	808.25	33,000.00	28,000.00
General Obligation Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series 2019A (412)	6/11/2019	\$985,000.00	3.26%	First National Bank of Omaha	2/1/40	785,000.00	12,030.63	740,000.00	45,000.00
Taxable Lease, 2023	10/24/2023	\$230,000.00	5.90%	Vergas State Bank	2/1/39	224,000.00	6,945.50	213,000.00	11,000.00
Parking Lot, 2025	9/10/2025	\$147,000.00	5.20%	Vergas State Bank	2/1/36	147,000.00	0.00	147,000.00	0.00
Water Fund									
General Obligation Water Revenue Note, Series 2022A	2/1/2022	<u>\$132,000.00</u>	3.25%	Vergas State Bank	2/1/32	95,000.00	950.00	<u>82,000.00</u>	<u>13,000.00</u>
Total		\$1,793,000.00				1,312,000.00		1,215,000.00	97,000.00

2019 Street Project/General Fund/Special Revenue Money Market Account

	01/01/2026		2026	2026		
	Balance	Interest	Interest	Purchased	2026 sold	4/30/2026
Uncommitted Funds	142,961.85	22.51%	330.26	0.00	43,160.71	100,131.40
City Shop	8,694.12	1.96%	23.32	0.00	0.00	8,717.44
Easements	5,297.58	1.19%	14.17	0.00	0.00	5,311.75
Event Center	973.41	0.22%	2.61	0.00	0.00	976.02
Event Center Electronic Sign	10,178.27	2.29%	27.27	0.00	0.00	10,205.54
General	14,755.40	3.32%	35.92	0.00	0.00	14,791.32
Park	36,099.65	8.14%	96.81	0.00	0.00	36,196.46
Sand Seal (Seal Coating)	13,194.65	2.97%	35.36	0.00	0.00	13,230.01
Sidewalk	7,928.17	1.79%	21.28	0.00	0.00	7,949.45
Street Improvements/Equipment	42,138.70	9.50%	112.99	0.00	0.00	42,251.69
Yard Waste	1,509.32	0.34%	4.04	0.00	0.00	1,513.36
Liquor Store	77,360.14	0.00%	0	0.00	77,360.14	0.00
2025 Parking Lot Alley Project	138,334.77	0.00%	0	0.00	138,334.77	0.00
2019 Street Project	203,073.29	45.77%	544.49	0.00	0.00	203,617.78
Balance	702,499.32	100.00%	\$1,248.52	\$0.00	\$258,855.62	444,892.22 ***

***Committed total should not drop below \$170,000 or be above \$290,000 at the end of the year.

Current Committed Total 241,274.44

As on 4/30/2026

Fund	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Sale of Investments	Transfers In	Disbursements	Purchase of Investments	Transfers Out	Ending Balance	Investment Balance	Total Balance
General Fund	3,690.95	77,625.18	43,160.71	0.00	156,808.46	704.42	10,000.00	(43,036.04)	73,509.50	30,473.46
Small Cities Development	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Street Debt Service*	(100,356.37)	136.73	0.00	0.00	28,808.25	0.00	0.00	(129,027.89)	0.00	(129,027.89)
SEWER AND WATER DEBT SERVICE	886.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	886.02	0.00	886.02
Long Lake Trail Extension Project	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2019 Street Project	210,303.98	335.50	0.00	0.00	57,030.63	544.12	0.00	153,064.73	202,757.29	355,822.02
Street Project 2006*	38,487.48	728.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	39,216.05	110,000.00	149,216.05
Government Services Office	(33,525.74)	4,571.00	0.00	0.00	17,945.50	0.00	0.00	(46,900.24)	0.00	(46,900.24)
Water	189,970.30	52,958.32	0.00	0.00	41,861.71	248.53	0.00	200,818.38	15,508.74	216,327.12
Sewage Collection and Disposal	(188,595.55)	52,012.76	0.00	0.00	26,073.27	248.54	0.00	(162,904.60)	53,392.27	(109,512.33)
Municipal Liquor Store	13,836.10	215,595.19	77,360.74	0.00	271,617.74	0.00	0.00	35,174.29	215,271.38	250,445.67
Vergas EDA	50,175.73	1,660.61	0.00	10,000.00	15,568.91	0.00	0.00	46,267.43	0.00	46,267.43
Gen Obligation Tax Abatement Bond	(89,049.27)	38,710.90	138,334.17	0.00	55,174.47	0.00	0.00	32,821.33	0.00	32,821.33
Total :	95,823.63	444,334.76	258,855.62	10,000.00	670,888.94	1,745.61	10,000.00	126,379.46	670,439.18	796,818.64



League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust
Liability Coverage Waiver Form

Members who obtain liability coverage through the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) must complete and return this form to LMCIT before their effective date of coverage. Use the submit button below, otherwise, print and email to pstech@lmc.org, or fax to 651.281.1298.

Members who obtain liability coverage from LMCIT must decide whether to waive the statutory tort liability limits to the extent of the coverage purchased. The decision to waive or not waive the statutory tort limits must be made annually by the member's governing body, in consultation with its attorney if necessary. The decision has the following effects:

- If the member does not waive the statutory tort limits, an individual claimant could recover no more than \$500,000 on any claim to which the statutory tort limits apply. The total all claimants could recover for a single occurrence to which the statutory tort limits apply would be limited to \$1,500,000. These statutory tort limits would apply regardless of whether the member purchases the optional LMCIT excess liability coverage.
• If the member waives the statutory tort limits and does not purchase excess liability coverage, a single claimant could recover up to \$2,000,000 for a single occurrence (under the waive option, the tort cap liability limits are only waived to the extent of the member's liability coverage limits, and the LMCIT per occurrence limit is \$2,000,000). The total all claimants could recover for a single occurrence to which the statutory tort limits apply would also be limited to \$2,000,000, regardless of the number of claimants.
• If the member waives the statutory tort limits and purchases excess liability coverage, a single claimant could potentially recover an amount up to the limit of the coverage purchased. The total all claimants could recover for a single occurrence to which the statutory tort limits apply would also be limited to the amount of coverage purchased, regardless of the number of claimants.

Claims to which the statutory municipal tort limits do not apply are not affected by this decision.

Select one of the options below.

