



February Mayors Message

At the January 20th meeting the City Council laid the groundwork for the year 2026. The State of the City Address was given, the City Comprehensive Plan was reviewed, Council portfolio and Committee Assignments were confirmed, and a resolution was approved to commit support for a daycare in the community.

The State of the City Address has been posted on the city website. Highlighted in the Address were the 2025 accomplishments as prioritized in the City Comprehensive Plan. This included the city center parking lot, housing growth, business support, connection to Heart of Lakes trail, and the energy and resilience work. In 2024 the city received grant funding to improve municipal building energy efficiency. Assessments and weatherization improvements were completed in 2025 but have experienced a delay in the installation of solar at the Event Center.

Established an Energy & Resilience Advisory Board that will be guiding further work directed at environmental management. Based upon the Resilience & Energy community survey, conducted this past year, protection of lakes and the natural environment were identified as priority areas.

The meeting schedule for the City Council did not change for 2026 and will continue to be the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. We welcome resident participation and keeping informed either through meeting attendance or via zoom, viewing of meeting recording on city website or YouTube, or review of posted council on the city website. Happy New Year! The City Council looks forward to another year serving the community.


 A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "T. B. Brink".


The Vergas Liquor Store

Fuel Your Super Bowl Spread!

Gear up for the Big Game with our Jack Daniel's flavor lineup!

Whether you're hosting the whole crew or keeping it low-key, we've got the perfect Jack for your Super Bowl cocktails.

- Old No. 7 for classic game-day mixers
 - Tennessee Apple for a crisp, refreshing twist
- Tennessee Honey for fans who like it smooth and sweet
- Tennessee Blackberry for something bold and fruity
- Winter Jack for a warm sip during halftime
- And yes — Sinatra Select for MVP-level celebrating

Stock up before kickoff and make your drink menu a winner!



⚠ Action Required – Utility Billing ⚠

Due to system updates, all AutoPay enrollments ended on 02/02/2026. If you do not re-enroll, automatic payments will stop and your bill will need to be paid manually.

To prevent any interruption, re-enroll in AutoPay immediately through the City of Vergas Customer Portal or call us at (218) 302-5996. You may also stop in the office during business hours Monday-Thursday 10am-4pm at 131 E Main St.

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

EDA/HRA Meeting:

Wednesday – March 4th, 5:30 p.m.

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

Vergas Event Center

Advisory Board:

Wednesday – February 11th, 3:00 p.m.

Vergas Event Center- Smart Room
(2nd Wednesday of the month)

Park Board Meeting:

NO MEETING FOR FEBRUARY

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

Vergas City Council Meeting:

Tuesday – February 17th 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.)

Planning Commission Mtg:

Monday – February 23rd, 6:00p.m.

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

2026 LICENSES!

Cat License, Dog License, Chicken License and Golf Cart Permits are now conveniently available to purchase on our website! Visit www.cityofvergas.com and under the "City" tab you will find "City of Vergas Fee Schedule" and you can purchase them there!

You can also get licenses at the City Office during business hours or the Liquor Store.

\$30 Letter delivery fee after 3/31/2026

RECORD OF VACCINATIONS REQUIRED

Vergas Planning Commission - PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Vergas City Planning Commission will conduct a Public Hearing regarding a Conditional Use Permit to allow Daycare Facility in a R-1 Low Density Residential District for up to 30 children to be located at 303 Altona Avenue.

Current Ordinance: § 151.21 R1 LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

(A) **Purpose.** The purpose of the R1 Low Density Residential District is to provide for moderate density one and two-family dwelling units and directly related, complementary uses.

(D) **Conditional uses.** Within the R1 District no structure or land shall be used for the following except by conditional use permit and in conformance with the standards specified in division (I) of this section.

(1) Home occupations in a residence.

(2) Hospitals and nursing homes, licensed day care centers serving 12 or more people and cemeteries.

(3) Accessory buildings other than those listed in (C)(1), including storage sheds and greenhouses over 12 feet in height or 500 square feet or covering more than 30% of the area of the side or rear yard in which they are located.

All interested parties are invited to attend and will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide public input or comments. If you are unable to participate in the hearing, you are invited to submit your comments in writing to the City Clerk-Treasurer before the scheduled hearing. Written comments and questions will be addressed at the hearing, and a written response will be provided by the City. Non-English-speaking residents and other persons with special needs who plan to attend the hearing are asked to contact City Hall (218) 302-5996 ext. 1 prior to the hearing so arrangements can be made to address any specific requirements. **The Vergas Planning Commission will hold the Public Hearing on this request at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 2026. A planning commission meeting will be held immediately following 6 pm public hearing. Attend the meeting via Zoom, meeting id: 267-094-2170, password 56587, or at the Vergas Government Services Center (131 E Main St)**

Julie Lammers, CMC
City Clerk-Treasurer

CITY OF VERGAS

OTTER TAIL COUNTY, MINNESOTA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

REGARDING PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Vergas Council, City of Vergas of Otter Tail County, Minnesota (the "City"), will hold a public hearing, at 6:00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, to be held at the Vergas Event Center, 140 W Linden Vergas, Minnesota, and on zoom meeting ID: 267-094-2170 passcode 56587 or dial in: 312-626-6799 to consider a tax assessments. The City of Vergas intends to levy special assessments for the cost of the improvements pursuant to

Minnesota Statutes Chapter 429, including Minn. Stat. § 429.061, which authorizes cities to assess benefitted properties for public improvements and to collect such assessments through property taxes. These assessments may be collected over a period of up to **10 years**, as permitted under Chapter 429 and consistent with Minnesota municipal assessment practices.

A preliminary assessment roll is on file and available for public inspection at the **Vergas City Hall, 131 Main St E Vergas**, during regular business hours. Property owners are encouraged to review their proposed assessment prior to the hearing.

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

Dated this 28 day of January 2026.

Julie Lammers

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Upcoming Events in 2026 – Stay Tuned for Updates!

Volunteer Appreciation/Membership Mixer – March 12th

Backroads Studio Tour -September 19th

Maple Syrup Fest – April 11th

Wine Walk – October 17th

Bring in Spring Event – May 16th

Festival of Trees – November 21st

Shops and Hops – May 30th

Small Town Christmas – November 28th

Downtown Art Camp – June 13th

Hairyman Festival - September 26th

Looney Days – July 29th thru August 2nd

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 – February 10th 5:30 p.m.

Vergas Event Center

(2nd Tuesday of the month)

Vergas Arts Club

Thursday – February 12th 2:00p.m.

Billy's Corner Bar

(2nd Thursday of the month)

Community Club Meeting:

Monday – March 2nd, 5:30 p.m.

Vergas Event Center

(1st Monday of the month)

Winter City Office Hours

Monday- Thursday

10 am -4 pm

**Friday CLOSED or by
appointment only - please
call 218-302-5996**

**The City Office will be
closed:**

Monday, February 16th

**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. Be
sure to check back often for
updates so you don't miss out on
any of the fun!**