

City Council
2026 July Council Meeting
Vergas Event Center & Zoom Id number 267-094-2170 password 56587
6:30 PM on Tuesday, July 21, 2026

1. Call to Order

2. Citizens' Concerns

3. Agenda Additions and Deletions

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

- A. Council Minutes of June 16, and July 9, 2026
- B. Bills paid between Council meetings and Council bills
- C. Liquor Store bills for June 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. Committee Reports
 - 1. Planning Commission
 - 2. EDA/HRA
 - 3. Energy and Resiliency

5. Committee Reports

- A. Park Board
- B. CDH-Vergas Fire Board

6. Staff Reports

- A. Engineering
- B. Utilities Superintendent
- C. Clerk-Treasurer
- D. Event Center Coordinator
- E. Liquor Store Manager
- F. LMC Conference review by Mayor and Council Members

7. Information & Announcements

Information:

Local Office Filings, Open July 14-28, Positions Open Mayor and 2 Council Members Fee \$2.00

Employee 2026 Trainings:

- A. 16th Annual Operator Expo, (MN Rural Water) August 25, 2026, (Utilities Superintendent and Maintenance Operator)
- B. Clerk's Advanced Academy- September 10-11, 2026, in Otsego, MN (Clerk-Treasurer)

8. Adjournment

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 - 3. Energy and Resiliency

Files Attached

- City Council Minutes 6.16.26.pdf
- City Council Special Meeting Minutes 7.9.26.pdf
- 2026 City Bill Listing.pdf
- 7.21.26 Claims List for Approval.pdf
- 6.2026 Liquor Store Bill Listing.pdf
- past_due_customers (2).pdf
- 06.2026 Investment Schedule & Bond Schedule.pdf
- 06.2026 General Fund_Special Revenue Money Market Account Report.pdf
- 06.2026 Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances.pdf
- Planning Commission Minutes 6.22.26.pdf
- 7.15.26 EDA.HRA Minutes.pdf
- Energy and Resiliency Minutes June 2026 meeting.pdf

**CITY OF VERGAS
COUNCIL MINUTES
VERGAS EVENTS CENTER & ZOOM
Tuesday, June 16, 2026**

The City Council of Vergas met at 6:39 PM, on Tuesday, June 16, 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	P	P						
Bruce Albright, Member	P	P	P	P/P	P	A						
Paul Pinke, Member	P	P	P	P/P	P	P						
Dean Haarstick, Member	P	P	P	P/P	P	P						
James Stenger, Member	P	P	P	P/P	P	P						
Julie Lammers, Clerk-Treasurer	P	P	P	P/P	P	P						
Mike Dufrane, Utilities Superintendent	P	A	A	A/A	P	A						
Kyle Theisen, Liquor Store Manager	P	A	A	A/A	A	A						

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

Present via Zoom: Engineer Blaine Green of the Widseth, Editor Bob Williams of the Frazee-Vergas Forum; and Citizens, Michael Miller, and Marcia Huddleston.

Present in person: Attorney Karen Skoyles, Griffin Peck of West Central Initiative, Cedar Walters of West Central Initiative, Jess Grondahl of Holsen Solar, City Auditor Colleen Hoffman of Hoffman, Philipp & Martell, PLLC; and Citizens, Paul Haarstick.

Call to Order

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

Citizens' Concerns

None.

Agenda Additions and Deletions

Two deletions were noted. The Planning Commission did not meet, so its community report was removed. The Streets/Sidewalks/Yard Waste Committee minutes were pending and therefore also removed from the Committee Reports section of the consent agenda.

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Stenger, to approve the consent agenda as written, with the deletion of the Planning Commission and Streets/Sidewalks/Yard Waste Committee reports. The motion passed unanimously.

Community Requests

July 31, 2026 Fireworks Long Lake Park

Lammers presented a request from the Vergas Community Club for permission to conduct a fireworks display on July 31, 2026, as part of Looney Days. The fireworks would be launched over Long Lake from the entrance of the Long Lake parking lot, above the boardwalk area. Brief discussion arose regarding fire safety given dry conditions, as well as a prior consideration of launching fireworks from a barge in the middle of the lake. Lammers noted that the Community Club is not obligated to use a certain location simply because permission is granted for the shore location. The Council agreed to approve the request with the condition that a licensed provider conduct the display, with the understanding that the organization carries insurance.

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Pinke, to approve the July 31, 2026 fireworks display over Long Lake, with the requirement that a licensed provider be used. The motion passed unanimously.

Aug. 22, 2026 Ole's Ride - Railway Ave

Lammers presented a request to close Railway Avenue from the corner of the length of Billy's for Friday, August 21 and Saturday, August 22, 2026, in connection with the Ole's Ride event. This was noted to be consistent with prior years, though the Council noted that a prior year had also included a closure of Main Street, which was not being requested this time.

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Pinke, to approve the Railway Avenue closure for Ole's Ride on August 21–22, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

2025 Audit Report

Auditor Colleen Hoffman presented the 2025 audit report. She summarized the City's financial position positively, noting a net worth of approximately \$4,000,000 and commending the Council's due diligence and sound financial policies. She highlighted the positive role of West Central Initiative in supporting City projects. Hoffman noted that an unbudgeted parking lot project had drawn down the general fund somewhat, and encouraged the Council to budget for capital outlay when projects are anticipated. She also noted that the City's reserves are being spent down, which she characterized as acceptable given current interest rates and the value of investing in the community. Hoffman directed the Council's attention to pages 36–39 of the audit report, which contain detailed descriptions of the City's six outstanding bond issues, including principal amounts, interest rates, payment schedules, and balances remaining. She noted that the 2015 bonds are nearly paid off, with the final payment due in 2027, and that debt payments extend through 2040. Regarding the utility funds, Hoffman raised concern that the sewer fund is running a deficit of approximately \$100,000, and that the water fund is also not generating positive income. She explained that cities with poor fund balances and high rates relative to the region are better positioned to receive grants rather than loans for large infrastructure projects, and noted that the City's sewer fund situation could actually be advantageous when applying for grant funding. She advised the Council that rate increases may need to be considered for both sewer and water, acknowledging that sewer rates had recently been raised for 2026.

Hoffman reported that the municipal liquor store performed very well, describing the manager's work as excellent and the store as the City's primary revenue generator. She noted the store's inventory was clean and well-managed during the audit. She also reported that the City's PERA pension liability has declined from over \$250,000 to approximately \$100,000, and may eventually become an asset on the City's books.

On the Fire Relief Association, Hoffman explained the requirement for an actuarial study under Government Accounting Standards Board rules, noting that without it the liability figure cannot be included in the audit report. She discussed the fire form process, the special fund for firefighter pensions, and the option for relief associations to join the statewide PERA volunteer firefighter plan, which is 130% funded and eliminates the need for a local audit. She also touched on the importance of sobriety policies for volunteer fire departments.

One corrective transfer was noted to reclassify taxes that had been posted to the wrong account. No other findings or negative items were reported.

Hoffman noted appreciation for Deputy Clerk Rachel Nustad's work in supporting Lammers. Mayor Bruhn thanked Hoffman for her report.

Municipal Solar Cohort

Griffin Peck of West Central Initiative and Jess Grondahl of Holsen Solar presented a proposal to install a solar array on the Vergas CDH Fire Hall as part of the second municipal solar cohort. The cohort process involved a cooperative RFP through the Lakes Region Service Cooperative, with 13 participating communities. A selection committee of cohort members chose Holsen Solar and one other installer to split the cohort projects. Grondahl described the proposed system as an 84-panel array split between east- and west-facing orientations on the metal-roofed middle building of the fire hall. This configuration was selected to avoid roof penetrations and to maximize production across morning and afternoon hours. The system would include four inverters and be set up for net metering, sized to the maximum allowed under Otter Tail Power's rebate program. Peck presented the financial analysis. The fire hall currently consumes approximately 66,000 kilowatt hours annually across three electrical services at a total cost of roughly \$3,922 per year, of which \$2,289 is energy-based. The proposed 50 kW DC / 40 kW AC array is projected to produce approximately 54,500 kWh per year, offsetting roughly 82% of the building's consumption. Key financial figures included:

- **Total project cost:** \$110,356
- **Otter Tail Power rebate:** \$55,078
- **Federal 30% tax credit:** \$33,047
- **Total incentives:** \$88,125
- **Balance after incentives:** \$22,231
- **Estimated payback period:** 5 years and 2 months
- **30-year projected savings:** \$123,547

Peck explained that because much of the solar production will be exported to the grid at the small general service rate of approximately 8 cents per kWh—while a significant portion of the building's consumption occurs under the fixed time-of-service heating rate of approximately 1 cent per kWh, which is active only from 10 PM to 6 AM and thus cannot be offset by solar—the

export payments generate a meaningful premium, estimated at \$3,800 per year in year one. The analysis uses a conservative 1.5% annual electric rate escalator. Peck also noted that Otter Tail Power is currently in a rate case with a proposed 19% increase, which would further improve the project's economics. West Central Initiative is again offering 0% interest financing covering 100% of project costs, with repayment structured from the utility rebate, the tax credit, and energy savings over the first five years. WCI will also coordinate with a tax credit filing specialist to handle the federal credit on behalf of the City. Grondahl reported that the previously approved solar array installation is complete and ready for grid tie-in, pending scheduling of a service shutdown with Otter Tail Power. Lammers indicated she would coordinate an appropriate date, noting Mondays or Wednesdays may work. Discussion centered on the need for the Vergas CDH Fire Hall board to formally vote to proceed, as no recorded vote currently exists in the fire board minutes. Mayor Bruhn noted that the fire board meets quarterly and committed to scheduling a special meeting. Peck offered to participate via Zoom. Peck confirmed that Holsen Solar does not have a hard deadline but would prefer a decision within approximately one month to facilitate a bulk order for the cohort. WCI indicated the loan application process would be substantially faster than the first cohort.

The Council noted that the resolution text presented referenced the Lake Country Service Cooperative rather than Lakes Region, and agreed to address the formal resolution language after the fire board meeting. The Council voted to indicate its intent to move forward with the project, contingent on fire board approval, and to serve as the fiscal agent for the project for purposes of the federal tax credit.

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Pinke, to proceed with the solar installation on the Vergas CDH Fire Hall, with the city serving as fiscal agent for the project, contingent on fire board approval. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Personnel

Mayor Bruhn reported on behalf of the Personnel Committee.

Resignation of Liquor Store Manager: Kyle Theisen submitted his resignation as liquor store manager, effective June 12, 2026.

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Pinke, to accept the resignation of Kyle Theisen as liquor store manager. The motion passed unanimously.

The Council then discussed retaining Theisen as a part-time employee during the transition to support continuity of operations until a new manager is hired.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Stenger, to retain Kyle Theisen as a part-time liquor store employee until a new manager is hired. The motion passed unanimously.

Liquor Store Manager Salary Adjustment: The Personnel Committee reviewed compensation data from the League of Minnesota Cities and determined that the starting salary for the liquor store manager position was below market. To support active recruitment, the Committee recommended increasing the Step 1 starting salary for the liquor store manager position only—not other positions on the City's salary scale—from approximately \$22/hour to \$25.23/hour, effective June 16, 2026. It was noted that the salary schedule currently on file reflected an effective date of January 1, 2026, and this would be corrected to reflect the actual approval date.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Stenger, to increase the liquor store manager Step 1 starting salary to \$25.23 per hour, effective June 16, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

Short-Term Disability Insurance: Lammers had identified that the City's short-term disability insurance and the Minnesota Paid Family and Medical Leave program cover substantially the same benefits and cannot both be utilized simultaneously. The Committee recommended discontinuing the short-term disability insurance, saving approximately \$813 per year, while retaining Minnesota Family Leave coverage. It was noted that if the state program is ever rescinded, the City would revisit reinstating short-term disability coverage.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Stenger, to discontinue the city's short-term disability insurance and rely on Minnesota Paid Family and Medical Leave. The motion passed unanimously.

Liquor Store Manager Job Description: The job description for the liquor store manager was reviewed and updated to reflect that the position reports to the City Clerk/Treasurer rather than to a liquor store committee, as no such committee currently exists.

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Pinke, to approve the updated liquor store manager job description. The motion passed unanimously.

Park Board

D. Haarstick reported on behalf of the Park Board.

Wishing Well Donation — Peterson Park: The Park Board recommended that the Council accept a wishing well donation to be placed in Peterson Park. Bruhn noted that a formal gift acceptance resolution will be required. The Lions Club currently maintains Peterson Park and is expected to care for the planting associated with the wishing well installation, though this has not yet been formally confirmed with them. The wishing well will be located near the Linden Road-side of the park, accessible from the roadside.

Motion by Haarstick, seconded by Stenger, to accept the wishing well donation for Peterson Park. The motion passed unanimously.

Landscaping Around the Loon — Long Lake Park: The Park Board also recommended approving up to \$1,000 for the purchase of mulch, peat, and soil to support landscaping improvements around the recently repainted Loon at the Long Lake Park.

Motion by Pinke, seconded by Haarstick, to approve up to \$1,000 for mulch, peat, and soil for landscaping around the Loon. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Reports

Engineering Report

Engineer Blaine Green reported that the City is nearly finished identifying all unknown lead service lines, with only a handful remaining. The state-required reporting deadline is the end of July. Green also reported that Keilley Shores has made further adjustments to their pond and that staff are awaiting confirmation from the Keilley Shores engineer that the changes satisfy the requirements of the existing agreement.

Clerk-Treasurer Report

Lammers noted that a written report was included in the packet. One item was raised for discussion: the current policy prohibiting anyone under the age of 21 from entering the municipal liquor store. Lammers explained this policy was adopted based on a misunderstanding that the City was subject to Otter Tail County's Cannabis Ordinance, when in fact the City has its own ordinance. She noted that the restriction is not legally required and is resulting in lost business, particularly during the summer, as customers with young children choose not to enter and go elsewhere instead. After brief discussion, the Council agreed to lift the under-21 restriction, subject to the existing conditions that minors must be accompanied by someone 21 or older and may not handle any product.

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Pinke, to lift the under-21 entry restriction at the municipal liquor store. The motion passed unanimously.

Lammers also briefly addressed the proposed water tower fencing project, noting that the utility superintendent has not yet provided a quote. The water/sewer committee had discussed pursuing two sequential grant applications, as the sewer and water funds currently lack resources to support a full fencing project at once. The Council acknowledged that \$15,000 may not cover a complete perimeter fence, but agreed the priority areas—the front and sides—would be addressed first, with the remaining side deferred to a subsequent grant cycle.

Utilities Report

Lammers presented the utilities report. Two related expenditure items were brought forward for approval:

1. **Beach Weed Pesticide Application:** The annual aquatic weed treatment for the beach area has increased in cost from the budgeted \$750 to \$1,500 this year. The City holds an aquatic plant management permit from the Minnesota DNR authorizing this treatment. Only a small number of licensed applicators in Minnesota are qualified to perform this work.
2. **Weed Removal Around the Fishing Pier:** At the request of the Looney Days committee, the City has in recent years supplemented chemical treatment with mechanical weed removal around the pier, at a rate of approximately \$425 per hour. This year's proposed removal is estimated at \$850 (two hours).

The Council discussed the broader issue of increasing weed growth in the beach area, attributing it in part to reduced ice and snow cover allowing sunlight to penetrate and promote weed growth earlier in the season. Bruhn noted that weed conditions last summer were noticeably worse and had at times inhibited swimming. D. Haarstick referenced feedback from Otter Tail Lakes Country meetings encouraging municipalities to take pride in and maintain public beaches, and emphasized the safety concern of swimmers becoming entangled in heavy weed growth. The Council agreed to direct staff and the Park Board to consider whether the scope of the weed removal should be expanded to include the swimming area in future seasons. The Council approved the combined expenditure of \$2,350 for the pesticide application and pier weed removal.

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Pinke, to approve \$1,500 for beach weed pesticide application and \$850 for weed removal around the fishing pier, for a total of \$2,350. The motion passed unanimously.