The member DOES NOT WAIVE the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minn. Stat. § 466.04

The member WAIVES monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minn. Stat. § 466.04, to the extent of the limits of the liability coverage obtained from LMCIT

LMCIT Member Name: _____

Date of member's governing body meeting: _____

Name and title of person completing this form: _____

Signature of person completing this form: _____

Request to Hire Election Judges

It is requested that the City Council approve the hiring of election judges for the upcoming elections Aug. 11 and Nov. 3, 2026 at the following hourly rates:

- **Head Election Judge:** \$17.00 per hour
- **Election Judges:** \$15.00 per hour

The proposed election judges are:

- **Head Judge:** Diane Menz
- **Judges:**
 - Carol Albright
 - Kari Dahlgren
 - Steph Hogan
 - Pat Strand

This request is submitted for council consideration and approval.

**Vergas EDA/HRA
Government Services Center & Zoom
5:30 PM on Monday, May 4th, 2026**

EDA/HRA Mission: Retain and promote business in our community, adding housing so that we prosper and increase our tax base, keeping Vergas a vital community.

The City of Vergas Economic Development Authority (EDA) and Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA) met on Monday, May 4th, 2026, at 5:30 PM in a hybrid meeting at the Vergas Government Services building and on Zoom.

2026	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bruce Albright, President/Council Liaison	A	P/P	P	P	P							
Paul Sonnenberg, Member	P	P/A	P	P	P							
Kevin Zitzow, Member	P	P/P	A	P	P							
Jennifer Carlson, Member	A	A/P	P	P	P							
Vanessa Perry, Member	P	P/P	P	P	P							
Julie Lammers, City Clerk-Treasurer	P	P/P	P	P	A							

P: Present. A: Absent N/A: No meeting

Present in person: CEDA Representative Kaite Gehring and Deputy Clerk Rachel Nustad.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Albright at 5:38 PM.

Agenda Additions and Deletions

None.

Motion by Sonnenberg, seconded by Perry, to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Status of Recommendations to City Council

None.

Minutes

Motion by Albright, seconded by Carlson to approve the minutes from March 18, 2026 and April 1, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Update

2026 Income and Expenses

The financial report was included in packet. Albright noted that little had changed from the prior period and nothing of concern was identified. It was noted that the current contract runs through the end of the year.

Motion by Sonnenberg, seconded by Perry, to approve the financial report. The motion passed unanimously.

CEDA Representative Katie Gehring

Grant Applications

124 E Main Street

Gehring presented a Facade Grant Application on behalf of Natalie's Serendipity for roof repairs to the rear portion of the building located at 124 E Main Street. A quote of \$5,500 was obtained from Refine Homes. Under the program's 1-to-1 match structure with a maximum award of \$5,000, the applicant was requesting \$2,750. The Board discussed the application and found it to be in order.

Motion by Perry, seconded by Zitzow, to approve the façade grant application for Natalie's Serendipity. The motion passed unanimously.

First Children's Finance Update

Gehring reported that the First Children's Finance Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13. The purpose of that meeting will be to narrow down focus areas, with the Committee to be divided into action teams covering areas such as sustainability, outreach, and recruitment. Members who are on the Committee were advised that an idea hub had been distributed for review in advance.

Daycare

Opportunity

A. Build

Gehring presented updated documentation from a duplex reflecting a revised quote of \$240,000 for a modified duplex plan, along with an upgrades list covering cabinetry, countertops, and siding, and a "button-up" procedure outlining the on-site work required after the modular building is installed. It was explained that the duplex unit arrives approximately 60% complete, and that the remaining on-site work — including plumbing, electrical, and site utilities — would need to be contracted separately. Based on industry percentages, the Board estimated this on-site completion work could add approximately \$100,000, placing the total project cost in the range of \$340,000–\$350,000 or more. Zitzow reported that he had consulted with a knowledgeable contact regarding site utilities and confirmed that, per City Ordinance, the duplex would require a dual sewer and water system rather than a single shared system, adding an estimated \$18,000 or more to the project cost. It was noted that prior estimates had not consistently accounted for this requirement, contributing to cost variability across prior estimates.

The Board also discussed the need to develop detailed, formal bid specifications so that contractors are bidding on equivalent scopes of work. It was acknowledged that once funding reaches a certain threshold, the project will be subject to state bid requirements, including prevailing wage obligations. The Board agreed that hiring an architect or design professional to prepare formal bid documents would likely be necessary and that this cost could potentially be included in grant applications as a design service expense.

B. Purchase and Remodel

Following the pre-meeting home tour of 105 Park View Drive, the board discussed the feasibility of purchasing and remodeling an existing property for daycare use. While the home was acknowledged as large, the consensus was that the basement would require extensive work to meet daycare standards and that this route would not be practical. The Board effectively set aside this option in favor of the build route.

C. Prepare Specs for Bid

The Board discussed timing for preparing and issuing bid documents. It was noted that bids are generally valid for approximately 45 days, and the group agreed it was more prudent to wait until the outcome of pending grant applications is known before proceeding with a formal bid solicitation. Gehring confirmed that design and spec preparation services are allowable costs under the grant currently being prepared.

Funding

A. Grants

Gehring reported that a grant application is currently pending, with results expected in the near term. A second grant application is due May 18, and Gehring stated her intention to request \$200,000 through that application. The board agreed this was an ambitious but reasonable ask given current fundraising progress. Regarding the grant application due May 18, Gehring asked whether it would be appropriate to include a modified duplex as the described construction method, even if the specific product or contractor had not yet been finalized. The Board agreed that submitting a duplex of the relevant square footage as the project type was appropriate and competitive, given that the purchase-and-remodel option had effectively been set aside.

B. Donations

Gehring reported the following donations received to date for the "Growing at Vergas" daycare initiative: \$25,000 from the local bank; \$10,000 from the Community Club; and a pending contribution from the Lions Club in the range of \$100,000–\$150,000, pending confirmation. Gehring noted she would follow up to clarify the final Lions Club commitment.

The Board discussed additional major donor outreach. It was noted that Arvig should be approached for a \$25,000 donation. Perry reported that a request had been submitted to T.I.P Gaming, though no response had been received yet. Sonnenberg suggested approaching Otter Tail Power as well. Gehring confirmed she had previously submitted a request to the Otter Tail Power Foundation for \$150,000 but the application did not advance in that process.

The Board discussed approaching several large area companies and employers for contributions in the range of \$25,000, accompanied by a project brochure that could convey the scope and vision of the project. Albright noted that Arvig has a formal online application process, and that requests over \$5,000 require a presentation to a donations committee.

