

Special Thanks to Kevin Zitzow - EDA/HRA,
Lyle Krieg & Mary Ditterich - Event Center,
Carol Albright - Park Board,
Robert Jacoby - Planning Commission
Thanks to those who give generously of their
time to serve on
Committees and boards which enable
Vergas to grow & improve.

**The City Office will be closed Mon., Jan. 15, 2024
In observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

2024 Golf Carts Permits are available!
Available at the City Office or Liquor Store
2024 Non-Resident Yard Waste Permits
are available for everyone who does not reside
within the City of Vergas.
If you ARE a City resident,
there is a special FREE permit for you. They were
available last year & are good as long as you own
your property. If you've not picked one up, please
stop by. It's purple, so if that's what you have, you're
good to go! These are available in the City Office only.

Lions Club Blood Drive
Join us in helping to give!
Tue., Feb. 6
Noon – 7 pm
To schedule an appointment
Call 218-790-2829



2024 Cat & Dog Licenses
Available at the City Office or Liquor Store
Documentation of Distemper & Rabies
Vaccination Required
\$10.00 per pet OR **\$8.00** per pet
if your pet has been neutered.

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

Sewer: Base - \$28.50 Usage \$2.75 per 1,000 gal.



Where all the
profits, profit
Vergas

The Vergas Liquor Store

218-302-1516

MON-THU 11am- 9 pm

FRI-SAT 9am-9:55pm

**Check out
our
Craft Beer
cooler!
We have lots
of
your favorite
local
Breweries,
including:
-Detroit Lakes
-Fergus Falls
-Alexandria
-Fargo
-Duluth
-Grand Rapids
-Grand Forks**



**Hansel & Gretel
Musical & Theatre Production
coming to Vergas July 8 – 13, 2024**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER
*The City of Vergas found high levels of lead in drinking water in some homes.
Lead can cause serious health problems. For more information, please call Julie
Lammers@ 218-302-5996 or visit cityofvergas.com.
For additional information, please visit [Lead \(http://www.epa.gov/lead\)](http://www.epa.gov/lead).*

2024

CITY MEETINGS

To access Hybrid Meetings

Via Zoom: Meeting ID:

267 094 2170

Password 56587

or Attend In Person

@ VEC Smart Room or

Government Service Center 131 E. Main

Changes in our meetings

to be posted on the City of Vergas

website www.cityofvergas.com

And Vergas Event Center sign

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

Vergas City Council Meeting:

Tuesday - Jan. 9th 6:30 p.m.

Vergas Event Center

(2nd Tuesday of the month)

Planning Commission Mtg:

Monday -Jan. 22nd 6:00 p.m.

Government Service Center 131 E. Main

(4th Monday of the month)

Vergas Event Center

Advisory Board:

Tuesday- Jan. 23rd 5:30 p.m.

Vergas Event Center- Smart Room

(1st Tuesday of the month)

Park Board Meeting:

Thursday - Jan. 25th 3:00 p.m.

Government Service Center 131 E. Main

(4th Thursday of the month)

EDA/HRA Meeting:

Tuesday- Feb.6th 2:00 p.m.

Government Service Center 131 E. Main

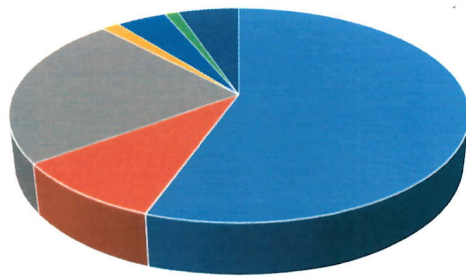
(1st Tuesday of the month)

January Mayor Message

At the December 12, 2023 Council meeting the annual budget was approved. For 2024 the approved budget increase is 3%. It has been the goal of the Council to maintain operations and improvement needs without significantly increasing the city portion of property taxes. In the first graphic, entitled Budget Income, General Property Taxes represents 55.5% of the budget. This is down from 60.3% in 2023. In 2024 Federal and state aid and grants increased to 23.1%; up from 16.3% in 2023. Of note, Water/Sewer and Municipal Liquor Store have their own self-sustaining budgets and are not part of the general operating funds.

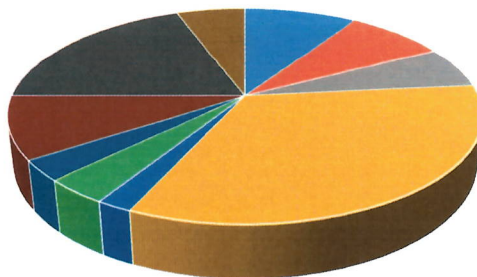
The second graphic, entitled Budget Expenses, 52.7% of budget expenses reflect 2 work areas; Streets, Sidewalks and ice control at 33.3% and Parks at 19.4%. The budget % includes where labor mapping is aligned. Newly funded Improvements planned in 2024 is in these 2 work areas. Improvements to Lake Street, review of Sun Set Strip (currently not a city street), pavement and fencing to city parking lot where county building was located, street lights, and continue to examine options for long lake park restroom. There is new expense in 2024 associated with maintaining Glenn Street and Scharf Ave extensions where new housing additions are located. In 2024 the City Capital Improvement plan will be updated so the city can better plan for high cost improvements and be more proactive for potential funding grants. The City Comprehensive Plan continues to be a guiding document in terms of community identified goals and budget.

2024 Proposed Budget Income



- General Property Taxes 55.53%
- Fees & Licenses 9.44%
- Federal and State Aids & Grants 23.08%
- Municipal Building Rent 1.47%
- Event Center 4.22%
- Dividends & Interest 1.13%
- Liquor Store 5.12%

2024 Proposed Budget Expenses



- General Government 9.12%
- Clerk, Legal, Elections 8.03%
- Fire 6.27%
- Streets, Sidewalks, Ice Control 33.32%
- City Shop 2.07%
- Recycling Center 3.75%
- Street Lights 3.07%
- Event Center 9.39%
- Parks 19.44%
- Economic & Housing Development 5.54%

Thank you to the Vergas Community Club for the donations to:
 New Decorative Street Lights from the Holiday Tour of Homes proceeds
 Ball Diamond Upkeep from the Hairyman Event proceeds

2024 COMMUNITY MEETINGS

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

and on the
Vergas Event Center sign

Vergas Lions Club:

Tuesday – Jan. 9th 5:30 p.m.

Vergas Event Center
(2nd Tuesday of the month)

Vergas Arts Club

Thursday - Jan. 11th 2:00 p.m.

Billy's Corner Bar & Grill

Community Club Meeting:

Monday – Feb. 5th 5:30 p.m.

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

2024 Save the Date

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