Information & Announcements

Bruhn noted the following upcoming meetings and events:

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, in Rochester (Mayor Bruhn and two additional staff attending) 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)

Adjournment

Motion by D. Haarstick, seconded by Pinke, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The business for which the meeting was called was completed and adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Recorded by
Deputy Clerk
Rachel Nustad (assisted by ClerkMinutes)

Julie Lammers, CMC
Vergas City Clerk-Treasurer

**CITY OF VERGAS
COUNCIL MINUTES
VERGAS EVENTS CENTER & ZOOM
Thursday, July 9, 2026**

The City Council of Vergas met at 10:00 AM, on Thursday, July 9, 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	P	P	P					
Bruce Albright, Member	P	P	P	P/P	P	A	P					
Paul Pinke, Member	P	P	P	P/P	P	P	A					
Dean Haarstick, Member	P	P	P	P/P	P	P	P					
James Stenger, Member	P	P	P	P/P	P	P	P					
Julie Lammers, Clerk-Treasurer	P	P	P	P/P	P	P	P					
Mike Dufrane, Utilities Superintendent	P	A	A	A/A	P	A	P					
Kyle Theisen, Liquor Store Manager	P	A	A	A/A	A	A						

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

Present via Zoom: Editor Bob Williams of the Frazee-Vergas Forum.

Present in person: Maintenance Operator Matthew Engebretson of the City of Vergas.

Call to Order

Mayor Julie Bruhn called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Event Center

Fridge

Council discussed the condition of the refrigerator at the Event Center. Due to its age and the increasing maintenance and repair needs, staff recommended replacement as the more cost-effective long-term option.

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Haarstick to purchase a new fridge at the Event Center from Tweeton Refrigeration for \$900. The motion passed unanimously.

Albright entered the meeting.

Looney Days Employee Work Request

Utilities Superintendent Mike DuFrane and Maintenance Operator Matthew Engebretson, appeared before the Council to discuss the scope of City employee involvement in the annual Looney Days community event. DuFrane affirmed that the tasks outlined in the submitted work request accurately reflect the work performed, but emphasized that the volume of work is substantial and spans multiple days—beginning as early as Thursday and not concluding until the following Tuesday or Wednesday. The primary concern raised by DuFrane was garbage management during the event, particularly on Saturday afternoon. He explained that by the time the main event programming is underway, City staff have already worked a full day or more, having started before sunrise to clean the park, move garbage receptacles, relocate picnic tables, and set up barricades. Once the street fair is in full swing—typically around 10:00 AM on Saturday—City equipment cannot safely navigate the crowds, leaving staff unable to effectively manage the growing volume of refuse. DuFrane noted that a 6-yard dumpster placed behind Wildfire Furs performed well in the prior year, and indicated that this practice was expected to continue. Stenger reinforced that the most critical cleanup period is from approximately 4:00 to 6:00 PM on Saturday, when the street empties after the street fair and garbage must be cleared before the next phase of events. He noted that the town's appearance during this window is a key concern. Both staff members and council members agreed that, by that hour, City employees have already exceeded a full day of work, making it unreasonable to expect them to continue. Bruhn cited previous years where one employee accumulated over \$1,000 in overtime during the event, calling such expenditure unacceptable given that Looney Days is a Community Club event rather than a City-Governed function. She noted that other communities do not embed their City staff so extensively in community festival operations, with some opting to hire outside labor instead. The Council acknowledged the significant community benefit of the event and the value of the City's contribution, but agreed that a clearer delineation of roles and responsibilities is necessary. Albright raised the question of whether the Community Club had ever considered reimbursing the City for labor costs, given that the event generates revenue for the organization. Stenger acknowledged the tension inherent in that approach, noting that the Community Club already donates substantially to the City, and that introducing financial transactions for labor could complicate the relationship. The discussion acknowledged that City staff contribute unique expertise and equipment that would be difficult and expensive to replicate. The Council reached a consensus that City staff would be

available from before sunrise until approximately 10:00 AM on Saturday and Sunday, covering the park cleanup, garbage can deployment, and equipment-dependent setup. After 10:00 AM on Saturday, garbage management on City streets would need to be handled by Community Club volunteers or other organized groups. DuFrane suggested that recruiting a youth organization—such as a school band or scout troop—in exchange for a small donation could be an effective solution.

Bruhn indicated that she would follow up with the Community Club co-chairs to communicate this expectation and proposed scheduling a meeting with the Community Club board to formally clarify the respective roles of the City and the Community Club in support of the event, as had been done in prior years.

DuFrane also noted, as an informational item, that the state had donated 50 traffic cones to the City—valued at approximately \$750—which would be formally accepted by resolution at an upcoming regular meeting.

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Haarstick, to authorize Bruhn to meet with the Community Club board to clarify City and Community Club roles for Looney Days. The motion passed unanimously.

Personnel Committee

Liquor Store Manager

Stenger reported that the Personnel Committee conducted interviews with four candidates for the Liquor Store Manager position and recommended hiring Kerry Inberg. The committee proposed placing her at Step 6 on the City's compensation scale, based on an evaluation of five criteria: skills and competency, education and training meeting minimum requirements, quality of accomplishments relative to other candidates, documented prior salary history, and labor market conditions.

Bruhn expressed concern that placing the candidate at Step 6 was too high given the criteria cited. She noted that meeting the minimum qualifications for the position simply establishes eligibility at the base step and does not warrant advancement. With respect to education and training, Bruhn observed that the candidate's completion of responsible alcohol service training is not meaningfully above what any member of the public could undertake, and therefore should not factor into step placement. She acknowledged that the candidate's experience in payroll, customer service, inventory management, and employee supervision—gained through prior work in staffing and at a local bar—represented legitimate experience meriting consideration, and indicated she could support placement at Step 4.

Lammers confirmed that the candidate had not been told a specific step during the interview process, though the pay scale was shared. She noted that the candidate expressed willingness to begin work the following Monday, was available to work all shifts seven days a week, and was described as detailed, dependable, and accurate. It was also noted that the candidate has computer skills consistent with those demonstrated by the prior manager, including data entry and Excel proficiency.

Stenger acknowledged the mayor's concerns but moved forward with the original recommendation of Step 6, noting that the candidate would still be taking a pay cut from her previous position, and that even at Step 6, her compensation would remain well below her prior salary. The broader context of difficulty recruiting qualified candidates from outside the area—due to the City's rural location and compensation scale benchmarked against communities of 500 or fewer—was acknowledged.

The Council also noted the importance of documenting the specific rationale for the step placement in the personnel file, given that hiring decisions are subject to public records requests.

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Haarstick, to hire Kerry Inberg as Liquor Store Manager at Step 6. Voting yes: Stenger, Haarstick and Albright. Voting no: Bruhn. Motion carried.

Lammers was directed to document the criteria supporting the step placement for the record.

Adjournment

Motion by Stenger, seconded by Haarstick, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The business for which the meeting was called for was completed and adjourned at 10:42 AM.

Recorded by
Deputy Clerk
Rachel Nustad (assisted by ClerkMinutes)

Julie Lammers, CMC
Vergas City Clerk-Treasurer

DRAFT

CITY OF VERGAS
 Bill Listing for June 18 to July 20, 2026

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Calvary Lutheran Church	Event, refund	200.00
Cash	Reimbursed change drawer water sewer, postage	47.37
City of Vergas	GG, water and sewer	66.25
City of Vergas	Payroll	14,567.35
Engbretson, Matthew	Shop, printer ink reimbursed	45.26
Internal Revenue Services	Withholding Tax	4,969.86
Kosanke, Kelsey	Event, return deposit	75.00
Lake Region Coop	Yard Waste, lights and power for camera	65.64
Loon's Nest	Hazardous Waste, meal	48.00
MN Dept. of Revenue	Sales Tax	190.00
MN Dept. Revenue	Withholding Tax	664.18
Public Employees Retirement Assoc.	Payroll	1,356.29
Vergas State Bank	HSA contributions	410.00
Total for bills paid between Council Meetings		<u>\$22,705.20</u>

Date Range : 6/20/2026 To 7/21/2026

<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>
07/21/2026	Art Anderson Septic Tank Pumping	Sewer, lift station pumping Inv 4000	26113	\$644.25	100-45210-210-	Parks	\$644.25
07/21/2026	Bruce Albright	Council, LMC Meeting Mileage (570 miles), parking and lodging.	26114	\$1,348.98	100-41110-331-	Council/Town Board	\$1,348.98
07/21/2026	Arvig	All Depts, security and internet	26115	\$1,232.33	609-49751-321-	Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale	\$314.07
					100-43010-321-	City Shop	\$156.90
					100-45110-321-	EVENT CENTER	\$222.00
					100-41010-321-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$539.36
07/21/2026	Barefoot Lawns, LLC	PK, 2026 Herbicide	26116	\$1,384.00	100-45210-400-	Parks	\$1,384.00
07/21/2026	Julie Bruhn	Mayor, Training LMC - lodging & mileage, Park, plants by Loon	26117	\$767.97	100-41310-331-	Mayor	\$599.15
					100-45210-210-	Parks	\$168.82
07/21/2026	Colonial Life	2026 Employee Reimbursed Insurance (June and July)	26118	\$465.64	100-41405-999-	Clerk	\$271.32
					609-49751-999-	Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale	\$102.52
					100-43110-999-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$23.74
					100-45210-999-	Parks	\$23.74
					100-41405-999-	Clerk	\$44.32
07/21/2026	Corporate Technologies, LLC	All Depts, Tech, Computer Inv #243636, 243078, 242209, 239000, 238365, 237898	26119	\$909.65	602-49490-200-	Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	\$109.52
					100-43110-200-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$84.40

Date Range : 6/20/2026 To 7/21/2026

<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>
					100-45210-200-	Parks	\$86.20
					609-49751-200-	Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale	\$81.00
					100-45110-200-	EVENT CENTER	\$86.20
					100-41310-200-	Mayor	\$30.00
					100-41110-200-	Council/Town Board	\$120.00
					100-41010-200-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$192.33
					601-49440-200-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$120.00
07/21/2026	Elan Financial Services	Ls, Advertising Shop, coffee Gen, programs Event, Supplies Streets, programing	26120	\$2,762.07			
					609-49751-200-	Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale	\$27.83
					100-43010-210-	City Shop	\$151.45
					100-41010-200-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$151.22
					601-49440-200-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$151.22
					602-49490-200-	Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	\$151.22
					100-43110-210-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$120.00
					100-43110-220-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$882.59
					100-43128-200-	YARD WASTE	\$5.00
					100-41405-331-	Clerk	\$225.00
					100-41110-331-	Council/Town Board	\$596.54
					100-43110-331-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$150.00
					100-45210-321-	Parks	\$150.00
07/21/2026	Dacotah Paper Company	Event, minuteman filter (Inv 82682)	26121	\$12.00			
					609-49751-210-	Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale	\$12.00
07/21/2026	Michael DuFrane	St, Park, Sewer, Water, cell phone reimbursment	26122	\$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

Date Range : 6/20/2026 To 7/21/2026

<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>
07/21/2026	Matthew Engebretson	St, Pk, cell phone reimbursement	26123	\$25.00			
					100-43110-321-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$12.50
					100-45210-321-	Parks	\$12.50
07/21/2026	Franklin Fence Company, Inc.	Park, boards	26124	\$7.30			
					100-45210-210-	Parks	\$7.30
07/21/2026	FERGUSON WATER WORKS #2516	Water, meter coup	26125	\$273.15			
					601-49440-210-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$273.15
07/21/2026	CDH-Vergas Fire Department	Fire and Rescue, 2026 3rd Quarter	26126	\$3,764.83			
					100-42010-405-	PUBLIC SAFETY	\$3,764.83
07/21/2026	Gopher State One Call	Wtr, Swr, One Calls	26127	\$5.40			
					602-49490-210-	Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	\$2.70
					601-49440-210-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$2.70
07/21/2026	Great Plains Natural Gas Company	Shop, Event Center utility	26128	\$65.56			
					100-45110-380-	EVENT CENTER	\$40.14
					100-43010-380-	City Shop	\$25.42
07/21/2026	Hach Corporation	Wtr, WWTF, chemicals Invoice#15035867	26129	\$498.58			
					601-49440-218-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$249.29
					602-49490-218-	Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	\$249.29
07/21/2026	Hawkins, Inc	Wtr, chemicals Inv #7498494	26130	\$184.40			
					601-49440-218-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$184.40

Date Range : 6/20/2026 To 7/21/2026

<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>
07/21/2026	Kerry Ingberg	LS, reimbursed cell phone	26131	\$25.00	609-49751-321-	Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale	\$25.00
07/21/2026	JH Signs & Designs, Inc	Park, Event, sign repairs	26132	\$1,040.00	100-45210-400- 100-45110-400-	Parks EVENT CENTER	\$840.00 \$200.00
07/21/2026	L & M Supply, Inc.	St. Park, worktunes, trimmer line, sprayer backpack and amine	26133	\$373.15	100-43110-210- 100-45210-210-	Highways, Streets & Roadways Parks	\$291.04 \$82.11
07/21/2026	Lakes Community Cooperative	Streets, operating fuel	26134	\$23.18	100-45210-210-	Parks	\$23.18
07/21/2026	Julie Lammers	All Depts, reimbursed phone and milage	26135	\$150.40	100-41405-321- 601-49440-321- 602-49490-321- 100-41410-331- 100-42010-331-	Clerk Water Utilities - Administration and General Sewer Utilities - Administration and General Elections PUBLIC SAFETY	\$25.00 \$25.00 \$25.00 \$43.50 \$31.90
07/21/2026	Marco Inc	Copier, contract	26136	\$19.00	100-41010-200- 601-49440-200- 602-49490-200-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT Water Utilities - Administration and General Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	\$6.33 \$6.33 \$6.34
07/21/2026	MN DEPT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY	Event, 1064353 Pressure Vessel	26137	\$25.00	100-45110-354-	EVENT CENTER	\$25.00
07/21/2026	Minnesota Life Insurance Company	Employee Life Ins, EmployeeLife Ins. 2026	26138	\$78.20	100-41405-131-	Clerk	\$5.40

Date Range : 6/20/2026 To 7/21/2026

<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>
					100-43110-131-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$5.40
					100-43110-999-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$41.00
					609-49751-999-	Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale	\$5.40
					609-49751-131-	Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale	\$15.60
					100-45210-131-	Parks	\$5.40
07/21/2026	Crestline Software, LLC	Utility Billing Program Service Inv 19741,	26139	\$889.08			
					601-49440-200-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$444.54
					602-49490-200-	Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	\$444.54
07/21/2026	First National Bank of Omaha	St, \$985,000 General Obligation Improvement Bonds Services Paying & Interest, Series 2019A	26140	\$11,479.38			
					412-41010-611-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$11,479.38
07/21/2026	Devan Nelson	Park, 2026 placed deck, buoys and swim rope	26141	\$900.00			
					100-45210-400-	Parks	\$900.00
07/21/2026	North Central Inc	St, dust control Glenn and Oak Cic reimbursed	26142	\$3,248.70			
					100-43110-810-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$3,248.70
07/21/2026	Olson Oil Co.	Pk., St, operating supplies and food for hazardous waste	26143	\$719.07			
					100-43110-210-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$299.17
					100-45210-210-	Parks	\$352.96
					100-42010-210-	PUBLIC SAFETY	\$66.94
07/21/2026	Otter Tail Power Company	All depts, utility	26144	\$2,748.61			
					602-49490-380-	Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	\$301.38
					100-43160-380-	Street Lighting	\$695.71
					100-45110-380-	EVENT CENTER	\$425.16
					100-45210-380-	Parks	\$596.87

Date Range : 6/20/2026 To 7/21/2026

<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>
					601-49440-380-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$574.32
					100-41010-380-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$56.97
					100-43010-380-	City Shop	\$98.20
07/21/2026	Productive Alternatives, Inc.	Event Center, 2026 Cleaning Inv#7660	26145	\$122.43			
					100-45110-300-	EVENT CENTER	\$122.43
07/21/2026	PB Pey-Barker Fire & Safety	Event, extinguisher inspections & maintenance	26146	\$827.00			
					100-45110-400-	EVENT CENTER	\$827.00
07/21/2026	Ramstad, Skoyles & Bakken, PA	Attorney fees	26147	\$331.00			
					100-41010-304-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$331.00
07/21/2026	RDO Equipment Company	Parks, Lawn mower blades and spindle	26148	\$467.78			
					100-45210-210-	Parks	\$467.78
07/21/2026	RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc	Water, 2026 Chemicals Inv D090715	26149	\$585.21			
					601-49440-218-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$155.71
					601-49440-218-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$214.75
					602-49490-218-	Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	\$214.75
07/21/2026	Sonnenberg Excavating Inc	Park, beach sand Street, grading, nusiance abatement 350 Pelican Avenue	26150	\$4,345.72			
					100-41910-999-	Planning and Zoning	\$3,450.00
					100-45210-220-	Parks	\$379.72
					100-43110-220-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$516.00
07/21/2026	Steve's Sanitation, Inc.	Event, Parks, Solid Waste	26151	\$514.84			
					100-43010-384-	City Shop	\$307.80
					100-45110-384-	EVENT CENTER	\$207.04