Nustad reported that she had created a "Growing at Vergas" tab on the city's website with a donation link. Gehring reported that she has been invited to appear on a television segment on Thursday to speak about the fundraising campaign.

Annual Meeting Review

Albright noted that a summary of the Annual Meeting had been included in the agenda packet and that Gehring had done a good job covering the key points. The Board discussed a presentation given at the Annual Meeting relating to family leave and the experience of border-area businesses, noting that there remain implementation challenges with the program as currently structured.

Adjournment

Motion by Perry, seconded by Zitzow, to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Recommendations

None.

Follow Up Actions

- Committee members: Review the idea hub and prepare to refine focus areas and action items at the First Children's Finance meeting on Wednesday, May 13th.
- Gehring: Submit the second grant application by May 18th, aiming to request \$200,000.
- Gehring: Talk to the Lions to confirm their donation.
- Gehring: Appear on the TV spot on Thursday to discuss fundraising efforts for Growing Up Vergas.
- Gehring: Submit funding requests to major donors starting at \$25,000 and include the ultimate funding goal.
- Gehring: Wait to send out project bids until after grant award decisions are received, then proceed with bidding process as appropriate.
- Gehring: Include modified duplex specs in the upcoming grant application, even if final route is not yet determined.
- Gehring: Contact an architect to get an estimate on design services for the daycare project and include this in the grant budget planning.

City of Vergas Planning Commission Public Hearing
Monday, April 27, 2026 at 6:00 PM
Government Services Building and Zoom

The City of Vergas Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on Monday, April 27, 2026, on Zoom and at the Vergas Government Services Building with the following members present: Alex Ohman, Bruce Albright, Jim Courneya, and David Johnston. Absent: Rebecca Hasse. Also present: Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, employees of Mark Sand and Gravel: Brianne Balcer and Brandon Brusven and citizens; James Stenger.

Call to Order

Chair Ohman called the public hearing to order at 6:00 PM.

A representative from Mark Sand & Gravel, Brianne Balcer, provided an overview of current operations at the pit. She indicated that crushing operations are currently underway, producing Class 5 material as well as high-fracture BA material for a state project near Fergus Falls involving roundabout construction. She noted that no bituminous plant is currently planned for the site, and that operations are progressing northward through the pit. No county projects are currently scheduled out of that location, though township and other work remains possible. Courneya raised a question about an unusually bright, strobing white light he had observed the previous night in the direction of the pit. Balcer stated she was unaware of any equipment or personnel that would account for the light, as no leg plants are on site and the gates are typically locked on weekends. She committed to investigating the matter. The Commission noted that operational hours at the site are restricted to 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM, and that no noise complaints had been received during the prior season.

Ohman called three times for public comments. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing at 6:04 PM.

City of Vergas Planning Commission Minutes
Monday, April 27, 2026 at 6:05 PM
Government Services Building and Zoom

The City of Vergas Planning Commission held a regular hybrid meeting on Monday, April 27, 2026, on Zoom and at the Vergas Government Services Building.

2026	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Alex Ohman, Chair	A	P	P	P								
Bruce Albright, Liaison	P	P	P	P								
Dave Johnston, Member	P	P	P	P								
Rebecca Hasse, Member	P	P	P	A								
Jim Courneya, Member	P	A	P	P								
Julie Lammers, Clerk-Treasurer	P	P	P	P								
Mike Dufrane, Utilities Superintendent	P	A	A	A								

P: Present. A: Absent N/A: No Meeting

Present in person: Employees of Mark Sand and Gravel Brianne Balcer and Brandon Brusven.

Present via zoom: Citizen James Stenger

Call to Order

Chair Ohman called the planning Commission meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Agenda Additions or Deletions

Lammers requested the addition of scheduling the next month's meeting under New Business, as the regular May meeting date falls on a holiday.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Courneya, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

Motion by Albright, seconded by Johnston, to approve the minutes from March 30, 2026 with noted corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

Status of Council Recommendations

Nuisance Properties

Lammers reported on the long-standing nuisance property at 350 Pelican Avenue, specifically an unpermitted garage that has been subject to enforcement action for approximately 12 years. The City Attorney drafted new legal paperwork, which the property owner voluntarily signed. Under the agreement, the owner has until May 15 to remove any personal items from the structure, after which the City will proceed with demolition. The owner has until September to remit payment for the removal costs, with any remaining balance subject to being assessed against the property taxes at the Council's discretion. Discussion touched on the need to solicit competitive bids for the removal work, both for cost comparison and due diligence purposes. Concerns were raised regarding the potential presence of hazardous materials—including animal carcasses and possible asbestos—which would require licensed contractors and specialized handling procedures. It was also noted that the condition of the floor (earthen or concrete) and whether it would be removed could not be fully assessed until the contents are cleared.

Resolution St of Mn Joint Powers Agreement

It was reported that the City Council adopted the resolution to join the Minnesota Joint Powers Agreement for nuisance abatement. There was initial hesitancy among council members, but the City Attorney noted that approximately 14 surrounding communities have already entered the agreement. The agreement provides an additional enforcement tool by allowing the City to work with the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the City Attorney to pursue criminal proceedings against non-compliant property owners, supplementing the existing notice-based process.

Construction Permits

Active Construction Permits

The Commission was reminded that, per the City's Nuisance Policy, inspection tours are to be conducted in May, July, and September. Members were also reminded of the open meeting law restriction prohibiting three or more commission members from conducting tours together or gathering informally in a group context.

Old Business

City Ordinance Update

The Commission continued its review of the City's Ordinances in the context of several emerging nuisance concerns.

A recently erected camper on a Frazee Avenue property was discussed at length. Lammers noted that the camper appears to have been set up for an extended period. Staff researched applicable Ordinances and identified that, within 1,000 feet of lakeshore, Otter Tail County's Lakeshore Management rules apply—which prohibit two dwellings on the same parcel. Additionally, a 2016 City Camping Ordinance (Ordinance 2016-001) requires camping to occur within a designated campground; no such campground currently exists within the City. Additional relevant provisions were located in City Code sections 73 and 92.19 pertaining to recreational vehicles. It was noted that the City does allow campers on a temporary basis with a permit, subject to a 14-day limit. Staff will continue to identify the precise applicable Ordinance section and prepare documentation for the next meeting. Concerns were also raised regarding the lack of proper sanitary hookups at the location.

