



## February Mayors Message

At the January 20<sup>th</sup> 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.



Where all the  
profits, profit  
Vergas

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!



## 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](http://www.cityofvergas.com)

And Vergas Event Center sign

### EDA/HRA Meeting:

Wednesday– March 4<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m.

Vergas Government Services Center-  
(1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month)

### Vergas Event Center

### Advisory Board:

Wednesday – February 11<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 p.m.

Vergas Event Center- Smart Room  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month)

### Park Board Meeting:

NO MEETING FOR FEBRUARY

Vergas Government Services Center-  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month)

### Vergas City Council Meeting:

Tuesday – February 17<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m.

Vergas Event Center

(3<sup>rd</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:00p.m.

Vergas Government Services Center  
(4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month)

### 🔔 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 LICENSES!

Cat License, Dog License, Chicken License and Golf Cart Permits are now conveniently available to purchase on our website! Visit [www.cityofvergas.com](http://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

## 2026

## COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Changes in our meetings  
to be posted on the  
City of Vergas website

[www.cityofvergas.com](http://www.cityofvergas.com)

and on the

**Vergas Event Center sign**

#### **Vergas Lions Club:**

**Tuesday – February 10<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m.**

Vergas Event Center

(2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month)

#### **Vergas Arts Club**

**Thursday – February 12<sup>th</sup> 2:00p.m.**

Billy's Corner Bar

(2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month)

#### **Community Club Meeting:**

**Monday – March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5:30 p.m.**

Vergas Event Center

(1<sup>st</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup>**



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### **Upcoming Events in 2026 – Stay Tuned for Updates!**

**Volunteer Appreciation/Membership Mixer – March 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Backroads Studio Tour -September 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Maple Syrup Fest – April 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Wine Walk – October 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Bring in Spring Event – May 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Festival of Trees – November 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Shops and Hops – May 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Small Town Christmas – November 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Downtown Art Camp – June 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Hairyman Festival - September 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Looney Days – July 29<sup>th</sup> thru August 2<sup>nd</sup>**

*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!*