Date Range : 6/20/2026 To 7/21/2026

<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>
07/21/2026	James Stenger	Council, LMC mileage (611 miles) and meal	26152	\$460.27			
					100-41110-331-	Council/Town Board	\$460.27
07/21/2026	Vergas Auto Repair	Street, F150 truckl repaired	26153	\$344.87			
					100-45210-220-	Parks	\$344.87
07/21/2026	Vergas Hardware	All Depts, supplies	26154	\$531.85			
					100-43010-210-	City Shop	\$197.94
					100-45210-210-	Parks	\$197.73
					100-45110-210-	EVENT CENTER	\$31.97
					609-49751-210-	Liquor Store - Manager - Off-Sale	\$51.98
					100-41010-210-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$13.27
					601-49440-210-	Water Utilities - Administration and General	\$13.98
					100-43110-210-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$24.98
07/21/2026	Verizon	GG & Event, 2026 internet and cell phone	26155	\$156.83			
					100-45110-321-	EVENT CENTER	\$76.82
					100-41010-321-	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$80.01
07/21/2026	Vestis	Event, rugs Inv# 2520800522, 2520793749	26156	\$323.26			
					100-45110-210-	EVENT CENTER	\$323.26
07/21/2026	Widseth	Engineering; Inv 246450 Gravel Pit Survey	26157	\$9,400.00			
					100-43110-303-	Highways, Streets & Roadways	\$9,400.00
Total For Selected Claims				\$54,555.94			\$54,555.94

Date Range : 6/20/2026 To 7/21/2026

<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 June 2026

Vendor	Description	Total
Artisan Beer Company		1,024.35
Absolute Ice		1,307.80
Bergseth Bros		23,004.11
Beverage Wholesalers		8,232.31
Breakthru Beverage MN Wine and Spirits		6,945.41
Blue Cross Blue Shield of MN	Employee Health Insurance	1,677.42
Cash	Cash for increase in change	250.00
City of Vergas	Utility	68.64
City of Vergas	Payroll	6,841.58
Corporate Technologies	Computer Software	39.60
D-S Beverage		25,767.57
Elan Financial Services	Supplies	12.00
Fricke Consultin Sale	POS System	165.00
Great Plains Nat Gas	Utility	89.29
Hoffman, Philipp, & Knutson, PLLC	2025 Audit	5,325.00
Internal Revenue Service	Withholding Tax	1,958.63
Johnson Brothers Liquor Co		10,855.45
Klockow Brewing Co		132.00
MN Life Insurance Company	Employee Life Insurance	34.50
Merchant Service	Credit Card Fees	1,702.69
MMBA	Membership	800.00
MN Dept. of Revenue	Sales Tax	8,719.00
MN Dept. Revenue	Withholding Tax	276.92
Otter Tail Power	Utility	497.23
Phillips Wine & Spirits		7,284.54
Public Employees Retirement Assoc.	Payroll	1,214.64
Southern Wine & Spirits of MN		10,142.25
Vergas Hardware	Supplies	31.97
Vergas State Bank	HSA Contributions	261.00
Vergas Community Club	Shops and Hops	50.00
Vestis	Mats	137.37
Viking Coca-Cola Bottling Co		1,220.95
	Total	126,069.22
	June Receipts	114,800.51
June Balance		(\$11,268.71)
	May Operating Income (Loss)	(\$39,402.39)
2026 Total Operating Income (Loss)		(\$50,671.10)

City of Vergas
Past Due Customers

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

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	1190	Skal Inc	Active	82000500012001	219 E Frazee Ave	110	67.87	315.71	0.00	03/23/2026	486.26	62392578	WATER	No
2	0	570	Licence, Tony	Active	82000990127000	350 S Pelican Ave	104	0.31	283.33	0.00	04/21/2026	222.00	92089898	WATER	No
Total							Count: 2	68.18	599.04						

City of Vergas Investments

	<u>Account Number</u>	<u>12/31/25</u>	<u>Purchase</u>	<u>Sold</u>	<u>Interest Earned</u>	<u>06/30/26</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Maturity Date</u>
General Fund	325657	283,731.72	0.00	43,160.71	1,010.43	241,581.44	0.75%	MMDA
2019 Street Debt Fund	325657	203,073.29	175,000.00	0.00	803.10	378,876.39	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		927,549.21	175,000.00	258,855.02	2,310.60	846,004.79		

City of Vergas Bond Schedule

Title	<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 6/30/2026</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	\$132,000.00	3.25%	Vergas State Bank	2/1/32	95,000.00	950.00	82,000.00	13,000.00
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	6/30/2026
Uncommitted Funds	142,961.85	16.16%	457.46	0.00	43,160.71	100,258.60
City Shop	8,694.12	1.41%	34.39	0.00	0.00	8,728.51
Easements	5,297.58	0.86%	20.89	0.00	0.00	5,318.47
Event Center	973.41	0.16%	3.85	0.00	0.00	977.26
Event Center Electronic Sign	10,178.27	1.65%	40.21	0.00	0.00	10,218.48
General	14,755.40	2.39%	54.68	0.00	0.00	14,810.08
Park	36,099.65	5.84%	142.80	0.00	0.00	36,242.45
Sand Seal (Seal Coating)	13,194.65	2.14%	52.14	0.00	0.00	13,246.79
Sidewalk	7,928.17	1.28%	31.39	0.00	0.00	7,959.56
Street Improvements/Equipment	42,138.70	6.82%	166.66	0.00	0.00	42,305.36
Yard Waste	1,509.32	0.24%	5.96	0.00	0.00	1,515.28
Liquor Store	77,360.14	0.00%	0.00	0.00	77,360.14	0.00
2025 Parking Lot Alley Project	138,334.77	0.00%	0.00	0.00	138,334.77	0.00
2019 Street Project	203,073.29	61.06%	803.10	175,000.00	0.00	378,876.39
Balance	702,499.32	100.00%	1,813.53	\$175,000.00	\$258,855.62	620,457.23 ***

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

Current Committed Total 241,580.84

As on 6/30/2026

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	296,635.52	43,160.71	0.00	210,834.15	704.42	18,879.00	113,069.61	73,509.50	186,579.11
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)	7,227.08	0.00	8,879.00	28,808.25	0.00	0.00	(113,058.54)	0.00	(113,058.54)
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	26,269.14	0.00	0.00	57,030.63	175,544.12	0.00	3,998.37	377,757.29	381,755.66
Street Project 2006*	38,487.48	4,074.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	42,562.29	110,000.00	152,562.29
Government Services Office	(33,525.74)	6,856.50	0.00	0.00	17,945.50	0.00	0.00	(44,614.74)	0.00	(44,614.74)
Water	189,970.30	77,916.36	0.00	0.00	57,123.02	248.53	0.00	210,515.11	15,508.74	226,023.85
Sewage Collection and Disposal	(188,595.55)	76,118.13	0.00	0.00	44,013.15	248.54	0.00	(156,739.11)	53,392.27	(103,346.84)
Municipal Liquor Store	13,836.10	428,749.48	77,360.74	0.00	478,848.85	0.00	0.00	41,097.47	215,271.38	256,368.85
Vergas EDA	50,175.73	1,660.61	0.00	10,000.00	18,337.21	0.00	0.00	43,499.13	0.00	43,499.13
Gen Obligation Tax Abatement Bond	(89,049.27)	40,710.90	138,334.17	0.00	55,174.47	0.00	0.00	34,821.33	0.00	34,821.33
Total :	95,823.63	966,218.53	258,855.62	18,879.00	968,115.23	176,745.61	18,879.00	176,036.94	845,439.18	1,021,476.12

City of Vergas Planning Commission Minutes
Monday, June 22, 2026 at 6:00 PM
Government Services Building and Zoom

The City of Vergas Planning Commission held a regular hybrid meeting on Monday, June 22, 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	A						
Bruce Albright, Liaison	P	P	P	P	P	P						
Dave Johnston, Member	P	P	P	P	P	P						
Rebecca Hasse, Member	P	P	P	A	A	P						
Jim Courneya, Member	P	A	P	P	P	P						
Julie Lammers, Clerk-Treasurer	P	P	P	P	P	P						
Mike Dufrane, Utilities Superintendent	P	A	A	A	P	P						

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

Present in person: Citizens Julie Bruhn, Marcia Huddleston and Dean Haarstick.

Present via zoom: Editor Bob Williams of the Frazee-Vergas Forum; and Citizen, James Stenger.

Call to Order

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

Agenda Additions or Deletions

An addition was made to include a discussion of the noxious weeds ordinance (§ 92.38).

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

Minutes

Motion by Courneya, seconded by Johnston, to approve the minutes from May 18, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

Status of Council Recommendations

None.

Construction Permits

Active Construction Permits

Did not review.

Construction Permit Applications

Approved by email

Lammers reported that the following permits had been administratively approved:

250 1st Ave N — Parking lot and curbing for Vergas Auto. The City's loan program was utilized for the repairs.

110 S Railway Ave — A 10×16 pre-built building to be placed approximately 5 feet from the property line on the railroad side of the property.

Needing Approval

306 E Frazee Ave — 8×24 Garage Addition and 218' Privacy Fence

Lammers presented this application, noting that the property is adjacent to the ball diamonds and had previously received a nuisance letter. The applicant intends to enclose vehicles and equipment behind a privacy fence just under 6 feet in height, placed 12 inches from the property line as required by ordinance—placing it approximately 96 feet back from the front of the 100×250-foot lot. The applicant had located and flagged his property pins. Commission members noted the fence would come close to the road accessing the park but confirmed it would remain within the applicant's property. Lammers confirmed that the applicant's existing and proposed structures total approximately 2,512 square feet, well within the permitted 25% lot coverage of 6,250 square feet. The applicant also submitted a letter clarifying the purpose and use of items on the property.

Motion by Johnston, seconded by Courneya, to approve the construction permit for 306 E Frazee Ave. The motion passed unanimously.

230 E Frazee Ave — Vergas Veterans Memorial Park — Signs

Lammers advised that the Veterans Memorial Park project involves the installation of several 2×3-foot signs. Work had already commenced, with post holes dug in the areas previously used for the park's ongoing development. Signs include one describing the painted rock, one honoring Henry Ditterich, and others recognizing veterans.

Motion by Haase, seconded by Johnston, to approve the construction permit for 230 E Frazee Ave — Vergas Veterans Memorial Park. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Nuisance Properties

Lammers provided an update on properties that had received nuisance letters following the May inspection. City staff had photographed properties that day. Lammers summarized responses received from several property owners:

- **840 E Sharf Ave** — The owner contested the zoning designation, believing their lakeshore property was in an R-2 district; Lammers clarified it is zoned R-1. The owner indicated lumber on-site was intended for a future permitted structure and offered to have it moved if required prior to permit approval.
- **390 S Pelican** — The owner stated that vehicles have collector plates and that tabs were being obtained for the other vehicle.
- **161 3rd Ave S** — The fish house was removed prior to the letter being sent.
- **431 Lake St** — The owner called to say a pickup had been moved, and that campers on the property are stored, not occupied.
- **306 E Frazee Ave** — The owner submitted a letter clarifying that his orange structure is a permitted fish house, the wood pile has been removed, and that his trailers are work equipment essential to his livelihood. He noted the privacy fence, if approved, would screen the remaining items.
- **201 Hill St** — The owner expressed frustration at repeated notices, stating all vehicles are licensed and drivable and that no more than four are outside at a time unless being worked on. He inquired about the possibility of a conditional use permit for demolition derby vehicles.

The commission discussed the demolition derby car situation at length. It was noted that the City Attorney had advised that all vehicles must be treated equally within city limits. Huddleston noted the practical difficulty of licensing demo cars, as the DMV typically does not register them given they are transported by trailer. The commission recognized a tension between enforcing the ordinance's requirement that vehicles be licensed and operable, and the reality that demo cars are generally not considered road-operable by their nature. Albright noted that placing a demo car on a trailer technically satisfies the ordinance, but acknowledged it presents no visual improvement over leaving it on the ground.

Haarstick spoke regarding his commercial property, explaining that he operates a specialist tractor repair business and that customers travel from as far as Montana and Plymouth to have equipment serviced. He noted that some tree removal and tidying had begun. The commission acknowledged that his property is zoned commercial, and that a different set of ordinances applies, including to his residence which remains commercially zoned.

Regarding **130 E Elm**, Lammers stated that neighboring residents had been calling the office as frequently as every day to report excessive garbage accumulation at the property—both inside and outside structures. Two neighboring properties reported an increase in rodent activity they attributed to the situation. The commission agreed this property warranted advancement to the next enforcement step.

Following further discussion, the motion to table all properties was withdrawn. The commission took the following actions:

Motion by Courneya, seconded by Johnston, to advance **130 E Elm** to the certified letter phase (Phase 2) of the nuisance enforcement process. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Hasse, to table further action on the remainder of the nuisance property list pending additional review. The motion passed unanimously.

The commission also took up two additional properties involving vehicles without current license plates:

- A vehicle parked behind a building at 146 Main St E was noted to have a valid license but four completely flat tires, prompting questions from complaining residents about operability.
- An unlicensed vehicle for sale in the 110 Railway Ave N parking lot was identified as lacking plates.

Motion by Courneya, seconded by Johnston, to send first-notice nuisance letters to the owners of both the 146 Main St E property and the 110 Railway Ave N parking lot property. The motion passed unanimously.

City Ordinance Update

§ 91.06 KENNELS

Lammers brought this item forward after receiving an inquiry from a resident wishing to own a fourth dog, and after learning of at least two households in town currently keeping four dogs. Under the current ordinance, keeping three or more dogs constitutes a kennel, which is further declared a nuisance and prohibited within City limits. The Commission noted that the City has historically licensed households with up to three dogs without apparent issue, which may constitute an inconsistency.

Discussion centered on whether the definition of "kennel" was ever intended to apply to private households with multiple pets, or whether it was meant to address commercial boarding operations. Several members felt the term "kennel" more naturally describes a commercial boarding enterprise, and that the current language is a poor fit for a small City like Vergas. The Commission agreed that a commercial-style kennel with numerous dogs would be inappropriate in town due to noise and odor concerns, but recognized that simply increasing the permitted number of dogs for private ownership may be a more sensible approach.

It was agreed that staff would research how other municipalities—including Perham, Detroit Lakes, and Ottertail County—address dog ownership limits, and also review applicable state statutes and county ordinances, before any amendment is considered.

Motion by Albright, seconded by Hasse, to table § 91.06 for further research. The motion passed unanimously.

§ 92.38 OWNERS RESPONSIBLE FOR TRIMMING, REMOVAL AND THE LIKE

Bruhn presented this item, noting particular concern about the Lawrence Acres addition, where approximately eight homes have been built but many vacant lots remain unmowed and are heavily infested with thistles and other noxious weeds. She shared photographs showing widespread weed growth along roadways throughout the addition, and noted that letters had been sent approximately three weeks prior without any observable response. Several landowners had indicated they do not intend to mow because they are not yet building, and at least one stated the City should mow first.

The Commission discussed the practical and physical challenges involved, including terrain that is too steep for riding equipment in some areas, low or soggy ground in others, and a large lot where a farmer is expected to cut hay. Albright emphasized a distinction between noxious weeds—which are regulated by state law and must be controlled regardless of terrain—and general vegetation height, which may be impractical to enforce uniformly on large or difficult parcels. He noted that the ordinance itself acknowledges that mowing may sometimes be "unreasonable or impractical under certain circumstances."

Courneya noted he holds 17 acres within City limits and could not realistically manicure that entire area, pointing out that a single standard does not fit the diversity of properties within the City. Members agreed, however, that thistles are an urgent matter given their imminent bloom and rapid seed spread, and that noxious weed control is both an ordinance and a state law obligation that must be acted upon immediately regardless of construction status.