Additional nuisance complaints were noted, including a vehicle on Hill Street stored on pallets without tires, and a property on Pelican Avenue that reportedly had shown some improvement over the prior weekend. A general concern was raised by a community member that Vergas has seen an increase in visible nuisance conditions this year. Members were encouraged to conduct informal observations and submit photographic documentation to the Clerk-Treasurer prior to the May meeting to support the upcoming inspection tour process.

Nuisance Properties

No additional items were raised beyond those discussed under agenda item 7A and item 5A above.

New Business

Interim Use Permit - Mark Sand & Gravel

The Commission considered the Interim Use Permit application for Mark Sand & Gravel. The existing permit remains valid until June 1, 2026. Staff noted that the Commission is legally required to act within 60 days of the application receipt date of approximately March 30, 2026, establishing a deadline of approximately May 29, 2026. The Commission discussed tabling the matter pending receipt of a site analysis from the City Engineer, Blaine Green of Widseth Engineering, which has been commissioned and is anticipated to be delivered in advance of the May meeting. It was agreed that proceeding without the engineering report would undermine the purpose of having it completed.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Courneya, to table the Mark Sand & Gravel interim use permit pending receipt of Widseth Engineering's Site Analysis Report. The motion passed unanimously.

The Commission then addressed the need to reschedule the May meeting due to a conflict with the regular meeting date. May 18, 2026 at 6:00 PM was proposed and agreed upon.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Johnston, to schedule the next Planning Commission meeting for Monday, May 18, 2026 at 6:00 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion by Albright, seconded by Ohman, to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Recorded by Rachel Nustad (assisted by ClerkMinutes)

Secretary,
Julie Lammers, CMC
Vergas City Clerk-Treasurer

Council Recommendations

None.

Follow Up Actions

- Lammers: Solicit at least one external bid for removal of the garage at 350 Pelican Avenue, to compare with City staff/equipment costs, and ensure proper handling of potential hazardous materials (e.g., animal carcasses, asbestos).
- Planning Commission members: Locate the specific City Ordinance(s) regarding placement and duration of campers/RVs on residential property, especially as relates to lakeshore management and dwelling limits, and report findings at the next meeting.
- Planning Commission members: Conduct annual inspection tours of nuisance properties in May ensuring no more than two members are present at any site to comply with open meeting laws.
- Planning Commission members: Submit reports on nuisance properties to Lammers at least one week before the May meeting for agenda preparation.
- Planning Commission: Review and await the city engineer's (Widseth Engineering) analysis/report on the Mark Sand and Gravel pit before issuing the Interim Use Permit; table decision until after receipt of the report (by May 29).

Street/Sidewalks/Yard Waste Committee Meeting Minutes

Government Services Center

May 14th, 2026 at 9:00 AM.

2025	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bruce Albright, Council Liaison	N/A	N/A	P	N/A	P							
Paul Pinke, Council Liaison	N/A	N/A	P	N/A	P							
Mike DuFrane, Utilities Superintendent	N/A	N/A	A	N/A	P							
Julie Lammers, Clerk Treasurer	N/A	N/A	P	N/A	P							

P: Present. A: Absent N/A: No meeting

A Yard Waste meeting of the Vergas Streets/Sidewalks/Yard Waste (SSYW) Committee was held on Tuesday, May 14th, 2026 at 9:00 AM at the Vergas Government Services Center and Zoom.

Present via Zoom: Engineer Blaine Green of Widseth and citizen James Stenger.

Lammers called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

Agenda Additions or Deletions

Albright requested an addition regarding the alley by the parking lot.

Minutes

Motion by Albright, seconded by Pinke, to approve the minutes from March 31, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

Streets

West Lake Street

Improvement Project

The Committee discussed the status of safety improvements to West Lake Street from Glenn Street to Highway 17, estimated at approximately \$105,000. Discussion centered on the ongoing difficulty in securing right-of-way easements, which has stalled the project for approximately five and a half years. City Engineer Blaine Green confirmed that the engineering drawings are complete and in order, and the remaining obstacle is the preparation of easement documents by the City Attorney.

One adjacent property owner had previously met with a representative and was provided paperwork but has not returned signed documents to the attorney. The property owner indicated he is not in favor of the project and wishes the City to bear associated costs. No further progress has been made on that easement.

A separate right-of-way issue involving the railroad property was also discussed. The Committee was informed that the City and Otter Tail County are jointly pursuing the relocation of a railroad switch that currently causes significant traffic delays. The railroad has completed engineering analysis and determined that moving the switch is the preferred solution. The County is applying for grant funding in collaboration with the railroad, with grant awards expected in 2027, engineering to follow, and the switch relocation projected for 2028. The City has submitted supporting letters from the Mayor, Fire Chief, EMS, and the school. The Committee noted that the frequency and severity of train blockages appears to have improved compared to prior years. Photographic documentation of train delays was requested urgently to support the grant application, which has a deadline at the end of the month.

Tree Trimming

The Committee reviewed three quotes received for tree trimming and removal along West Lake Street from Glenn Street to the City limits. The quotes were from Heartwood Tree Experts, Carrs Tree Service and Three Pines Tree Service, with Three Pines providing a quote of \$2,450. However, the Committee determined that all three quotes were inadequate because they described trimming of overhanging branches and removal of only dead or small-diameter trees, rather than full removal of all trees within the right-of-way.

Albright emphasized that the trees must be removed entirely from the right-of-way — not merely trimmed — both as a safety measure and in preparation for a future road improvement project. He noted that stumps should also be treated to prevent

regrowth. It was observed that the majority of trees along the corridor are dead, and that the ongoing hazard to motorists, including incidents involving campers and trucks losing clearance, warrants prompt action.

The Committee identified that the right-of-way on the north side may be 40 feet rather than the standard 33 feet, based on a prior platting by a previous property owner. Green indicated that a surveyor could verify this relatively quickly, noting that one of the firm's surveyors lives in town.

The Committee agreed to restart the bidding process with a revised, clearly defined scope calling for complete tree removal within the right-of-way. Green agreed to prepare a map indicating the right-of-way boundaries, which would then be provided to Utilities Superintendent Mike DuFrane to obtain new quotes. The item will be carried over to the next Council meeting if quotes cannot be obtained before the upcoming Tuesday meeting.

