



August Mayors Message

With the Vergas Event Center solar system up and running, a new phase is beginning to install solar on the Vergas Fire Station! Anticipate work to begin this fall. You may have noticed activity at the lift station #4 at Co. Hwy 60 & 4 intersection where both pumps went out and required replacement. A stuffed animal and rags were found as the issue. As a reminder, do not place any fabric items, paper products (napkins, tissue, paper towel), hygiene or disinfecting wipes (even if noted to be flushable) down the toilet.

In addition, at the Vergas Event Center the Cooling and Heating System went down. Both HVAC's were 29 years old, so replacement was deemed prudent, which will result in significantly increased efficiency.

There has been an increase in theft and vandalism reported in the community. Be aware of the surroundings and report anything you may see. This has occurred on public as well as private property. Appears to be occurring at night. Report to the Otter Tail County Sheriff's Department 218-998-8555.

Hope you are enjoying summer and staying cool in the extreme heat. If you have a residence with no cooling and are negatively impacted by the heat, contact the City Office. Activation of the city emergency plan will be evaluated to make the Vergas Event Center available if there is significant resident impact.

Stay safe with the heat- Yet enjoy the summer!

Help Shape the Future of Vergas!

The City of Vergas is seeking two volunteers to serve on important community boards:



Park Advisory Board

Help guide improvements and future plans for our parks and recreational areas.



Energy & Resilience Board

Assist with initiatives that support sustainability, energy efficiency, and community resilience planning.

If you're passionate about our community and would like to get involved, we'd love to hear from you! Contact the City Office at 218-302-5996 for more information about these volunteer opportunities.



Where all the profits, profit Vergas

The Vergas Liquor Store



Please join us in welcoming Kerry as the new Manager of The Vergas Liquor Store!

We're thrilled to have her leading the team. Stop in soon, say hi!

WETLAND AWARENESS!

CLEANER WATER: Wetlands slow down flow and allow sediments and toxins to settle, working them out of the system.

FLOOD MITIGATION: Like a giant sponge, wetlands absorb stormwater for slow release, reducing velocity and flood heights.

COOLER CLIMATE: Wetland plants capture carbon and sequester it in the soil.

BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY: In terms of species supported, wetlands are similar to rainforests.

Donate Online:



Please select Growing Up Vergas in the project drop down menu

2026 CITY MEETINGS

To access Hybrid Meetings

Via Zoom: Meeting ID:

267 094 2170

Password 56587

or Attend In Person

@ VEC Smart Room

Changes in our meetings to be posted on the

City of Vergas website

www.cityofvergas.com

And Vergas Event Center sign

Park Board Meeting:

Thursday – August 13th, 3:00 p.m.

Vergas Government Services Center- (2nd Thursday of the month)

Vergas City Council Meeting:

Tuesday – August 18th, 6:30 p.m.

Vergas Event Center

(3rd Tuesday of the month)

(If you would like to be on the agenda, please have information to City Clerk by the Tuesday before mtg.)

Energy & Resiliency Advisory Board:

Thursday – August 20th, 5:30 p.m.

Vergas Event Center Meeting Room – (3rd Thursday of the month)

Planning Commission Mtg:

Monday – August 24th, 6:00 p.m.

Vergas Government Services Center (4th Monday of the month)

EDA/HRA Meeting:

Wednesday– September 2nd, 5:30 p.m.

Vergas Government Services Center- (1st Wednesday of the month)

Growing Up Vergas

Vergas is working to create a new childcare facility serving up to 24 children—supporting families, strengthening our workforce, and growing our community for the future.

Construction is planned for 2026, with a goal of opening in 2027—but first we need your help to reach our fundraising goal.

2026 General Election Information

The City of Vergas will hold its municipal election on Tuesday, November 3, 2026. Voters will elect:

Mayor (2-year term)

Two City Council Members (4-year terms)

Who has filed: James Stenger for Mayor. Paul Haarstick and Alex Ohman for the two City Council positions

Thank you to all residents who filed for office and are willing to serve our community. Candidate information will be available through the City Office and Otter Tail County as the election approaches.

Register to Vote Residents who are not yet registered to vote are encouraged to register before Election Day. Information on voter registration, absentee voting, and polling locations can be found at the Minnesota Secretary of State's website or by contacting the City Office.

Questions? Contact the Vergas City Office at 218-302-5996 (or your preferred office number) or visit www.cityofvergas.com for additional election information.

92.36 WEEDS AND VEGETATION

(A) Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to establish minimum standards for lawn maintenance and weed control while recognizing that a variety of landscapes within our community adds diversity and richness to the quality of life for all residents. Turf grass lawns continue to be recognized as the dominant nature in the landscape; however, alternatives to this traditional type of lawn are recognized as important parts of a diverse and successful landscape. Lands within the City of Vergas are diverse, including, but not limited to: agriculture (crops and pasture); road and railway right-of-ways; woods and trees; lakeshore; wetlands; gravel mining operations, pollinator habitat; natural areas; and public and private lands. The purpose and intent of this chapter is to protect and preserve the city's neighborhoods and the public health, safety and welfare of those who live there. The city council determines that keeping the city free of tall grass and noxious weeds improves the quality of life of all residents by improving aesthetics, by eliminating harbor for rodents and insects, and by eliminating fire hazards. At the same time, the city council recognizes that requiring the mowing of grasses and control of noxious weeds is sometimes unreasonable or impractical under certain circumstances.

92.38 OWNERS RESPONSIBLE FOR TRIMMING, REMOVAL AND THE LIKE.

(A) All property owners shall be responsible for the removal, cutting, or disposal and elimination of weeds, grasses and rank vegetation or other uncontrolled plant growth on their property, which at the time of notice, is in excess of 12 inches in height.

(B) These provisions shall not apply to an area established with meadow vegetation if:

- (1) The prior vegetation is eliminated, and the meadow vegetation is planted through transplanting or seed by human or mechanical means; and
- (2) A sign is posted on the property in a location likely to be seen by the public, advising that a meadow or prairie is being established. This sign must be no smaller than ten inches square, no larger than one square foot, and no higher than three feet tall.

Penalty, see ' 92.99

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Upcoming Events in 2026 – Stay Tuned for Updates!

Story Book Trail Open: May 16th-October 31st (Scenic Long lake Trail)

17th Annual Ole's Ride – August 22nd

Back Roads Art Crawl -September 19th

Hairyman Festival - September 26th

Wine Walk – October 17th

Small Town Christmas – November 28th

We're excited to share the events planned for 2026! Some dates and times are still being finalized, and additional activities may be added throughout the year.

2026 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 – August 10th, 5:30 p.m.

Vergas Event Center

(2nd Tuesday of the month, unless noted otherwise)

Vergas Arts Club:

Thursday – August 13th, 2:00 p.m.

Billy's Corner Bar

(2nd Thursday of the month)

Community Club Meeting:

Monday – September 7th, 5:30 p.m.

Vergas Event Center

(1st Monday of the month)

City Office Hours

**Monday- Thursday
10 am-4 pm**

Friday 8 am-12pm

(May 29th – August 28th)

Or by appointment only call

218-302-5996

HUGE Thank You, to Looney Days Volunteers!

A heartfelt thank you to **Vanessa Perry, Austin Tegtmeier, the Vergas Community Club, and all of the volunteers** who helped make the 2026 Vergas Looney Days a tremendous success. Your dedication, hard work, and community spirit created another memorable celebration for residents and visitors alike. We are grateful for all you do to make Vergas such a special place!

**Thank you for making Looney
Days possible!**