The consensus was that the ordinance adequately distinguishes between noxious weeds and general vegetation, and that the City's immediate priority should be ensuring noxious weed control in the Lawrence Acres addition. Bruhn confirmed she would follow up with affected landowners as the City's designated Weed Inspector under state law. The Commission also noted that road right-of-way maintenance is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner, including mowing and weed control up to the edge of the road, consistent with practice throughout the rest of the City.

The commission also discussed thistle growth along the county road between the nursing home and the swimming beach, noting that a member could contact Otter Tail County directly to request spraying and mowing of that corridor.

Motion by Courneya, seconded by Johnston, that noxious weeds must be addressed as a priority and that no further action be taken regarding the general vegetation/height provisions at this time. The motion passed unanimously.

Camping Ordinance

Lammers introduced this item, explaining that the current camping ordinance was adopted in February 2016 at the initiative of the EDA, which had hoped to encourage development of a formal campground in Vergas. The ordinance defines a Recreational Camping Area (RCA) as any area with three or more tents or recreational camping vehicles, and no licensed RCA currently exists in the City. Lammers noted a growing number of residents are keeping campers on their properties for extended periods—sometimes the entire summer—with family members residing in them, without registering as required.

The Commission discussed challenges with enforcement, as owners often deny occupancy when contacted. Sanitary waste disposal was identified as a primary concern, with Albright recalling a prior situation where a camper's waste was being discharged into a hand-dug pit. It was noted that the City's fee schedule does not currently include a camping registration fee, making it difficult to collect one this year.

Members also discussed the potential community benefit of a formal campground and the popularity of similar facilities in nearby communities such as Barnesville and near Pelican Lake. The Commission agreed the ordinance, as written, is focused on the development of formal camping areas and does not adequately address the reality of private residential camper use.

It was agreed to table action on this item to allow members time to review the full ordinance text (available on the city website) and the applicable Otter Tail County Shoreline Management provisions, which allow camping for up to 14 days within 1,000 feet of designated lakes—a buffer that covers nearly all of Vergas.

No formal motion was taken; the item was carried forward to the July agenda.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

Motion by Hasse, seconded by Johnston, to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 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

- Deputy Clerk: Send certified letters (Phase 2) to the property owner and tenant at 130 East Elm regarding nuisance property cleanup.
- Deputy Clerk: Send first letters regarding unlicensed/flat-tired vehicles to the property owners at 146 Main St E and 110 Railway Ave N
- Deputy Clerk: Research state statute, county ordinance, and other cities' ordinances regarding kennels and number of dogs allowed, and report back at the next meeting.
- DuFrane: Contact Otter Tail County regarding noxious weeds along the county road from the nursing home to the southern beach.

**Vergas EDA/HRA
Government Services Center & Zoom
5:30 PM on Wednesday, July 15th, 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 Wednesday, July 15th, 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	P	P					
Paul Sonnenberg, Member	P	P/A	P	P	P	P	P					
Kevin Zitzow, Member	P	P/P	A	P	P	P	P					
Jennifer Carlson, Member	A	A/P	P	P	P	P	P					
Vanessa Perry, Member	P	P/P	P	P	P	P	A					
Julie Lammers, City Clerk-Treasurer	P	P/P	P	P	A	P	P					

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

Present in person: CEDA Representative Kaite Gehring and Joy Summers with REMAX Lakes Region.

Present via Zoom: Editor Bob Williams of the Frazee-Vergas Forum.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Albright at 5:30 PM.

Agenda Additions and Deletions

None.

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

Status of Recommendations to City Council

None.

Minutes

Motion by Sonnenberg, seconded by Zitzow, to approve the minutes from June 3, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Update

2026 Income and Expenses

Lammers presented the financial update. Notable expenditures included a \$4,100 quarterly employee payment, a disbursement from the Veterans Memorial's West Central Initiative account, an invoice from Elm Street Boutique for shingling nearing completion at both American Beauty and Elm Street Boutique locations, and an invoice from Franklin Fence.

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

CEDA Representative Katie Gehring

Community Rehab Grant

S & Z Properties

Gehring presented a final application from S & Z Properties to add signage to their building, with a total estimated cost of \$16,000–\$18,000 as quoted by Brushmark Signs. The remaining balance in the Community Rehab Grant fund was \$4,012.91. The board discussed whether to continue the program in the future. It was noted that the county offers a \$25,000 matching grant program, and that a community match from entities such as Vergas State Bank and the Vergas Community Club would be required to reapply. The board expressed general support for continuing the program and discussed potentially broadening eligible project types—such as indoor improvements including grease traps—when the program is relaunched. Members were encouraged to gauge interest from local businesses before pursuing a new round of funding.

Motion by Zitzow, seconded by Carlson, to approve the Community Rehab Grant award of \$4,012.91 to S & Z Properties. The motion passed unanimously.

First Children's Finance Update

Gehring reported that the Child Care Committee did not hold a formal meeting in June due to low attendance. In lieu of a meeting,

three project focus teams were established via email correspondence. The three focus areas are: (1) **Facility** — evaluating the feasibility, cost, partnerships, and funding opportunities for a shared child care facility; (2) **Workforce Development** — recruiting providers and building interest in early childhood careers in the area; and (3) **Ongoing Provider Support** — strengthening supports for current and future providers through mentorship, networking, and professional development. Gehring noted that working in smaller, focused groups of approximately three members each was expected to yield more productive outcomes than full-committee meetings. Scheduled meetings for each focus team were anticipated to be set by the end of the week.

Growing Up Vergas

Gehring provided a funding update for the Growing Up Vergas child care initiative:

- **Otter Tail County DEED Grant:** The EDA applied for \$200,000 from a pool of \$1,400,000. With 48 applicants requesting a combined \$6,500,000, the EDA was not awarded funding.
- **Department of Children, Youth & Families (DCYF) Grant:** A \$200,000, three-year grant application (running through July 2029) remains pending. A decision was expected by June 18th, but no response had been received. Representative Gehring indicated she had followed up and was awaiting word.
- **Arvig (\$25,000):** Arvig encouraged the EDA to apply in the next funding cycle, as larger projects had already been allocated for the current cycle.
- **Lake Region Electrical Co-op (\$25,000):** The co-op requested additional information and invited Representative Gehring to present at their October 5th board meeting, which was viewed as a promising development.
- **Otter Tail Power (\$25,000):** No response received; it was clarified that large asks are considered at their annual meeting in November.

The board discussed the overall feasibility of the project, noting concerns about the pace of progress, construction costs, and the complexity of building a facility while meeting only monthly. Members acknowledged that a favorable outcome on the DCYF grant would be pivotal, and that the board should reassess direction if that application is unsuccessful. Albright drew a parallel to a prior MINDAG grant experience in which the agency provided substantive feedback that improved a subsequent application, expressing hope that similar guidance might be available from DCYF. Gehring was asked to notify all members by email as soon as a decision on the DCYF grant is received, rather than waiting for the next scheduled meeting.

Gehring also presented a **League of Minnesota Cities Grant Navigator Grant** opportunity, which offers up to \$5,000 to fund a consultant to identify grants for a specific project. She proposed applying with Growing Up Vergas as the designated project, noting that the work she had already performed aligned well with the grant's intent.

Motion by Zitzow, seconded by Sonnenberg, to approve applying for the League of Minnesota Cities Grant Navigator Grant for the Growing Up Vergas project. The motion passed unanimously.

220 Eva St

Motion by Sonnenberg, seconded by Zitzow to close the meeting pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 13D.05, subdivision 3(b), to discuss nonpublic appraisal and negotiation data related to the proposed sale of city-owned property, as authorized by Minnesota Statutes § 13.44.

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Sonnenberg, seconded by Carlson, to reopen the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Following the reopening of the meeting, the board considered the sale of 220 Eva Street under the terms presented by Summers. The offer was for \$25,000 on a contract for deed, with \$5,000 down, an 8% interest rate, a closing date of August 10, 2026, monthly payments of \$1,354.14 beginning September 10, 2026, and a term of 15 months concluding approximately October 2027. The contract includes a provision requiring buyer approval for any lot improvements exceeding \$1,000 in value prior to payoff. The transaction is to be processed through a closing company and recorded with the state.

Motion by Zitzow, seconded by Carlson, to approve the sale of 220 Eva Street under the terms as presented by Summers. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion by Zitzow, seconded by Sonnenberg, to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Recommendations

None.

Follow Up Actions

- Gehring: Apply for the League of Minnesota Cities Grant Navigator grant (up to \$5,000) to pay for grant-seeking consulting services for the Growing Up Vergas project.
- Gehring: Print out the current Community Rehab grant stipulations and review/adjust them for the next funding round, considering possible indoor projects (e.g., grease traps).
- Gehring: Reach out to landowners to update them on the status of the Growing Up Vergas project and potential lot purchase.
- Gehring: Start soliciting local businesses (using Julie's business list) for donations/pledges to support the Growing Up Vergas project.
- Gehring: Notify the group via email as soon as there is a response on the larger grant application, so members can discuss and act without waiting for the next meeting.
- Gehring: Present the Growing Up Vergas project at the Lake Region Electrical Co-op board meeting on October 5th.
- Gehring: Re-evaluate and decide whether to continue the Community Rehab program and, if so, work to find donors to secure the required match for reapplying for the \$25,000 funds from Otter Tail County. Consider adjusting the Community Rehab program guidelines to allow for indoor projects (e.g., grease traps) in future funding rounds.
- Committee: Explore the possibility of purchasing the lot for the Growing Up Vergas project by the first of the year, if sufficient funds/pledges are in place, to have a shovel-ready site.

**Energy and Resiliency Advisory Board
City of Vergas**

The Energy and Resiliency Advisory Board met on Thursday, June 18, 2026, 5:30pm, at the Vergas Event Center Meeting Room.

Attendance:

2026	Jan 15	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 16	May 21	Jun 18	Jul18	Aug 20	Sept 17	Oct 15
Julie Bruhn	P	P	P		P	P				
Alex Ohman	A	P	A		A	A				
Bruce Albright	A	P	P		P	P				
Cal Miller	P	P	A							
Jim Courneya					P	P				

• **P: Present. A: Absent**

1. Agenda approved as distributed.
2. Minutes from the May 21, 2026 meeting were approved as distributed.
3. Continue to look for a replacement member. Have had in the city newsletter with no interest expressed. Members asked to directly ask someone who they feel may have an interest. Will also confirm with Alex Ohman continued interest to serve on the board.
4. Event Center solar panels and battery system installed. Awaiting some final electrical work and inspector approval. Anticipate the solar panels will be functional by July.
5. The University of Minnesota is doing the final digital formatting of the Vergas Energy & Resilience Plan and Action Plan. Haven't yet received. The following areas were deemed areas that could be addressed the first year:
 - Energy Fair- meets community education
 - Solar on fire hall- meets expansion of clean energy
 - Ordinances- Planning Commission address
 - Look at tree's available to the community in spring
 - Look at how to certify as a Tree City
6. Discussed the Event Center solar open house and informational energy and resiliency fair. Available weekend dates in September had conflicts and will move toward looking at October available dates. Noted Saturday may be better to avoid conflicts with Sunday Church. Proposed was having the event 9am-12pm and include refreshments and handout information.
Discussed the following topics and organizations to contact.
 - Showcase and tour the solar and battery system. Have city solar report to show use and energy savings.
 - Energy efficiency, solar information and incentives- Lake Region, OTPC, CERTS, WCI, Holsen Solar, Solar United Neighbors Co-op (Prairies and Lakes)
 - Lakes and environment resiliency and sustainability practices-OTC Soil & Water, MN Extension Service
 - Share Vergas Energy and Resilience Plan and Action Plan

Bruce provided the OTC Lake Stewardship Guidebook and Long Lake potential acres to protect. The Board recommended this also be at the informational fair.
7. Julie Bruhn noted she would be part of a presentation at the annual LMC conference to share the Vergas story regarding work toward energy efficiency and clean energy. Others who are part of the presentation include CERTS and MPCA.
8. Next meeting will be August 20, 2026. Will not have meeting in July.

Advisory Board Recommendations:

- Search for a new member to serve on the Advisory Board
- Check Saturday dates in October when the Event Center would be open for the solar open house/information fair (Julie Bruhn)

City Council Recommendations: None

Recorder
e/s Julie Bruhn

City Council
2026 July Council Meeting
Vergas Event Center & Zoom Id number 267-094-2170 password 56587
6:30 PM on Tuesday, July 21, 2026

8. Committee Reports

- A. Park Board
- B. CDH-Vergas Fire Board

Files Attached

- Park Board Minutes 7.9.26.pdf
- Fire Board meeting 7 1 26.pdf
- Resolution 2026-009 Designating the City as fiscal agent for CDH_Vergas Solar Project.pdf
- Resolution 2026-010 accepting CDH_Vergas Solar Project.pdf
- Resolution 2026-012 City Council Resolution Language draft Financing approval VERGAS CDH FIRE.pdf

CITY OF VERGAS.
Park Board Advisory Board Minutes
Vergas Event Center & Zoom Teleconference
3:00 PM on Thursday, July 9th, 2026

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

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

Present via person: Julie Lammers and Lin Peterson with the North Stars Water Ski Show Team.

Call to order

The City of Vergas Park Advisory Board was called to order by S. Hanson on Thursday, July 9th, 2026 at 3:00 PM

Additions and Deletions

S. Hanson noted a discussion item regarding the need to find a replacement Park Advisory Board member.

Minutes

Motion by Hogan, seconded by Sailer, to approve the minutes from June 11, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

Status of Recommendations to City Council

Wishing Well Donation

Nustad reported that the City Council accepted the resolution for the wishing well donation.

Loon Landscape

Nustad reported that the City Council approved up to \$1,000 for mulch and related materials for the loon landscape project. The final cost came in at \$168.82. S. Hanson acknowledged the volunteers Joe and Julie Bruhn and Dan and Donna Winkels involved in the work, noting it looks very nice.

North Stars Water Ski Show Team

Lin Peterson attended on behalf of the North Star Water Ski Show Team to provide an update and extend thanks to the City of Vergas for the use of the beach. Peterson reported that the most recent show drew an estimated 600–1,000 attendees, describing it as a highly patriotic event that included recognition of a veteran. The team is actively seeking World War II veterans to honor at future shows.

Several operational matters were discussed:

Buoys: An issue from the first show involving a misplaced buoys was acknowledged as human error. Peterson noted that the team has since adapted their skiing route to avoid the buoys entirely, which proved to be an improvement.

Signage: A trespass sign had been placed at the top of the hill rather than at the dock, which was identified as the source of a prior concern. The placement issue has since been corrected.

Food Trucks: Multiple attendees have requested food vendors at future shows. The team expressed interest in facilitating food trucks but lacks capacity to organize it themselves. S. Hanson offered to reach out to a local ice cream vendor. The Board noted that the upcoming Looney Days show would have too many competing activities for food vendors, but identified next year as a realistic target for planning.

Restrooms: The condition and availability of restroom facilities at the beach was raised as a significant concern, with large crowds placing considerable strain on the existing bathhouse. Peterson noted that spectators and team members alike have requested portable restrooms. Peterson inquired whether the team could bring their own for the Friday show. DuFrane indicated this would likely not be a problem, consistent with how private groups such as family reunions handle similar needs. S. Hanson provided background on the bathhouse situation, explaining that proposed state legislation to authorize a local sales tax vote—intended to

fund a new bathhouse project estimated at approximately \$1,000,000—failed to reach the floor in either chamber, delaying any permanent solution by at least two years. The Board discussed the possibility of demolishing the existing structure and using temporary porta-potties in the interim (see also Item 8).

Parking: DuFrane raised parking congestion as a growing concern, noting that vehicles had backed up significantly during the last show. Peterson and the Board discussed several potential overflow parking areas, including a privately owned field used during Looney Days (though noted to be unavailable earlier in the season due to cattle), the church lot, and JK Marie across the road. Challenges related to walking distance and accessibility were noted. The Board suggested that Peterson proactively contact Otter Tail County regarding traffic management, particularly ahead of the Looney Days show.