Glenn Street/W Lake Street

Dust Control

The Committee was informed that the dust control bid for Glenn Street/West Lake Street came in at \$2,500, and that the property owners have paid \$2,499.90 toward that cost. The dust control contractor will proceed at their own scheduling. DuFrane raised the question of whether the road should be graded by a contractor prior to the dust control application, noting that in past years a grader had been used before spraying to ensure a flat, even surface. It was clarified that road grading was not included in the current agreement with the dust control contractor or the cost-sharing arrangement with the landowners. It was suggested that DuFrane coordinate informally with a local grading contractor if conditions allow, particularly if rain is forecast, as a freshly graded surface would yield better results.

Crosswalks

The Committee discussed the need to repaint crosswalks in advance of the upcoming tourist and Memorial Day season. It was noted that the County originally installed the crosswalks and that maintenance is the City's responsibility. Concern was raised that crosswalks painted late in the prior season had peeled over winter and should be done earlier this year.

The Committee considered whether City staff could borrow a line painter from the City of Pelican Rapids and complete the work in-house, versus contracting with a local asphalt contractor. During the meeting, DuFrane contacted Randy of Newling Asphalt by phone. Randy indicated he could complete the work by the following Tuesday or Wednesday — prior to Memorial Day weekend — at a rate of \$20 per block. With approximately five to six crosswalk blocks, the total cost is estimated at \$400–\$600. The Committee agreed this was a more cost-effective approach than mobilizing City staff and equipment.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Pinke, to hire Newling Asphalt to paint the crosswalks at a rate of \$20 per block. The motion passed unanimously.

DuFrane indicated he would call the contractor back to confirm following the meeting. The Committee agreed that reflective glass beads were not necessary at this time and that standard paint would suffice.

W Elm Street

The Committee received an update on the proposed vacation of the alley adjacent to West Elm Street. A Public Hearing on the matter is scheduled for the following Tuesday. The Clerk Treasurer noted that one affected property owner supports vacating the full alley, while a second property owner is undecided. It was clarified that under Minnesota State Statute 412.851, the City does not have discretion over how vacated right-of-way is distributed — it is automatically absorbed equally by abutting property owners. The City Attorney is preparing the vacation resolution, which will preserve all existing utility easements, including access to a manhole in the area. The alley in question runs from West Elm Street to Highway 17 and affects three properties: 106 E Elm St, 110 W Elm St, and 251 1st Ave N. A separate alley segment extending toward North 2nd Street was discussed briefly but cannot be included in the current vacation as it was not included in the public notice; a separate hearing would be required for that portion. DuFrane was asked to place a small amount of gravel near the fire hydrant on West Elm Street where standing water has been an issue due to vehicle parking.

Road Graveling

The Committee discussed the need to place gravel on several City streets, with West Lake Street and the road near 301 W Looney Lane property identified as priorities. Albright suggested that City staff prepare a map identifying all streets in need of gravel, including estimated footage, so that quantities can be calculated and bids obtained. DuFrane noted that West Lake Street has historically been a jointly maintained road, and that the Township has previously contributed to gravel costs on that road. The Committee agreed it would be appropriate to approach the Township again once quantities and costs are established, but emphasized that Council approval would be needed before any formal request is made.

Alley by Parking Lot

Albright noted a concern regarding the drop or grade change at the apron where the alley meets Main Street near the post office. It was discussed whether the transition should be repaired. Green confirmed that the concrete contractor had previously reviewed the issue and agreed it could be feathered or patched, but the Committee expressed concern that a patch could create a larger mess given the relatively new pavement. It was suggested that County highway staff be consulted for their assessment before any work proceeds. The Committee noted that the County retains responsibility for the Main Street sidewalks and adjacent infrastructure. No action was taken; the matter will be reviewed further pending a County consultation. DuFrane also raised that several punch list items from the recent construction project remain incomplete, including signage in the alley and near the post office. Green indicated he would visit the site the following day to walk through outstanding items with DuFrane.

Yard Waste

Lammers reported that 152 yard waste permits have been sold to date, with 292 sold in total during all of the prior year. Increased advertising has brought in new permit holders who were previously unaware of the program.

The Committee discussed the rapid accumulation of material at the yard waste site and the challenges associated with burning. DuFrane explained that the City holds a DNR variance for burning at the compost site, which is issued for a limited period (approximately one week at a time) and includes a condition that smoke must not bother neighbors or obstruct roadways. Due to dry and windy conditions, no burning has been possible recently. The pile has grown quickly since opening, and concerns were raised about contractors and residents depositing non-compliant materials, including stumps, large wood, and possible construction debris. The Committee discussed the need to get the yard waste site security camera operational. Staff reported that the Arvig is working to replace wireless point-to-point transmitters as a first step. The Committee emphasized the importance of operational cameras to catch violators. It was agreed that if a violator is identified, the matter should be reported to Lammers for referral to the City Attorney.

Albright confirmed that the City has filed the appropriate registration with the MPCA for the yard waste disposal site, that the resulting ash is not considered a pollutant by MPCA, and that the DNR variance provides the legal basis for burning. The Committee agreed to have DuFrane forward a copy of the current variance documentation to Albright and Lammers for reference.

The Committee noted that if the burn ban continues and the pile reaches capacity, the Council has previously agreed to limit intake — permitting leaves and small material while halting larger brush loads. The upcoming Memorial Day weekend was identified as a period of high expected activity.

Budget – Goal Setting

5-Year Budget

Lammers presented an overview of the preliminary five-year budget through 2031 for the streets, recycling, and shop departments. Items currently identified for inclusion are: grapple costs (to be split between the recycling center and streets budgets), a skid steer, and a future snowblower replacement. DuFrane indicated that more detailed conversations with staff are needed to refine the numbers. The Committee discussed the potential purchase of a grapple attachment for the City tractor, which is compatible with tractor attachments. A new unit was estimated at approximately \$4,500–\$6,000, though DuFrane noted that used units are frequently available on the secondary market for approximately \$2,000–\$2,200. The

committee agreed that a used grapple would be appropriate and that the item should be brought to Council with a price comparison once a suitable unit is identified. The grapple was noted as particularly relevant to yard waste management and potential structure demolition activities. Lammers also reviewed the current bond schedule and investment accounts. Outstanding bonds include approximately \$147,000 for the parking lot and \$740,000 for the 2019 street project (original principal \$985,740). A 2015 bond has approximately \$33,000 remaining. Dedicated accounts are maintained for seal coating, sidewalks, yard waste, street improvements, and bond payments.

Adjournment

Motion by Albright, seconded by Pinke, to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 AM. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Recommendations

None.