Dock Storage: Peterson requested that the North Star Water Ski Team be permitted to store their dock on Long Lake Beach during the winter months, rather than retrieving and transporting it each season. The team recently purchased a new sectional dock at a cost of \$20,000. DuFrane expressed general support, though noted that authorization from the City Council would be appropriate. The Board agreed and made a formal recommendation.

Motion by S. Hanson, seconded by Hogan, to recommend to the City Council that the North Star Water Ski Show Team be permitted to store their dock on Long Lake Beach during the winter months. The motion passed unanimously.

Peterson also suggested the possibility of the team contributing financially to a future bathhouse project, expressing gratitude for the community's support of the program.

Pickleball

No representative from the pickleball group was present. S. Hanson noted that the group is planning a Looney Days tournament and that the courts are seeing increased usage throughout the day, including evenings—a notable improvement from prior seasons.

Baseball Committee

A report was provided regarding an incident at the ball field in which a member of the public removed a tarp from home plate and conducted batting practice. Upon follow-up, it was determined that the tarp had already been blown off by wind due to an insufficient number of stakes—reportedly only four of approximately sixteen stakes had been used. The individual using the field replaced the tarp as best they could. The Board reiterated that the ball field is a public facility and that public use is encouraged, while also noting the importance of properly securing equipment when done. Concern was also raised that the field striper had been left out. The Board emphasized that equipment should be stored properly after use.

Regarding Looney Days setup, the Board discussed the importance of staking off the infield to prevent vehicles from driving on it, consistent with the approach used last year. DuFrane confirmed he would mark sprinkler heads, as was done previously. A brief concern was raised regarding a neighboring property owner placing buckets of chicken and fish waste along the fence line adjacent to the little league field, creating a severe odor nuisance during practices. S. Hanson noted the issue appeared to have been resolved by the time of the most recent practice, but indicated she was prepared to contact the City Office if it recurred, as the property is within City limits.

Long Lake Park Master Plan

S. Hanson noted that no formal progress has been made on the Long Lake Park Master Plan and suggested the Board begin considering alternatives following the busy summer season. In the context of the ongoing bathhouse discussion, the Board formally moved to recommend the demolition of the existing bathhouse, with the intent of replacing it with portable restroom facilities in the interim. C. Hanson emphasized that the deteriorating structure presents potential environmental concerns and that the responsibility for providing park restrooms ultimately rests with the City Council.

Motion by C. Hanson, seconded by S. Hanson, to recommend to the City Council that the existing bathhouse be demolished, with porta-potties placed on-site in the interim. The motion passed unanimously.

Nustad proposed a fundraising event to coincide with the future demolition of the bathhouse, potentially during a community event. The idea would allow individuals to pay a fee to swing a sledgehammer at the structure, with all proceeds going toward fundraising efforts for the future bathhouse project.

Hogan has left the meeting.

City Worker Update

Utilities Superintendent DuFrane provided the following updates:

Restrooms: DuFrane acknowledged the difficulty of maintaining the existing bathhouse under high-volume use, noting that cleaning is performed once daily—the maximum feasible given staff capacity. The Board expressed appreciation for the effort.

Weed Treatment: All park weeds have been sprayed. A licensed contractor, operating under a state-issued variance, applied copper sulfate for aquatic weed control. Dead weeds were observed floating after treatment. The contractor is expected to return following the completion of swim lessons to assess whether a second application is needed, and will also clear weeds near the fishing pier prior to Looney Days at a cost of \$850.

Swimmer's Itch: DuFrane reported that researchers from a Minnesota college visited the beach approximately two to three weeks prior to pick up snail samples between the swimming dock and the fishing pier. No swimmer's itch has been reported, and swimming lessons are currently ongoing. A follow-up email from the researcher is pending.

Concrete Work: DuFrane reported that a crack in the recently installed concrete is the result of the contractor connecting the pour to the restrooms, which caused shifting when water infiltrated beneath. The contractor indicated nothing can be done to reverse this. Two options were discussed: a new 40-foot sidewalk section at a cost of \$1,700 (declined) or applying a concrete sealer to the crack to slow further deterioration. DuFrane indicated the contractor agreed that sealing is a reasonable approach and offered to extend the warranty into next year if conditions worsen. A formal contract documenting this agreement is being prepared.

Swimming Dock: DuFrane noted that the current swimming dock is approximately 17–18 years old and beginning to show significant wear. He flagged this as a budget consideration for the coming year, noting the frame integrity is becoming a concern. The fishing dock has also required ongoing welding repairs.

Budget

Nustad distributed a proposed 2027 budget for the Board's review. A preliminary review indicated an increase of approximately \$37,000 over the current year, including \$50,000 for equipment—specifically, aging tractors in need of replacement. The Board agreed to defer formal review and recommendations until the August meeting, ahead of the levy deadline in September.

Other Business

S. Hanson noted that the Board is currently short one member. Nustad suggested reaching out to a former member who had expressed interest in returning to the Board. S. Hanson directed that a recruitment notice be placed in the next City newsletter.

Next Meeting Date/Time

The next Park Advisory Board meeting was set for **August 13, 2026**.

Adjournment

Motion by S. Hanson, seconded by Sailer, to adjourn the meeting at 3:51 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 that the North Star Water Ski Show Team be permitted to store their dock on Long Lake Beach during the winter months
- Recommend to the City Council that the existing bathhouse be demolished, with porta-potties placed on-site in the interim.

Follow Up Actions

- Lammers/DuFrane: Draw up a contract for the concrete repair warranty with the contractor.
- DuFrane: Follow up with the DNR representative about the swimmer's itch test results.
- DuFrane: Look into the possibility of the North Star Water Ski Team bringing in porta-potties for the next show and for Looney Days.
- The Board: Focus on reviewing and finalizing the 2027 budget at the August 13th meeting.
- Nustad: put a notice in the newsletter regarding the board needing a new member.

DRAFT

Vergas-CDH Fire Board Meeting Briefing

Meeting held on Wednesday, July 1, 2026, 7 pm, at the Vergas Fire Hall

A special meeting held to further discuss and approve whether to go with solar on the Fire Hall.

Griffen Peck, WCI, and Ben Holsen, Holson Solar were guests to provide an overview and address questions for the Fire Board.

Griffen Peck provided handout information and provided an overview of the building energy analysis. The Fire Hall would have 50 kWDC/40 kWAC, reflecting 80% of energy use. Total Cost \$110,356 and after \$88,125 in incentives; the cost would be \$22,231. (OTPC POP Rebate at \$55,078 and IRS 30% ITC tax credit at \$33,047). Anticipate ROI and positive cashflow in 5 years, with lifetime 30 year savings of \$123,547.

Ben Holsen noted after the building assessment the size would be 84 panels. Would be the steel roof and not the roof with shingles. Anticipate a 12 week time frame with 6-8 week preparing, 2 week construction, 2-3 week inspectors that are specific to solar. Looking to have done this year, weather permitting.

After discussion and questions addressed, the Fire Board approved unanimously to install solar on the fire hall. Also voted unanimously to have City of Vergas serve as the fiscal agent with WCI.

Jeff Zitzow provided an update that the construction of the parking lot and wall will be after looney days. Also noted proceeding with refurbishing of the 2 tanker trucks. Will be paid for by the Relief fund and truck fund. No further funds being requested of the Fire Board.

The Fire Board will next meet on Monday, November 16, 2026 at 6pm at the Fire Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
/es/Julie Bruhn

**CITY OF VERGAS
COUNTY OF OTTER TAIL
STATE OF MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION 2026-009**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF VERGAS TO ACT AS FISCAL AGENT FOR THE CDH-VERGAS FIRE BOARD SOLAR PROJECT

WHEREAS, the CDH-Vergas Fire Board has determined that the installation of a solar energy system on the Fire Hall building is in the best interest of the Fire Department and the communities it serves by reducing long-term energy costs and promoting energy efficiency; and

WHEREAS, the CDH-Vergas Fire Board may seek grants, rebates, donations, and other funding sources for the planning, purchase, and installation of a solar energy system on the Fire Hall building; and

WHEREAS, certain grant and funding programs require a governmental entity to serve as the fiscal agent for the receipt, administration, and disbursement of project funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vergas is willing to serve as the fiscal agent for the CDH-Vergas Fire Board Solar Project and to administer project funds in accordance with applicable laws, grant requirements, and financial policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Vergas, Minnesota, as follows:

1. The City of Vergas agrees to serve as the fiscal agent for the CDH-Vergas Fire Board Solar Project, including the receipt, management, accounting, and disbursement of funds related to the project.
2. The City Clerk-Treasurer is authorized to establish and maintain appropriate financial accounts and records for the project and to perform all administrative duties necessary to fulfill the City's responsibilities as fiscal agent.
3. The Mayor and City Clerk-Treasurer are authorized to execute grant agreements, funding documents, reimbursement requests, and other documents necessary to carry out the fiscal agent responsibilities of the City, subject to City Council approval when required by law.
4. All project funds received and disbursed by the City shall be used solely for purposes related to the CDH-Vergas Fire Board Solar Project and shall be accounted for separately from other City funds.
5. The City of Vergas assumes no ownership interest in the solar equipment or improvements unless otherwise provided by separate agreement, and its role under this resolution is limited to serving as fiscal agent for the project.
6. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Vergas, Minnesota, this ___ day of _____, **2026**.

By: Julie Bruhn, Mayor

Attest:

By: Julie Lammers, City Clerk-Treasurer

**CITY OF VERGAS
COUNTY OF OTTER TAIL
STATE OF MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION 2026-010**

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT SOLAR PROPOSAL FROM HOLSEN SOLAR

WHEREAS, West Central Initiative has worked with city staff to analyze energy use and solar potential for the Vergas CDH Fire Hall,

WHEREAS, West Central Initiative staff have analyzed the potential for solar, the expected project cost of \$110,356, and the expected project incentives of \$88,125.

WHEREAS, the project will save the city of Vergas \$123,547 in energy costs over the project's lifetime.

WHEREAS, West Central Initiative and Lakes Region Service Cooperative prepared a cooperative RFP for cities that are interested in receiving bids from contractors for solar projects,

WHEREAS, West Central Initiative and Lakes Region Service Cooperative convened a selection committee of members of the municipal solar cohort to select a final proposal

WHEREAS, the selection committee chose the final bid from Holsen Solar,

WHEREAS, Holsen Solar has prepared a detailed estimate and full project proposal to add a solar array to the Vergas CDH Fire Hall

WHEREAS, the proposal from Holsen Solar has a total cost of \$110,356

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of Vergas / Vergas CDH Fire Hall Board:

Section 1. Accepts the full proposal from Holsen Solar and agrees to move forward with solar installation on the Vergas CDH Fire Hall.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Vergas, Minnesota, this ____ day of _____, **2026.**

By: Julie Bruhn, Mayor

Attest:

By: Julie Lammers, City Clerk-Treasurer

**CITY OF VERGAS
COUNTY OF OTTER TAIL
STATE OF MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION 2026-011**

**Resolution to support seeking solar project financing from West
Central Initiative.**

WHEREAS, West Central Initiative has worked with city staff to analyze energy use and solar potential for the Vergas CDH Fire Hall,

WHEREAS, West Central Initiative staff have analyzed the potential for solar, the expected project cost of \$110,156, and the expected project incentives of \$88,125.

WHEREAS, the project will save the city of Vergas and the Vergas CDH Fire Hall \$123,547 in energy costs over the project's lifetime.

WHEREAS, West Central Initiative has prepared a financing mechanism to support small communities with a 0% interest loan, no origination fee, and flexible terms for payback,

WHEREAS, West Central Initiative has identified MN Statutes' MN 475.521 and MN 412.301, which allow municipalities to receive loan capital for purchasing the solar array equipment,

WHEREAS, the West Central Initiative loan will cover all up-front project expenses from the Holsen Solar Proposal.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of Vergas / Vergas CDH Fire Board:

Section 1. Agrees to move forward with loan financing from West Central Initiative

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Vergas, Minnesota, this ____ day of _____, 2026.

By: Julie Bruhn, Mayor

Attest:

By: Julie Lammers, City Clerk-Treasurer

City Council
2026 July Council Meeting
Vergas Event Center & Zoom Id number 267-094-2170 password 56587
6:30 PM on Tuesday, July 21, 2026

9. Staff Reports

- A. Engineering
- B. Utilities Superintendent
- C. Clerk-Treasurer
- D. Event Center Coordinator
- E. Liquor Store Manager
- F. LMC Conference review by Mayor and COuncil Members

Files Attached

- Vergas Engineering Update July 2026.pdf
- Utilities Superintendent Report July 2026.pdf
- EASTMAN FENCE Proposal.docx (8).pdf
- EASTMAN FENCE Proposal.docx (10).pdf
- EASTMAN FENCE Proposal.docx (11).pdf
- EASTMAN FENCE Proposal.docx (12).pdf
- Resolution 2026-008 Accepting Gift of a Traffic Cones.pdf
- 07.26 Clerk_Treasurer_Report.pdf
- Resolution 2026-011 Adopting .gov.pdf
- Vergas Website Proposal.pdf
- 06.2026 Interim Financial Report_Monthly Anaylysis for General Fund.pdf
- 06.2026 Interim Financial Report_Monthly Anaylysis for Water Fund.pdf
- 06.2026 Interim Financial Report_Monthly Anaylysis for Sewer Fund.pdf
- 2nd Quater Event Center Report.pdf
- Vergas_City_Council_Liquor_Report_Jan-Jun_2026.pdf
- LMC Annual Conference 2026.pdf

Engineering Update – July 2026

Blaine Green, PE, VP

Ongoing Items:

- Parking lot:
 - Project closeout, waiting on final documentation from contractor.
- Keilley Shores development
 - We've received word that the pond has been expanded, we're awaiting results of the new dimensions to confirm it meets the specifications

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.
- Lead Service Line
 - All of the lines have been verified, and Widseth will submit the required information to the Minnesota Department of Health for their records.

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!

Utilities Superintendent Report – Vergas City Council

Meeting Date: July 2026

Water Department

- Work continues to maintain and secure the water plant grounds.
- A cost estimate for installing a **security fence around the water plant** has been prepared and is included as an attachment for council review.

Wastewater Department

- Year-to-date wastewater discharge totals **3.598 million gallons**.
- **Annual lift station inspections** are scheduled for the **first week of August**. These inspections will cover pumps, controls, alarms, and structural conditions to ensure compliance and reliability.

Parks

- All park areas have been **sprayed for Canadian thistle** as part of ongoing vegetation and invasive species management.

Streets

- **Eva Street** continues to be mowed **once per week** under our maintenance agreement with **Otter Tail County**.

Yard Waste Site

- A controlled burn was attempted on **June 15, 2026**; however, the **MN DNR denied the burn due to an air-quality alert** in effect at the time.
- The **MN DNR has since issued a burn permit valid until August 31, 2026**, allowing future yard-waste reduction activities as conditions permit.

EASTMAN FENCE & SONS LLC

21069 400TH AVE | DETROIT LAKES, MN 56501-8012

PHONE: 218-847-6706

CELL: 218-849-5933

EMAIL: bradley20015@gmail.com

DATE: 7/7/2026

REGARDING: FENCE

PROPOSAL NO: 1

TERMS: Payment upon completion

50% DEPOSIT

TO: Vergas water tower/Mike Dufrane

We Propose the following:

☐Furnish Only

☒Furnish & Install

☐Remove & Install

☐ Other

Proposal 1: Install a total of 480' of 6' high galvanized 9 gauge chain link fence with barb wire. 2-4'x6' walk gates and 1-20'x6' double drive gate. Using ps 40 pipe

Materials:\$11,360.00

Labor:\$6,715.00

All necessary appurtenances, for the total of \$18,135.00

The above price(s) is (are) firm for a period of 30 days. Less 75' by woods:\$2,500.00

TOTAL:\$15,635.00

Thank you for the opportunity to quote on this project.