Follow Up Actions

- Green: Provide a map to DuFrane showing the required tree removal area (right-of-way) for West Lake Street.
- Lammers: Send documentation of the 40-foot right-of-way to the north to Green.
- DuFrane: Get new quotes from tree removal companies based on the updated map and clear removal specifications from Blaine/Lammers.
- DuFrane: Bring new tree removal quotes to Council for recommendation after receiving map and documentation.
- DuFrane: Contact the dust control bid winner to confirm if grading is included or if another grader operator needs to be scheduled before spraying; coordinate timing with weather/grading.
- DuFrane: Create maps showing areas needing gravel, with quantities/lengths, and provide to Council for bid purposes.
- Council/DuFrane: After maps/quantities are prepared, get gravel bids and then approach Candor Township for cost-sharing on West Lake Street gravel, pending council approval.
- Green: Walk the parking lot and other areas with DuFrane to review punch list items and address any new issues from winter.
- DuFrane: Forward DNR variance/burning permit documentation to Julie and Paul for review.
- Albright: Drive up to yard waste site, take photos, and monitor for illegal dumping (stumps, building debris, etc.); report violations for enforcement.
- DuFrane: Work with Arvig and suppliers to ensure all city security cameras are operational and connected; coordinate repair/replacement of wireless equipment as recommended by Arvig.
- DuFrane: Bring snowblower and skid steer quotes/numbers to Lammers for 2027 budget planning.
- DuFrane: Monitor Facebook Marketplace and other sources for used grapple; bring viable options and pricing to Council for approval if found at significant savings.

City Council
2026 May Council Meeting
Vergas Event Center & Zoom Id number 267-094-2170 password 56587
6:15 PM on Tuesday, May 19, 2026

8. Committee Reports

A. Park Advisory Board

Files Attached

- Park Board Minutes 5.14.26.pdf

CITY OF VERGAS.
 Park Board Advisory Board Minutes
 Vergas Event Center & Zoom Teleconference
 3:00 PM on Thursday, May 14th, 2026

2026	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dean Haarstick, Council Appointment	P	N/A	A	A	P							
Sherri Hanson, Member	P	N/A	P	P	P							
Chuck Hanson, Member	P	N/A	P	P	A							
Steph Hogan, Member	P	N/A	P	P	P							
Tiffany Prindle, Member	A	N/A	A	A								
Tony Sailer, Member	P	N/A	P	P	A							
Rachel Nustad, Secretary of the board	P	N/A	P	P	P							
Mike DuFrane, Utilities Superintendent	P	N/A	A	A	P							

P: Present. A: Absent N/A: No meeting

Present via person: Julie Lammers and Tasha Rohlfs of Otter Tail Lakes Country
 Present via zoom: Citizen James Stenger

Call to order

The City of Vergas Park Advisory Board was called to order by S. Hanson on Thursday, May 14th, 2026 at 3:00 PM

Additions and Deletions 1:50

Two additions were noted: a Utilities Report and painting the loon.

Minutes

April 9, 2026

Motion by Hogan, seconded by S. Hanson to approve the minutes from April 9, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

Status of Recommendations to City Council

None.

Giants of Otter Tail County

Tasha Rohlfs of Otter Tail Lakes Country presented a new summer tourism campaign called "Giants of Otter Tail County." The campaign is designed to capitalize on the high concentration of giant statues within approximately a 30-mile radius of the area — one of the highest concentrations in the United States — by creating a family-friendly, drivable scavenger hunt experience. Participants will collect a card, visit all 10 giant statues, check them off, and drop the completed card at one of five designated locations across the county to be entered into a prize drawing for T-shirts and other items. Upon dropping off a completed card, participants will also receive a pair of "otter ears" and a free pass to Otter Cove Children's Museum in Fergus Falls, where an interactive map installation related to the campaign will be featured.

Billy's Corner Bar in Vergas was confirmed as one of the five card drop-off locations. Rohlfs distributed participation cards to board members and noted that the campaign would be officially launched on social media the following Thursday as a Memorial Day exploration experience, requesting that no one post about it publicly until then.

The Board discussed opportunities to further promote the campaign. S. Hanson suggested that Rohlfs appear on the weekly Vergas video feature. S. Hanson also raised the idea of placing a marked "photo spot" near the Vergas Loon statue to help visitors get the best photograph, as the statue's size makes framing difficult.

Story Walk

S. Hanson provided an update on the upcoming Story Walk installation along the Long Lake Trail. The Story Walk will be unveiled at the "Bring in Spring" community event on Saturday, with activities including a visit from Otter Cove, Baron of Bubbles, balloons, and face painting — all free for families. The featured book is *Little Loon Finds Its Voice*, written by a Minnesota author from Minneapolis. The author will be present at the event to sign copies of the book — 100 copies having been purchased by Billy's Corner Bar for distribution to families — and will lead two presentations teaching children the five loon calls featured in the book. At noon, attendees will walk to the start of the Long Lake Trail, where each page of the book has been reproduced as a yard sign along a half-mile stretch of the trail. The Story Walk will remain open through the end of October, with the intent to feature a new book each year on a different nature theme.

Pickleball

S. Hanson reported that she had spoken with Shannon Charpentier, who indicated that the Pickleball board was scheduled to meet on May 20th. Play had already begun, and there was nothing significant to report. Operations appeared to be proceeding well.

Baseball Committee

S. Hanson reported that the Baseball Committee had not formally met, but that members C. Hanson and Sailer had been active at the ballpark installing yellow fence guard along the fencing. It was also noted that they had obtained a line painter. S. Hanson mentioned that Sailer had been working to schedule games at the field. DuFrane raised a separate concern regarding the storage shed at the ballpark, noting that baseball users had been leaving equipment in a disorganized manner, creating clutter and potential safety hazards. He noted that City staff had spent time cleaning the shed and that this had become a recurring issue. It was noted that C. Hanson and Sailer, through the Baseball Committee, would probably address storage expectations with baseball users going forward.

Long Lake Park Master Plan

Sales Tax Update

Lammers reported that she had testified before both the Minnesota Senate and the House in support of the sales tax legislation. The bill has since been folded into the omnibus bill, which is currently awaiting a House vote. The legislative session is scheduled to end around May 18th, and it was noted that a special session remains possible if a vote is not taken in time.

Review

Lammers outlined the vision for the Long Lake Park Master Plan, which includes a new bathhouse with an amphitheater on one side and restrooms on the other, followed by future additions such as a splash pad and other children's amenities. A redesigned driveway is also planned, converting the current layout to a one-way drive-through with additional parking along the sides to improve pedestrian safety and increase parking capacity.