Respectfully submitted by

Bradley Eastman

ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL

PROPOSAL NO: _____

The above prices, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and are hereby accepted. You are authorized to do the work as specified. Payment will be made as outlined above.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

EASTMAN FENCE & SONS LLC
21069 400TH AVE | DETROIT LAKES, MN 56501-8012
PHONE: 218-847-6706
CELL: 218-849-5933
EMAIL: bradley20015@gmail.com

DATE: 7/7/2026

REGARDING: FENCE

PROPOSAL NO: 2

TERMS: Payment upon completion

50% DEPOSIT

TO: Vergas water tower/Mike Dufrane

We Propose the following:

☐Furnish Only

☒Furnish & Install

☐Remove & Install

☐ Other

Proposal 2: Install a total of 480' of 6' high galvanized 9 gauge chain link fence with barb wire. 2-4'x6' walk gates and 1-20'x6' double drive gate. Using ps 20 pipe

Materials:\$10,725.00

Labor:\$6,715.00

All necessary appurtenances, for the total of \$17,500.00

The above price(s) is (are) firm for a period of 30 days. Less 75' by woods:\$2,500.00

TOTAL:\$15,000.00

Thank you for the opportunity to quote on this project.

Respectfully submitted by

Bradley Eastman

ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL

PROPOSAL NO: _____

The above prices, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and are hereby accepted. You are authorized to do the work as specified. Payment will be made as outlined above.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

EASTMAN FENCE & SONS LLC
21069 400TH AVE | DETROIT LAKES, MN 56501-8012
PHONE: 218-847-6706
CELL: 218-849-5933
EMAIL: bradley20015@gmail.com

DATE: 7/7/2026

REGARDING: FENCE

PROPOSAL NO: 2

TERMS: Payment upon completion

50% DEPOSIT

TO: Vergas water tower/Mike Dufrane

We Propose the following:

☐Furnish Only

☒Furnish & Install

☐Remove & Install

☐ Other

Proposal 3: Install a total of 480' of 5' high galvanized 9 gauge chain link fence with barb wire. 2-4'x5' walk gates and 1-20'x5' double drive gate. Using ps 20 pipe

Materials:\$9,500.00

Labor:\$5,990.00

All necessary appurtenances, for the total of \$15,490.00

The above price(s) is (are) firm for a period of 30 days. Less 75' by woods:\$2,000.00

TOTAL:\$13,490.00

Thank you for the opportunity to quote on this project.

Respectfully submitted by

Bradley Eastman

ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL

PROPOSAL NO: _____

The above prices, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and are hereby accepted. You are authorized to do the work as specified. Payment will be made as outlined above.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

EASTMAN FENCE & SONS LLC
21069 400TH AVE | DETROIT LAKES, MN 56501-8012
PHONE: 218-847-6706
CELL: 218-849-5933
EMAIL: bradley20015@gmail.com

DATE: 7/7/2026

REGARDING: FENCE

PROPOSAL NO: 4

TERMS: Payment upon completion

50% DEPOSIT

TO: Vergas water tower/Mike Dufrane

We Propose the following:

☐Furnish Only

☒Furnish & Install

☐Remove & Install

☐ Other

Proposal 4: Install a total of 480' of 5' high galvanized 9 gauge chain link fence with barb wire. 2-4'x5' walk gates and 1-20'x5' double drive gate. Using ps 40 pipe

Materials:\$10,000.00

Labor:\$5,990.00

All necessary appurtenances, for the total of \$15,990.00

The above price(s) is (are) firm for a period of 30 days. Less 75' by woods:\$2,000.00

TOTAL:\$13,990.00

Thank you for the opportunity to quote on this project.

Respectfully submitted by

Bradley Eastman

ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL

PROPOSAL NO: _____

The above prices, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and are hereby accepted. You are authorized to do the work as specified. Payment will be made as outlined above.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

**CITY OF VERGAS
COUNTY OF OTTER TAIL
STATE OF MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION 2026-008**

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE DONATION OF FIFTY (50) TRAFFIC CONES FROM THE STATE
OF MINNESOTA

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota has offered to donate fifty (50) traffic cones to the City of Vergas; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Vergas finds that the traffic cones will be valuable for traffic control, public safety, community events, road maintenance activities, and emergency response operations; and

WHEREAS, acceptance of this donation will benefit the City and its residents without cost to the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Vergas, Minnesota, as follows:

1. The City of Vergas hereby gratefully accepts the donation of fifty (50) traffic cones from the State of Minnesota.
2. The traffic cones shall be used for municipal operations, public safety purposes, and community events as determined by the City.
3. City staff are authorized to take all necessary actions and complete any required documentation to facilitate the acceptance and use of the donated traffic cones.
4. The City expresses its appreciation to the State of Minnesota for its generosity and support of local government operations.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Vergas, Minnesota, this ____ day of _____, 2026.

By: Julie Bruhn, Mayor

Attest:

By: Julie Lammers, City Clerk-Treasurer

Clerk-Treasurer Council Report

Date: July 2026

Liquor Store

- A new Point of Sale (POS) system was implemented on June 1, 2026. Initial internet connectivity issues were resolved through firewall updates.
- Effective June 15, 2026, Clerk-Treasurer staff assumed Liquor Store Manager duties until a new manager could be hired.
- A new Liquor Store Manager was hired on July 9, 2026, and began employment on July 13, 2026.

Grants

WCI Solar Grant

- Grant approved: \$75,384.00
- Funds received:
 - Battery Backup Grant: \$28,896.23 (covers the full cost of the battery backup system)
- Installation has been completed and is currently awaiting final inspector approval.
- Received an Otter Tail County rebate of \$36,000.
- A Giraffe Financial tax credit account has been established for management of applicable tax credits.

MDH Implementation Grant

- Grant awarded: \$15,000
- No local match required.
- The grant will fund a portion of the Wellhead Protection Plan, specifically installation of fencing around the water treatment plant.
- Grant agreement has been signed.
- The Utilities Superintendent will obtain quotes and coordinate installation.
- The goal is to install approximately \$15,000 worth of fencing this year and pursue additional grant funding, if necessary, to complete the project.

2026 Elections

- Local candidate filing period: July 14-28, 2026
- Attended Election Judge Training on July 16, 2026.
- Upcoming election dates:
 - Primary Election: August 11, 2026
 - General Election: November 3, 2026

Current Projects

Clerk's Office Training

- Request Council approval for the Deputy Clerk to attend the League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) Clerks Academy in Staples, Minnesota, on September 10-11, 2026.
- This training provides valuable education on municipal administration, elections, records management, finance, and other clerk responsibilities, helping strengthen the City's operational capacity and succession planning.

Insurance Deductible Review

- Council discussion requested regarding whether the City's current insurance deductible amount should be adjusted.

EDA/HRA Daycare Initiative

Project name: Growing Up Vergas

- Grant applications are currently being submitted to support the initiative.

Website Refresh Project

Coordinating updates to the city's website to improve accessibility, organization, and ease of use for residents. Reviewing content, updating forms and documents, enhancing navigation, and ensuring compliance with current transparency and public information requirements.

Planning Commission

- Ordinance book updates are under review and will be forwarded to Council with recommendations.
- Continuing work on nuisance property concerns throughout the community.

**CITY OF VERGAS
COUNTY OF OTTER TAIL
STATE OF MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION 2026-011**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK/TREASURER TO SERVE AS SENIOR OFFICIAL FOR PURPOSES OF .GOV DOMAIN REGISTRATION

WHEREAS, the City of Vergas ("City") desires to obtain and maintain an official .gov internet domain for its website and municipal communications, in order to enhance public trust, security, and the accurate identification of official City information; and

WHEREAS, the .gov domain registration program administered by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) requires that domain requests be authorized by a "senior official" holding a role of significant, executive responsibility within the requesting government; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vergas is a small municipality that does not employ a separate City Manager or Administrator, and the office of City Clerk/Treasurer serves as the City's principal administrative office, responsible for the day-to-day executive administration of municipal affairs, finances, and operations; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that the City Clerk/Treasurer is the appropriate and functionally equivalent official to serve as the City's authorized Senior Official for purposes of requesting, authorizing, and managing a .gov domain on behalf of the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Vergas, Minnesota, as follows:

- 1.** The City Clerk/Treasurer, [Name], is hereby designated and authorized to serve as the City's Senior Official for purposes of the .gov domain registration program, with authority to authorize, approve, and manage the City's .gov domain request(s) on behalf of the City of Vergas.
- 2.** This designation shall remain in effect for so long as [Name] holds the office of City Clerk/Treasurer, or until such time as the City Council designates a successor Senior Official by subsequent resolution.
- 3.** The City Council directs City staff to take all actions reasonably necessary to complete the .gov domain registration process, including submission of this Resolution as supporting documentation to CISA/get.gov as needed.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Vergas, Minnesota, this ____ day of _____, 2026.

By: Julie Bruhn, Mayor

Attest:

By: Julie Lammers, City Clerk-Treasurer



Website Upgrade, .gov Domain Migration & CMS Transition Proposal

Prepared for the City of Vergas, Minnesota

Prepared for:

Julie Lammers
City Clerk / Treasurer, City of Vergas

Date:

July 18, 2026
Prepared by: Paul Haarstick

Why This Upgrade, and Why Now

The City's website currently runs on CityCMS at www.cityofvergas.com. This is a good moment to move it forward, for a few reasons:

- Minnesota law now requires it. Under Minn. Stat. § 471.3422, every county and municipality that administers absentee voting must use a .gov domain for its official website. The compliance deadline was June 1, 2026 — cities that have applied but not yet completed the transition remain in good standing through June 1, 2028, but the City does need to get its application in.
- A .gov address is the clearest signal to residents that they've reached the City's real, official site, not a lookalike, which matters most for election, ballot, and voting information.
- Federal accessibility rules are also in play. Under the Department of Justice's 2024 Title II ADA rule, state and local government websites must meet WCAG 2.1 Level AA accessibility standards. For public entities serving populations under 50,000, like Vergas, the compliance deadline is April 26, 2028. Building accessibility in now, rather than retrofitting later, is the more efficient path.
- Common Good CMS (CGCMS) is now available as the platform for the City's site. It's built specifically for small municipalities and keeps every feature the City currently relies on in CityCMS, while adding a more current layout, stronger accessibility support, and a foundation that will keep pace with future state and federal requirements for public-sector websites.

Together, these give the City a chance to secure its .gov domain, meet its .gov and accessibility obligations, and refresh the site's look, all as one project instead of three separate efforts.

Scope of Work

1. Website Layout Upgrade

A one-time redesign of the site's layout and visual presentation — modernized navigation, cleaner page structure, and a mobile-friendly design — while keeping all existing content, pages, and functionality residents already know how to use.

2. Migration from CityCMS to Common Good CMS

All existing pages, documents, forms, and content will be migrated from CityCMS into Common Good CMS. CGCMS supports the same features the City currently uses (page publishing, document/agenda posting, forms, etc.), so there is no loss of functionality — just a modernized platform underneath. This includes rebuilding the meeting agenda and packet publishing tool the City relies on today, so agendas, packets, and minutes continue to post the same way they do now.

3. .gov Domain Registration & Cutover

- Submit and manage the City's application for vergasmn.gov through CISA's get.gov program on the City's behalf, using the senior official designation from the council resolution.
- Configure and launch the site on vergasmn.gov once the domain is approved and issued.
- Set up www.cityofvergas.com to automatically forward all visitors to www.vergasmn.gov, so existing links, bookmarks, and search results continue to work.

4. Accessibility Remediation (WCAG 2.1 AA)

- Audit and rebuild the site's current pages and templates to meet WCAG 2.1 Level AA: color contrast, heading structure, keyboard navigation, screen-reader compatibility, form labels, and image alt text — well ahead of the City's April 26, 2028 compliance deadline.
- Historical meeting agendas, packets, minutes, and newsletters will be migrated into a clearly labeled Meeting & Document Archive, consistent with the DOJ's Title II archived web content exception for older recordkeeping documents that are not altered after archiving.
- A simple way for residents to request an accessible copy of an archived document will be included on the archive page, as required for content covered by that exception.
- New agendas, packets, and minutes published going forward through the rebuilt CGCMS meeting tool will be accessible from day one, so the archive does not keep growing.

Out of Scope

City email addresses on the new @vergasmn.gov domain are not part of this project. That work involves the City's IT provider, Corporate Technologies, and can be scoped separately whenever the City is ready to take it on.



Investment

This proposal covers the one-time redesign, .gov registration, content migration, and accessibility remediation as a single project fee below — the City's 2027 renewal rate for hosting and support stays the same as 2026, with no increase for the new features or platform.

Description	Amount
Website redesign, content migration & CityCMS → Common Good CMS transition	\$950
.gov domain registration & cityofvergas.com forwarding	\$200
WCAG 2.1 AA accessibility remediation	\$300
One-time project total	\$1,450

The \$1,450 covers the redesign, migration, .gov registration, and accessibility remediation as a single, one-time project fee — it does not change or replace the City's existing annual service agreement.

Timeline & Payment

- As soon as possible: City Council considers the resolution designating the Clerk/Treasurer as senior official and authorizing the .gov domain request.
- Following approval, the vergasmn.gov domain request is submitted to CISA. Standard review is roughly 10 business days, though timing is ultimately at CISA's discretion.
- Redesign, migration, and accessibility remediation proceed over the following months, with a target completion and site launch on vergasmn.gov by December 2026 — well ahead of the City's April 2028 accessibility deadline.
- Invoice for the \$1,450 project fee due upon completion.

Next Steps

If this scope and pricing work for the City, please return a signed version of this proposal.

Thank you,

Paul Haarstick

PaulNet Group, LLC

612-200-1081 · phaarstick@paulnet.net



Acceptance

By signing below, the City of Vergas approves the scope of work and pricing outlined in this proposal and authorizes PaulNet Group, LLC to proceed.

- ☐ Approved as presented
- ☐ Approved with changes noted below

Notes/Changes:

City of Vergas

Signature: _____

Name: Julie Lammers

Title: City Clerk / Treasurer

Date: _____

PaulNet Group, LLC

Signature:  _____

Name: Paul Haarstick

Title: CEO

Date: July 18, 2026

As on 6/30/2026

General Fund

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Acct No</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>	<u>January/ July</u>	<u>February/ August</u>	<u>March/ September</u>	<u>April/ October</u>	<u>May/ November</u>	<u>June/ December</u>
Receipts:											
General Property Taxes (31001 through 31299)	31001	151,189.00	168,492.91	(17,303.91)	111.4	2,948.51 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	165,544.40 0.00	0.00 0.00
Total Acct 310		151,189.00	168,492.91	(17,303.91)	111.5	2,948.51 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	165,544.40 0.00	0.00 0.00
Sales Tax	31305	0.00	533.65	(533.65)	0.0	22.49 0.00	72.80 0.00	118.52 0.00	145.66 0.00	96.59 0.00	77.59 0.00
10% Gambling Tax	31311	3,500.00	0.00	3,500.00	0.0	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00
Total Acct 313		3,500.00	533.65	2,966.35	15.3	22.49 0.00	72.80 0.00	118.52 0.00	145.66 0.00	96.59 0.00	77.59 0.00
LICENSES AND PERMITS	32105	4,700.00	9,400.00	(4,700.00)	200.0	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	400.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	9,000.00 0.00
Alcoholic Beverages	32110	1,600.00	0.00	1,600.00	0.0	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00
Cannabis	32113	250.00	500.00	(250.00)	200.0	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	500.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00
Non-Intoxicating Malt Liquor	32115	125.00	0.00	125.00	0.0	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00
Set-Up License	32116	187.50	125.00	62.50	66.7	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	125.00 0.00
Cigarette Licenses	32117	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.0	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00
Total Acct 321		7,062.50	10,025.00	(2,962.50)	142.0	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	900.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	9,125.00 0.00
Building Permits (Excludes surcharge)	32210	2,500.00	450.00	2,050.00	18.0	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	300.00 0.00	120.00 0.00	30.00 0.00
Grade and Fill Permit	32211	37.50	0.00	37.50	0.0	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00
GOLF CART PERMIT	32213	80.00	200.00	(120.00)	250.0	20.00 0.00	20.00 0.00	20.00 0.00	40.00 0.00	80.00 0.00	20.00 0.00
Camper Permit	32214	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.0	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00
YARD WASTE PERMIT	32215	9,150.00	14,885.00	(5,735.00)	162.7	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	6,110.00 0.00	6,630.00 0.00	2,145.00 0.00
Animal Licenses	32240	350.00	546.00	(196.00)	156.0	72.00 0.00	36.00 0.00	82.00 0.00	312.00 0.00	44.00 0.00	0.00 0.00
Total Acct 322		12,167.50	16,081.00	(3,913.50)	132.2	92.00 0.00	56.00 0.00	102.00 0.00	6,762.00 0.00	6,874.00 0.00	2,195.00 0.00
INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUES	33200	65.50	0.00	65.50	0.0	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00