Budget

Lammers reported a discrepancy in the budget figures, noting that the park fund balance had been listed at approximately \$67,051 but the correct figure appears to be \$32,651. She indicated she would investigate what expenditures account for the difference and would report back at a future meeting.

Utilities Superintendent Report

Ice Rink

DuFrane reported that the lake-based ice rink had been unsuccessful in recent seasons, citing persistent weather challenges, safety concerns associated with operating a tractor on the lake near a spring, and damage caused to equipment by dragging sand and water. He recommended that the ice rink on the lake be discontinued and that the board explore an alternative, such as portable rink boards installed at a land-based location such as the ballpark. The board agreed that the lake-based ice rink was not viable going forward and that any future ice rink would require a new approach.

Dock Inspection / Warranty Issue

DuFrane reported that an inspection of the boardwalk on the shore side revealed that bolts on the posts were pulling out of the sidewall in multiple locations. He contacted the contractor, Travis with MN Boardwalks, who reviewed photos of the damage and confirmed it would be addressed as a warranty repair. The board requested that DuFrane follow up to obtain a timeline for the warranty work.

Loon Statue Painting

Nustad reported that Howard Elijah had reached out to the City regarding repainting the Vergas Loon statue and had provided a verbal ballpark estimate of \$1,500–\$2,000. Given the ongoing Giants of Otter Tail County promotion and the expected increase in visitors to the statue, the board agreed it was important to move forward promptly. The board discussed the quality of paint used, with DuFrane noting admiration for a recently painted loon statue near Pelican Lake and suggesting that a higher-quality or glossier paint product might be worth exploring. Haarstick noted that in the past, the wrong type of paint had been applied to the statue, and that the appropriate material must be used. It was noted that the contractor has previously painted the statue twice and likely uses a proper process.

Motion by S. Hanson, seconded by Hogan, to recommend to the City Council approval of up to \$2,000 for repainting the Vergas Loon statue. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting Date/Time

The next meeting is scheduled for June 11th.

Adjournment

Motion by S. Hanson, seconded by Hogan, to adjourn the meeting at 3:40 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Nustad, Deputy Clerk (assisted by ClerkMinutes)
Secretary of the Park Board

Recommendations to City Council

Recommend to the City Council approval of up to \$2,000 for repainting the Vergas Loon statue.

Follow Up Actions

- DuFrane: Send S. Hanson a picture of the type of trailer being considered for transporting the picnic tables, so Sherry can research costs.
- S. Hanson: Research the cost of a suitable trailer for picnic table transport after receiving the picture.
- S. Hanson: Film and coordinate the Vergas show with Rohlfs for promotion of the Giants of Otter Tail County campaign.
- DuFrane: Follow up with Travis (dock contractor) to get a timeline for warranty repair work on the dock posts and report back.
- Nustad: Discuss with painter about potential for more resilient or glossier paint for the loon statue and confirm timeline for painting to minimize downtime during Giants of Otter Tail County promotion.
- Baseball Committee: Address and improve organization and cleanliness of the ball field storage shed, ensuring equipment is stored neatly to prevent damage and safety hazards.
- Lammers: Continue to monitor status of sales tax legislation and report back when updates are available.
- Lammers: Look into details of the \$32,651 West Central account spending to determine how the funds were used.

City Council
2026 May Council Meeting
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9. Staff Reports

- A. Engineering Report
- B. Clerk Treasurer Report
 - 1. Ringdahl Subsidy
 - 2. Insurance Deductible
 - 3. Election Judges
- C. Utilities Report

Files Attached

- Vergas Engineering Update May2026.pdf
- 05.26 Clerk_Treasurer_Report.pdf
- Ringdahl Financial assistance request 4.27.2026.pdf
- 25-26 Ringdahl Subsidy Request.pdf
- Clerk-Treasurer Report Insurance.pdf
- 2026-006 Resolution appointing election judges.pdf

Engineering Update – April 2026

Blaine Green, PE, VP

Ongoing Items:

- Parking lot:
 - Punchlist items (concrete walk) to be completed in spring
 - Completed Certificate of Survey for Bruhn Property
 - Project closeout to follow
- Keilley Shores development
 - Developer's engineer confirmed that the pond is undersized, and will require additional storage to meet requirements. I received confirmation from the developer that they are planning to right-size the pond.
- Gravel Pit permitting
 - Flight was completed, data has been processed
 - Report to follow in mid-May

Upcoming Items:

- West Lake Street
 - The City could pursue basic upgrades to the street, and early cost estimate would put the street costs around \$105,000 to improve safety from Glenn Street to Hwy 17.

On the radar:

- Project Priority List & Intended Use Plans (utilities)
 - Discuss at upcoming utility committee meeting
 - Identify system needs with staff
 - Develop a preliminary engineering report (PER)
- Street projects
 - Work with staff to identify needs

If you have any questions, you can give me a call at 320-335-5057, or email me at blaine.green@widseth.com

Thank you!

Clerk-Treasurer Council Report

Date: May 2026

Grants

WCI Solar Grant-Received

Total Grant Approved: \$75,384.00 Received Funds:

Battery Backup Grant: \$28,896.23 (covers full cost)

Installation scheduled.

Otter Tail County rebate received for \$36,000. Giraffe Financial tax credits account created.

MDH Implementation Grant-Received

Wellhead Protection Plan is for a fence around the water plant.

\$15,000 grant with no match

Signed Grant Agreement. Utilities Superintendent will get quotes for fence in May, and work will be completed by fall. Will install \$15,000 worth of fence this year and apply for another grant if needed to complete the fence.

Sales Tax Request

The Taxes committee unfortunately ended up writing a bill that did not include any local sale tax requests, which the city can request again next year.

2026 Elections

- Training for Clerk Friday, May 29 from 1-3 pm.
- Local Filing will be July 14-28, 2026
- Resolution 2026-006 approval to hire election judges.
- Election Judge training July 9 and July 16.