As on 6/30/2026

General Fund

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Acct No</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>	<u>January/ July</u>	<u>February/ August</u>	<u>March/ September</u>	<u>April/ October</u>	<u>May/ November</u>	<u>June/ December</u>
Receipts:											
Federal Grants and Aids	33201	0.00	2,961.00	(2,961.00)	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,961.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 332		65.50	2,961.00	(2,895.50)	4,520.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,961.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
State Aids/Fire Relief	33390	15,500.00	0.00	15,500.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 333		15,500.00	0.00	15,500.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Local Government Aid	33401	18,455.50	0.00	18,455.50	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Small Cities Assistance	33422	6,629.00	0.00	6,629.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 334		25,084.50	0.00	25,084.50	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
County Grants and Aids for Highways	33610	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 336		1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	34005	600.00	3,020.95	(2,420.95)	503.5	2.10	1.10	0.00	6.00	2,502.25	509.50
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Letter Delivery Charge	34010	0.00	120.00	(120.00)	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	120.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 340		600.00	3,140.95	(2,540.95)	523.5	2.10	1.10	0.00	6.00	2,622.25	509.50
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PUBLIC SAFETY	34210	8,000.00	7,575.00	425.00	94.7	2,280.00	0.00	2,650.00	1,000.00	1,645.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 342		8,000.00	7,575.00	425.00	94.7	2,280.00	0.00	2,650.00	1,000.00	1,645.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

As on 6/30/2026

General Fund

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Acct No</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>	<u>January/ July</u>	<u>February/ August</u>	<u>March/ September</u>	<u>April/ October</u>	<u>May/ November</u>	<u>June/ December</u>
Receipts:											
Interest Earning	36210	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rent/Municipal Building	36217	3,600.00	3,900.00	(300.00)	108.3	650.00	650.00	650.00	650.00	650.00	650.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
RENT/EVENT CENTER	36225	6,500.00	8,915.05	(2,415.05)	137.2	655.00	960.00	1,955.00	2,415.00	1,605.05	1,325.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Event Center/Keg Deposit/Lions	36226	0.00	2,400.00	(2,400.00)	0.0	750.00	525.00	150.00	375.00	450.00	150.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
EVENT CENTER/SECURITY AND OTHER RELATED CHARGES	36227	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Contributions and Donations from Private Sources	36230	250.00	0.00	250.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Contributions and Donations to Event Center	36231	0.00	36,000.00	(36,000.00)	0.0	0.00	0.00	36,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Refunds and Reimbursements	36233	0.00	28,610.96	(28,610.96)	0.0	0.00	3,100.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	25,490.96
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Contribution to Energy and Resiliency	36234	0.00	8,000.00	(8,000.00)	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LEAGUE OF MN CITIES DIVIDEND	36235	678.00	0.00	678.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 362		12,728.00	87,826.01	(75,098.01)	690.0	2,055.00	5,235.00	38,755.00	11,460.00	2,705.05	27,615.96
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfer From General Fund	39201	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 392		15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sale of Investment	39990	0.00	43,160.71	(43,160.71)	0.0	0.00	0.00	43,160.71	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 399		0.00	43,160.71	(43,160.71)	0.0	0.00	0.00	43,160.71	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Receipts		252,397.00	339,796.23	(87,399.23)	134.6	7,400.10	5,364.90	84,786.23	23,234.66	179,487.29	39,523.05
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

As on 6/30/2026

General Fund

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Acct No</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>	<u>January/ July</u>	<u>February/ August</u>	<u>March/ September</u>	<u>April/ October</u>	<u>May/ November</u>	<u>June/ December</u>
Disbursements:											
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	41010	17,069.50	25,703.38	(8,633.88)	150.6	3,295.10	9,880.71	2,369.16	3,676.83	1,680.86	4,800.72
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 410		17,069.50	25,703.38	(8,633.88)	150.6	3,295.10	9,880.71	2,369.16	3,676.83	1,680.86	4,800.72
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Council/Town Board	41110	6,740.00	3,549.02	3,190.98	52.7	1,334.78	112.00	140.00	1,902.24	0.00	60.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 411		6,740.00	3,549.02	3,190.98	52.7	1,334.78	112.00	140.00	1,902.24	0.00	60.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mayor	41310	1,665.00	1,490.92	174.08	89.5	890.42	3.00	30.00	552.50	0.00	15.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 413		1,665.00	1,490.92	174.08	89.5	890.42	3.00	30.00	552.50	0.00	15.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Clerk	41405	23,747.50	24,452.49	(704.99)	103.0	4,302.29	4,327.68	3,894.30	4,556.49	4,128.51	3,243.22
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Elections	41410	0.00	31.90	(31.90)	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.90
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 414		23,747.50	24,484.39	(736.89)	103.1	4,302.29	4,327.68	3,894.30	4,556.49	4,128.51	3,275.12
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
City/Town Attorney	41610	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 416		3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Planning and Zoning	41910	4,860.00	3,791.92	1,068.08	78.0	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	2,750.00	41.92
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 419		4,860.00	3,791.92	1,068.08	78.0	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	2,750.00	41.92
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PUBLIC SAFETY	42010	0.00	8,205.96	(8,205.96)	0.0	4,393.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,764.83	48.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 420		0.00	8,205.96	(8,205.96)	0.0	4,393.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,764.83	48.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fire Administration	42210	15,900.00	10,675.00	5,225.00	67.1	2,280.00	3,100.00	2,650.00	1,000.00	1,645.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fire Equipment	42285	0.00	4,490.96	(4,490.96)	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,490.96
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 422		15,900.00	15,165.96	734.04	95.4	2,280.00	3,100.00	2,650.00	1,000.00	1,645.00	4,490.96
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
City Shop	43010	5,316.00	3,539.05	1,776.95	66.6	439.17	707.77	403.73	1,358.93	164.95	464.50
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 430		5,316.00	3,539.05	1,776.95	66.6	439.17	707.77	403.73	1,358.93	164.95	464.50
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

As on 6/30/2026

General Fund

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Acct No</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>	<u>January/ July</u>	<u>February/ August</u>	<u>March/ September</u>	<u>April/ October</u>	<u>May/ November</u>	<u>June/ December</u>
Disbursements:											
Highways, Streets & Roadways	43110	77,800.00	38,495.53	39,304.47	49.5	9,924.06	8,135.50	6,265.73	6,600.57	2,332.43	5,237.24
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sidewalk	43115	500.00	940.00	(440.00)	188.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	940.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ice and Snow Removal	43125	1,875.00	852.76	1,022.24	45.5	0.00	0.00	560.87	0.00	291.89	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
YARD WASTE	43128	8,658.00	3,782.75	4,875.25	43.7	1,000.68	624.66	366.47	535.17	544.87	710.90
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Street Lighting	43160	6,000.00	3,769.26	2,230.74	62.8	512.81	676.04	635.26	1,325.51	0.00	619.64
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 431		94,833.00	47,840.30	46,992.70	50.5	11,437.55	9,436.20	7,828.33	8,461.25	3,169.19	7,507.78
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
EVENT CENTER	45110	20,681.00	50,556.19	(29,875.19)	244.5	2,012.09	2,863.49	37,828.41	3,241.94	1,837.05	2,773.21
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 451		20,681.00	50,556.19	(29,875.19)	244.5	2,012.09	2,863.49	37,828.41	3,241.94	1,837.05	2,773.21
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Parks	45210	42,142.50	26,477.06	15,665.44	62.8	3,436.66	3,377.96	2,679.80	5,574.55	4,915.49	6,492.60
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 452		42,142.50	26,477.06	15,665.44	62.8	3,436.66	3,377.96	2,679.80	5,574.55	4,915.49	6,492.60
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Economic Development and Assistance	46510	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 465		5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Purchase of Investments	49350	0.00	704.42	(704.42)	0.0	224.12	163.37	167.91	149.02	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfer To Governmental Fund	49360	0.00	18,879.00	(18,879.00)	0.0	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,879.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 493		0.00	19,583.42	(19,583.42)	0.0	10,224.12	163.37	167.91	149.02	0.00	8,879.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Building Remodeling	49760	0.00	30.00	(30.00)	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 497		0.00	30.00	(30.00)	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Disbursements		240,954.50	230,417.57	10,536.93	95.6	44,045.31	33,972.18	58,991.64	30,503.75	24,055.88	38,848.81
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

As on 6/30/2026

Water

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Acct No</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>	<u>January/ July</u>	<u>February/ August</u>	<u>March/ September</u>	<u>April/ October</u>	<u>May/ November</u>	<u>June/ December</u>
Receipts:											
Letter Delivery Charge	34010	250.00	430.13	(180.13)	172.1	70.44	0.00	40.00	79.69	40.00	200.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 340		250.00	430.13	(180.13)	172.1	70.44	0.00	40.00	79.69	40.00	200.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	36100	0.00	8,030.65	(8,030.65)	0.0	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	0.00	30.65	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 361		0.00	8,030.65	(8,030.65)	0.0	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	0.00	30.65	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rate Class I	37110	74,139.00	65,223.65	8,915.35	88.0	9,871.95	10,780.85	10,116.60	11,835.40	10,813.48	11,805.37
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Connection/Reconnection Fees	37150	2,000.00	898.32	1,101.68	44.9	135.60	115.40	142.57	153.85	178.10	172.80
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Penalties and Forfeited Discounts	37160	0.00	1,905.66	(1,905.66)	0.0	424.56	338.34	143.33	249.26	260.00	490.17
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Water Tax Collected	37170	0.00	644.45	(644.45)	0.0	95.42	115.37	114.34	101.85	93.16	124.31
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sale of Water	37180	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	37190	5,000.00	33.50	4,966.50	0.7	0.00	33.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 371		81,339.00	68,705.58	12,633.42	84.5	10,527.53	11,383.46	10,516.84	12,340.36	11,344.74	12,592.65
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Connection/Reconnection Fees	37250	0.00	750.00	(750.00)	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Penalties and Forfeited Discounts	37260	1,250.00	0.00	1,250.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 372		1,250.00	750.00	500.00	60.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Receipts		82,839.00	77,916.36	4,922.64	94.1	10,597.97	11,383.46	18,556.84	12,420.05	11,415.39	13,542.65
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

As on 6/30/2026

Water

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Acct No</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>	<u>January/ July</u>	<u>February/ August</u>	<u>March/ September</u>	<u>April/ October</u>	<u>May/ November</u>	<u>June/ December</u>
Disbursements:											
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	41010	0.00	312.00	(312.00)	0.0	156.00	0.00	156.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 410		0.00	312.00	(312.00)	0.0	156.00	0.00	156.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Council/Town Board	41110	2,000.00	1,606.71	393.29	80.3	784.17	0.00	0.00	822.54	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 411		2,000.00	1,606.71	393.29	80.3	784.17	0.00	0.00	822.54	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mayor	41310	3,625.00	459.92	3,165.08	12.7	203.42	0.00	0.00	256.50	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 413		3,625.00	459.92	3,165.08	12.7	203.42	0.00	0.00	256.50	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Clerk	41405	10,250.00	9,530.04	719.96	93.0	1,568.38	1,411.85	1,665.59	1,627.16	1,627.16	1,629.90
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 414		10,250.00	9,530.04	719.96	93.0	1,568.38	1,411.85	1,665.59	1,627.16	1,627.16	1,629.90
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
DEBT SERVICE	47010	7,000.00	0.00	7,000.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 470		7,000.00	0.00	7,000.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bond Principal	47110	0.00	13,000.00	(13,000.00)	0.0	13,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 471		0.00	13,000.00	(13,000.00)	0.0	13,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest - Bonds	47210	0.00	950.00	(950.00)	0.0	950.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 472		0.00	950.00	(950.00)	0.0	950.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Purchase of Investments	49350	0.00	248.53	(248.53)	0.0	248.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 493		0.00	248.53	(248.53)	0.0	248.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Water Utilities - Administration and General	49440	59,964.00	31,228.35	28,735.65	52.1	5,016.68	5,122.79	4,670.70	4,413.93	4,743.76	7,260.49
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sewer Utilities - Sanitary Sewer Maintenance	49450	0.00	36.00	(36.00)	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	36.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 494		59,964.00	31,264.35	28,699.65	52.1	5,016.68	5,122.79	4,670.70	4,449.93	4,743.76	7,260.49
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

As on 6/30/2026

Water

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Acct No</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>	<u>January/ July</u>	<u>February/ August</u>	<u>March/ September</u>	<u>April/ October</u>	<u>May/ November</u>	<u>June/ December</u>
Total Disbursements		82,839.00	57,371.55	25,467.45	69.3	21,927.18 0.00	6,534.64 0.00	6,492.29 0.00	7,156.13 0.00	6,370.92 0.00	8,890.39 0.00

As on 6/30/2026

Sewage Collection and Disposal

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Acct No</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>	<u>January/ July</u>	<u>February/ August</u>	<u>March/ September</u>	<u>April/ October</u>	<u>May/ November</u>	<u>June/ December</u>
Receipts:											
SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	36100	0.00	8,030.65	(8,030.65)	0.0	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	0.00	30.65	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 361		0.00	8,030.65	(8,030.65)	0.0	0.00	0.00	8,000.00	0.00	30.65	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES	36200	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 362		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Connection/Reconnection Fees	37150	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Penalties and Forfeited Discounts	37160	1,500.00	1,752.67	(252.67)	116.8	373.24	325.08	143.33	249.26	249.80	411.96
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	37190	0.00	33.50	(33.50)	0.0	0.00	33.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 371		3,000.00	1,786.17	1,213.83	59.5	373.24	358.58	143.33	249.26	249.80	411.96
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rate Class I	37210	66,645.00	65,551.31	1,093.69	98.4	9,778.61	10,721.53	10,365.46	12,022.75	10,822.48	11,840.48
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Connection/Reconnection Fees	37250	0.00	750.00	(750.00)	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 372		66,645.00	66,301.31	343.69	99.5	9,778.61	10,721.53	10,365.46	12,022.75	10,822.48	12,590.48
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Receipts		69,645.00	76,118.13	(6,473.13)	109.3	10,151.85	11,080.11	18,508.79	12,272.01	11,102.93	13,002.44
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

As on 6/30/2026

Sewage Collection and Disposal

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Acct No</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>	<u>January/ July</u>	<u>February/ August</u>	<u>March/ September</u>	<u>April/ October</u>	<u>May/ November</u>	<u>June/ December</u>
Disbursements:											
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	41010	0.00	312.00	(312.00)	0.0	156.00	0.00	156.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 410		0.00	312.00	(312.00)	0.0	156.00	0.00	156.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Council/Town Board	41110	1,775.00	1,497.75	277.25	84.4	675.21	0.00	0.00	822.54	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 411		1,775.00	1,497.75	277.25	84.4	675.21	0.00	0.00	822.54	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mayor	41310	562.50	582.82	(20.32)	103.6	318.56	0.00	0.00	264.26	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 413		562.50	582.82	(20.32)	103.6	318.56	0.00	0.00	264.26	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Clerk	41405	0.00	9,491.66	(9,491.66)	0.0	1,568.43	1,411.85	1,627.16	1,627.16	1,627.16	1,629.90
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 414		0.00	9,491.66	(9,491.66)	0.0	1,568.43	1,411.85	1,627.16	1,627.16	1,627.16	1,629.90
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Purchase of Investments	49350	0.00	248.54	(248.54)	0.0	248.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 493		0.00	248.54	(248.54)	0.0	248.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sewer Utilities - Sanitary Sewer Maintenance	49450	0.00	129.64	(129.64)	0.0	64.49	65.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sewer Utilities - Sewage Treatment Plants	49480	0.00	358.54	(358.54)	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	358.54
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sewer Utilities - Administration and General	49490	67,307.50	31,640.74	35,666.76	47.0	3,141.04	4,143.38	6,654.04	3,378.00	5,225.91	9,098.37
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Acct 494		67,307.50	32,128.92	35,178.58	47.7	3,205.53	4,208.53	6,654.04	3,378.00	5,225.91	9,456.91
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Disbursements		69,645.00	44,261.69	25,383.31	63.6	6,172.27	5,620.38	8,437.20	6,091.96	6,853.07	11,086.81
						0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Vergas Event Center

Quarterly Report to the City Council 7/21/2026

January 1, 2026 - June 30, 2026

Submitted by: Event Center Coordinator

Executive Overview

The Vergas Event Center has experienced strong growth during the first half of 2026, with rental revenues exceeding the same period in 2025 by more than 30%. Community utilization remains strong, with a variety of events hosted including weddings, graduations, birthday parties, baby showers, memorial services, vendor markets, lake association meetings, fitness classes, and community events. As of July 15, 2026, the Event Center has secured \$11,300 in expected rental revenue for 2026, demonstrating continued demand and positive momentum for the facility.

In addition to increased rental activity, several facility improvement and maintenance projects were completed, including repairs to the internet service and camera security system, as well as completion of the solar panel project. Ongoing facility needs include replacement of the furnaces and repair or replacement of the bar cooler.

Efforts continue to focus on advertising, promotion, and community outreach to increase awareness of the facility and attract additional rentals.

Financial Summary

Rental Revenue Comparison

Period	Revenue
January-June 2025	\$6,830.00
January-June 2026	\$8,915.05

The Event Center generated **\$8,915.05** during the first six months of 2026, compared to **\$6,830.00** during the same period in 2025. This represents an increase of **\$2,085.05**, or approximately **30.5% growth** year-over-year.

Additionally, as of July 15, 2026, the Event Center has **\$11,300 in projected rental income booked for the 2026 calendar year**, not including future rentals that may still be scheduled.

The facility has also generated revenue through recurring fitness programming, including morning and evening Zumba classes. These activities produced an additional **\$965.00 in income during 2026**.

Rental Activity Overview

The Event Center continues to serve a diverse range of community and private events. During the first half of 2026, rentals included:

- Weddings
- Baby showers
- Birthday parties
- Graduation celebrations
- Memorial services
- Vendor market
- Several community events
- Several lake association meetings
- Fitness and wellness programs

The variety of events hosted demonstrates the Event Center's value as a community gathering space and regional event venue. Several larger events generated significant revenue, including weddings and graduation celebrations, contributing substantially to overall rental income.

Looking ahead, additional weddings, reunions, anniversary celebrations, community events, and organizational gatherings are already scheduled through the remainder of 2026.

Facility Maintenance and Capital Improvements

Completed Projects

The following operational issues were successfully addressed:

- Internet service disruption was repaired and service restored.
- Security camera system malfunction was repaired and returned to operation.
- Solar panel installation project has been completed.

These improvements have enhanced reliability, security, and long-term operational efficiency of the facility.

Current Maintenance Concerns

The following items require attention:

Kitchen Refrigerator

A new commercial refrigerator for the kitchen has been purchased for **\$900.00**. The unit is currently on order and awaiting delivery and installation. Once installed, it will provide improved refrigeration capacity and reliability for facility users.

Bar Cooler

The bar cooler is currently not functioning properly and should be evaluated to determine whether repair or replacement is the most cost-effective option.

HVAC System

The facility furnaces have reached the point where replacement is recommended. In addition, one of the air conditioning units serving the main event room is no longer functioning properly.

Estimated Replacement Cost: \$31,328.00

Replacement of this equipment will improve guest comfort, reduce the risk of system failures during events, and improve energy efficiency.

Marketing and Future Goals

A primary focus for the remainder of 2026 is increasing Event Center utilization through continued marketing and advertising efforts. Current initiatives include:

- Promoting rentals through community outreach and local advertising.
- Highlighting the Event Center's flexibility for weddings, reunions, meetings, celebrations, and community gatherings.
- Increasing awareness among residents, organizations, and visitors.
- Pursuing opportunities for additional recurring programs and events.

Given the increase in rental revenue and the number of events already booked for the remainder of the year, the Event Center is well positioned for continued growth.

Conclusion

The first half of 2026 has been successful for the Vergas Event Center. Revenue has increased significantly compared to 2025, facility improvements have enhanced operations, and bookings remain strong through the remainder of the year. While several capital maintenance items will require attention, the Event Center continues to be a valuable community asset and is showing encouraging financial growth.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Nustad

Event Center Coordinator

City of Vergas

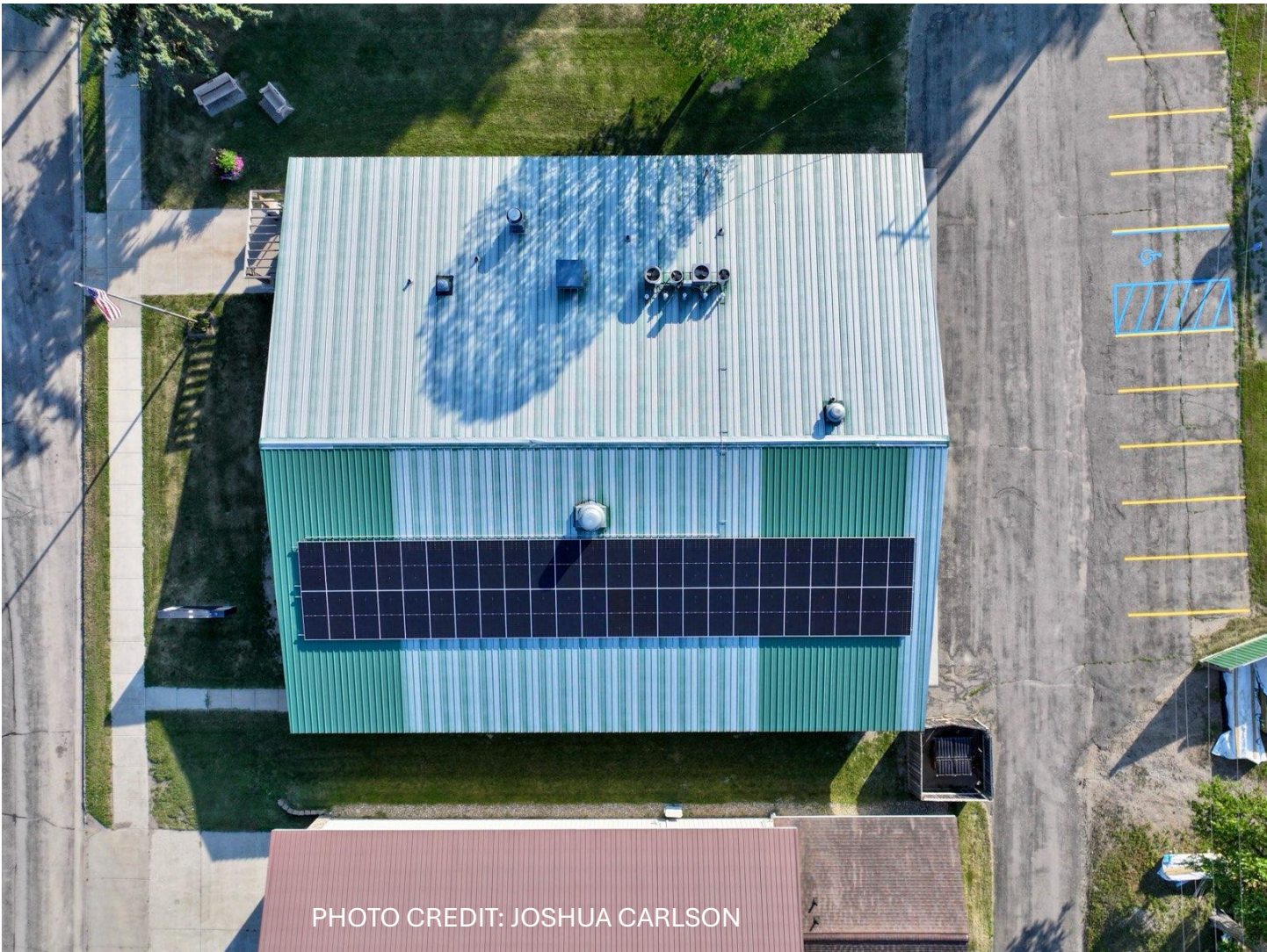


PHOTO CREDIT: JOSHUA CARLSON



PHOTO CREDIT: JOSHUA CARLSON

City of Vergas Municipal Liquor Store

City Council Report | January 1 - June 30, 2026

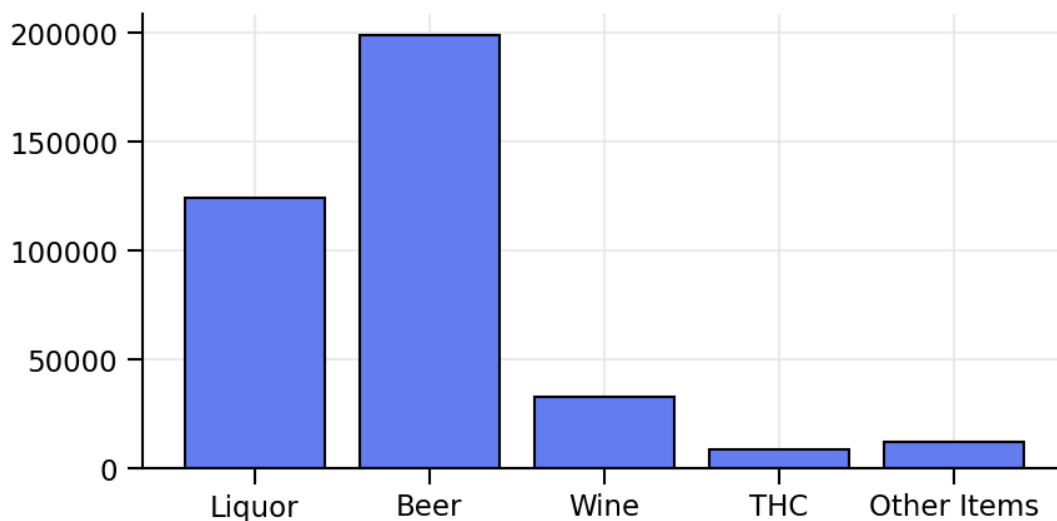
Executive Summary

Total receipts were \$376,588.32. Total inventory purchases were \$292,545.66. Gross profit before operating expenses was \$84,042.66, representing a gross margin of 22.3%. The liquor store employs 2 full-time and 3 part-time employees. No transfer to the General Fund has been made in 2026.

Sales Receipts

Category	Receipts
Liquor	\$124,134.76
Beer	\$198,709.74
Wine	\$32,997.98
THC	\$8,561.13
Other Items	\$12,184.71
TOTAL	\$376,588.32

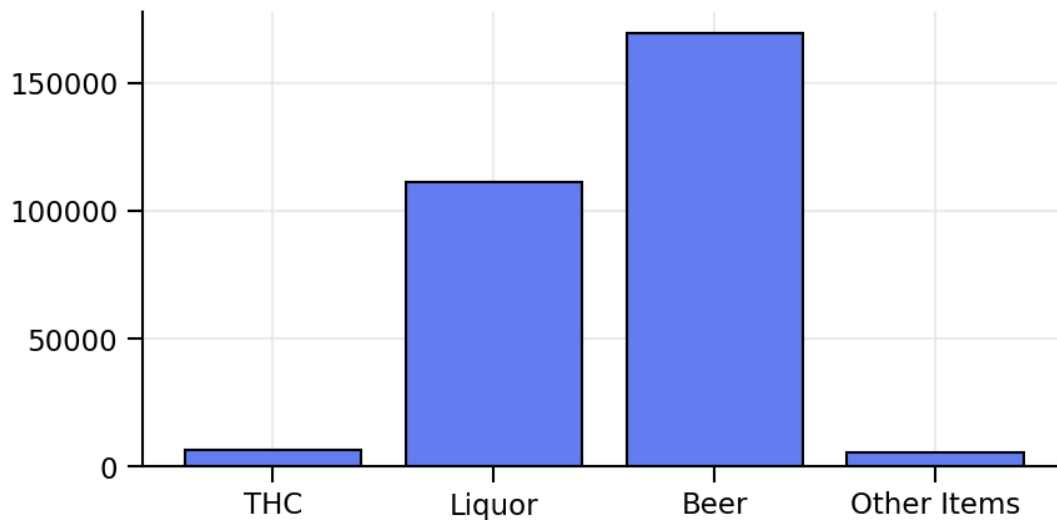
Receipts Jan-Jun 2026



Inventory Purchases

Category	Purchases
THC	\$6,674.80
Liquor	\$111,325.32
Beer	\$169,297.08
Other Items	\$5,248.46
TOTAL	\$292,545.66

Purchases Jan-Jun 2026



Financial Summary

Total Receipts	\$376,588.32
Total Purchases	\$292,545.66
Gross Profit	\$84,042.66
Gross Margin %	22.3%

General Fund Transfer History

Year	Transfer
2022	\$30,000
2023	\$25,000
2024	\$25,000
2025	\$20,000
2026	\$0

Year-over-year sales and profit comparisons were not included because prior-year January-June operating figures were not provided. Once historical figures are available, trend analysis can be added.

Outlook

Management will continue monitoring sales trends, inventory costs, staffing needs, and cash reserves through the remainder of 2026 to maintain strong operations and protect future transfer capacity.

LMC Annual Conference
June 24-26, 2026
Rodchester, MN

Overall theme was “Power Up” and presented in many different topic’s; as leadership, respect & dignity, civility, energy, funding, technology, partnerships, budgeting/funding, community engagement, etc.....

Key take aways from sessions I attended.

June 24th

- Minnesota Association of Small Cities
 - Represents cities under 5,000 and has a membership of 225-275.
 - Legislatively was a bonding vs budget year. Not a lot accomplished.
 - Key discussions around federal impacts, fraud, fiscal outlook
 - A win was transportation where local cost sharing was updated so smaller cities are less impacted; topped at 25K
 - No change in LGA
 - Bonding bills passed specific to communities but also addressed transportation local road improvement and water infrastructure.
 - Next year focus areas include data center regulation, LGA tied to inflation, local sales tax reform, TAA money, Housing zoning/land use and Audit challenges in terms of increased cost and difficulty to find auditors.
 - Massage therapist will need to obtain license/permit and have criminal background checks.
- Keynote: The Power of Dignity for Life and Leadership.

Take Away: Building skills for dignified disagreement and honoring others dignity.
Be curious- not furious/ regulate debate/Listen to understand/ challenge ideas- don’t attack people/acknowledge knowledge/build up rather than tear down.
- Vendor fair: great networking and resources to further support Vergas energy and resilience action plan. Department of Commerce will be providing us with Home Energy Guides and a Kids Activity books.
- LMC had city officials sign a cavity pledge and had a model city resolution to utilize.
- Attended Minnesota Energy Coalition meet and greet

June 25th

- LMC Annual Business meeting. New members to board positions. Nothing else of substance.
- Electric Slide into Savings- I was part of a panel presentation with CERTS and MPCA and shared the Vergas story of energy efficiency, clean energy and resiliency. Received positive feedback.
- Legislative Update: noting not much accomplished this year. Briefed on what they followed.
- Show, Don’t Tell: Visual Storytelling tools for City Leaders. Wabasha, Cottage Grove and St. Peter shared website and tools they use. Noted 4 goals to Persuade, Engage, Humanize, Build Trust. Had great graphics as well as video’s worth looking at to utilize by our city. Very willing to share. A must to look at the presentation on LMC website.
- Navigating & Securing Modern Infrastructure Funding: Key Trends and Outlook. Featured Floodwood and all the housing funding they secured for housing growth in the community. Key take away here was to keep your community housing assessment current and having a master plan for new growth. Without this will miss out on funding. Also discussed the rigors of managing state, private and federal funding and investment.

Due to prior obligation, I was not able to attend the morning session on the last day June 26th.

Again, appreciate the opportunity to attend the annual LMC conference. The content, resources, and networking are so valuable to me as a leader, but also in applying what was learned to the city.

With Sincere Appreciation;
/es/ Julie Bruhn

City Council
2026 July Council Meeting
Vergas Event Center & Zoom Id number 267-094-2170 password 56587
6:30 PM on Tuesday, July 21, 2026

10. Information & Announcements

Information:

Local Office Filings, Open July 14-28, Positions Open Mayor and 2 Council Members Fee \$2.00

Employee 2026 Trainings:

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

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