Current Projects

- EMS
 - County meeting held on Thursday, April 23 at 6 pm. See attachments.
- Insurance Deductible
 - Does Council want to change deductible amount? See attachment.
- Streets/Yard Waste
 - Dust Control
- EDA/HRA: Daycare initiative
 - Name: Growing Up Vergas
 - Grants are being applied for
- Planning Commission:
 - Ordinance book update for review and recommendation to Council
 - Nuisance Properties
- 2025 Audit Information to Auditor

Ringdahl Ambulance Service

Date: 4.27.2026

To: Township and City Officials
Ringdahl Ambulance Service Primary Coverage Area

Subject: Ambulance Service Coverage Deficit Invoice

Dear Township and City Leaders,

Ringdahl Ambulance Service is committed to providing high-quality emergency medical services across our primary coverage area. As you are aware, the cost of maintaining reliable and responsive ambulance services continues to exceed the revenue generated through patient billing and other traditional funding sources.

The funding gap, or deficit, associated with providing ambulance service coverage has been discussed in prior meetings and communications with local stakeholders. Most recently, during the Otter Tail County Commission meeting involving representatives from the Pelican Rapids townships and cities, there was a request and direction to move forward with invoicing local jurisdictions for their share of this deficit.

In response to that request, enclosed you will find a spreadsheet representing your jurisdiction's portion of the cost deficit for ambulance service coverage within our primary service area. These numbers utilize a levy per household formula that was utilized last year. The suggested payment request remains the same as 2025.

We believe this approach is a necessary step to ensure the continued availability, sustainability, and quality of emergency medical services for the communities we serve. We remain committed to working collaboratively with all jurisdictions to develop long-term funding solutions.

If you have any questions regarding the invoice or would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your continued support of emergency medical services.

Sincerely,

Ken Krupich

Ken Krupich, General Manager

KKrupich@RingdahlEMS.com 701-306-5055

Ringdahl EMS Ambulance Subsidy

	EMS Dollar Levy	Levy per Household	
	\$630,000	\$19.34	
Service Area	Total Households	Population	Total Subsidy
Pelican Rapids Service Area			
<i>Townships</i>			
Scambler	1,146	568	\$ 22,164
Dunn	2,565	929	\$ 49,607
Cundor	913	621	\$ 17,657
Norwegian Grove	456	340	\$ 8,819
Pelican	677	574	\$ 13,093
Lida	1,863	780	\$ 36,030
Dora	1,501	697	\$ 29,029
Trondjem	323	177	\$ 6,247
Erhads Grove	464	411	\$ 8,974
Maplewood	444	294	\$ 8,587
Star Lake	902	446	\$ 17,445
<i>Cities</i>			\$ -
Pelican Rapids	1,070	2,577	\$ 20,694
Erhard	123	132	\$ 2,379
Rothsay	124	197	\$ 2,398
Vergus	368	348	\$ 7,117
Fergs Falls Service Area			
<i>Townships</i>			
Oscar	353	208	\$ 6,827
Elizabeth	998	843	\$ 19,301
Friberg	844	800	\$ 16,323
Maine	1,200	665	\$ 23,208
Amor	1,187	481	\$ 22,957
Carlisle	273	178	\$ 5,280
Fergus Falls	613	747	\$ 11,855
Aurdal	1,237	1,540	\$ 23,924
Sverdrup	814	646	\$ 15,743
Everts	1,751	759	\$ 33,864
Orwell	253	144	\$ 4,893
Buse	532	474	\$ 10,289
Dain Prairie	934	887	\$ 18,064
Western	254	117	\$ 4,912
Aastud	314	191	\$ 6,073
<i>Cities</i>			\$ -
Elizabeth	142	168	\$ 2,746
Fergus Falls	6,936	14,119	\$ 273,061
Underwood	307	356	\$ 5,937
Battle Lake	694	857	\$ 13,422
	32,575	33,271	\$ 768,919

LMCIT Property/Casualty Renewal

Here is a chart of premium credits for the different deductible options:



Deductible	Auto	Property/Liability
\$500	0.0%	0.0%
\$1,000	6.2%	1.0%
\$2,500	16.0%	6.0%
\$5,000	23.0%	11.0%
\$10,000	30.0%	19.0%
\$15,000	35.0%	25.0%
\$20,000	39.0%	29.0%
\$25,000	42.0%	33.0%
\$50,000	52.0%	44.0%
\$75,000	58.0%	50.0%
\$100,000	61.0%	53.0%
\$150,000	64.0%	57.0%
\$200,000	68.0%	61.0%
\$300,000	71.0%	65.0%

Vergas's current large deductibles:

Property - \$5,000 = 11% savings

Equipment Breakdown - \$2,500 = 6% savings

All other lines - \$1,000 = 1% savings, 6.2% savings for Auto

**CITY OF VERGAS
COUNTY OF OTTER TAIL
STATE OF MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION 2026-006**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING PRIMARY & GENERAL ELECTION JUDGES
FOR THE ELECTIONS OF AUGUST 11, 2026, AND NOVEMBER 3, 2026**

WHEREAS, a State Primary and General Election will be held on August 11, 2026, and November 3, 2026, respectively; and

WHEREAS, MN Statute 204B.21, subd.2, requires election judges for precincts in a municipality to be appointed by the governing body of the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vergas has one voting precinct; and

WHEREAS, the following residents have agreed to serve as election judges and have met the qualifications established by the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the following candidates for election judge will be receiving training in July and will be eligible to serve after meeting the qualifications established by the State of Minnesota,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Vergas hereby appoints the following persons to serve as election judges for the Primary and General Elections of 2026, with the understanding that amendments may be necessary to the appointments in order to fill vacancies and meet party splits; and approves payment of an hourly wage of \$15.00 per hour (\$17.00 for head judge) during election judge training and time served on election day.

JUDGES: Head Judge Diane Menz, Carol Albright, Kari Dahlgren, Steph Hogan, and Pat Strand.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Vergas on this 19th day of May, 2026.

By: Julie Bruhn, Mayor

Attest:

By: Julie Lammers, City Clerk-Treasurer

City Council
2026 May Council Meeting
Vergas Event Center & Zoom Id number 267-094-2170 password 56587
6:15 PM on Tuesday, May 19, 2026

10. Information & Announcements

Meetings and Events:

A. Household Hazardous Waste Day, Thursday, June 25, 2026, 10:00 - 2:00 Vergas Event Center
Parking Lot

Employee 2026 Trainings:

A. League of MN Cities Annual Conference June 24-26, 2026, in Rochester (Bruhn, Albright and
Stenger)

B. 16th Annual Operator Expo, (MN Rural Water) August 25, 2026, (Utilities Superintendent and
Maintenance Operator)

C. Clerk's Advanced Academy- September 10-11, 2026, in Otsego, MN (Clerk-Treasurer)