Vergas 2026 NEWSLETTER

October

October Mayors Message

At the September 8th City Council meeting the preliminary city budget for 2027 was approved. The budget represents a 9.16% increase. The increase is in response to higher costs for products and services, but also a decrease in state funding; Local Government Aid (LGA) and Small City assistance. The final budget will be approved at the December meeting.

Vergas received funding to have a community native plant garden established. The garden will be located along the trail going to Long Lake. United Prairie Foundation will be leading the effort. The plan is to have the garden planted yet this fall. If you are interested in helping with the planting, contact the city office at 218-302-5996.

Lastly, the City of Vergas will be hosting a Community Expo on October 10th, 9am-12pm, at the Vergas Event Center. The Expo will showcase city achievements with energy efficiency, solar energy, and actions taken for a sustainable and resilient community as recognized by GreenStep Cities recognition program. Tour the new solar installation and engage with the booths featuring information related to energy, and protection and conservation of our environment and lakes. Organizations that will be present include Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Otter Tail Soil & Water (SWCD), Holsen Solar, United Prairie Foundation, West Central Initiative, Clean Energy Resource Team (CERTS) and more! There will be additional informational booths highlighting Vergas achievements.

Bring the kids as there will be activities and gifts for the kids; as well as informational materials for all attendees to take home. Refreshments will be served and there will be door prizes featuring solar and conservation applications. We're still adding to our prize lineup! Follow the City of Vergas Facebook page for door prize announcements.

The event is sponsored by the City of Vergas and funded by the Empowering Small Minnesota Communities.

Hope to See You at the Community Expo on October 10th. You won't want to miss this

Where all the profits, profit Vergas

The Vergas Liquor Store



Fall has arrived in Vergas! Samuel Adams OctoberFest is back for a limited time and available now at the Vergas Liquor Store. Stop in and enjoy a taste of the season!

Notice of Sewer Rate Increase

The Vergas City Council has approved an increase to the sewer usage rate. Effective September 1, 2026, the sewer usage rate will increase by $0.50 per 1,000 gallons, resulting in a new rate of $4.50 per 1,000 gallons.

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 – October 8th, 2026
Vergas Government Services Center-
(2nd Thursday of the month)

Vergas City Council Meeting:
Tuesday – October 20th, 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 – October 26th, 6:00 p.m.
Vergas Government Services Center
(4th Monday of the month)

EDA/HRA Meeting:
Wednesday– November 4th, 5:30 p.m.
Vergas Government Services Center-
(1st Wednesday of the month)

Energy & Resiliency Advisory Board:
To be determined
Vergas Event Center Meeting Room –
(3rd Thursday of the month)

ANNUAL VERGAS LION'S HALLOWEEN PARTY!

SATURDAY OCTOBER 31ST

4:30PM-6:30PM.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

FREE OF CHARGE!

Donate Online:

Please select Growing Up Vergas in the project drop down menu

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 2027, with a goal of opening in 2028—but first we need your help to reach our fundraising goal.

ABSENTEE VOTING HOURS
NOVEMBER 3, 2026, GENERAL ELECTION

ABSENTEE VOTING STARTS SEPTEMBER 18, 2026
EARLY VOTING STARTS OCTOBER 16, 2026

Location: Government Services Center
510 W Fir Ave
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Hours are: 8am-4:30pm Monday through Friday

Additional Hours:

Saturday October 24th	9am-3pm
Tuesday October 27th	8am-7pm
Saturday October 31st	9am-3pm
Sunday November 1st	9am-3pm
Monday November 7th	8am-5pm

Tuesday November 3rd we will be open for:

Ballot Drop off until 5pm

Agent Delivery Ballots (special paperwork required for this process) until 8pm

Voters from Clitherall, Dalton, Oscar Township, Rothsay, Urbank, and Western Township may drop off or vote in person until 8pm.

Ballots may not be dropped off at your polling location on Election Day.

There are no other Absentee Voting locations or Drop Boxes in Otter Tail County for this election.

Interested in Getting More Involved in Vergas?

The City of Vergas is always looking for residents who want to help shape the future of our community. Serving on a committee is a great way to share your ideas, meet fellow community members, and make a positive impact.

If you are interested in serving on a committee in 2027, or would like more information about what each committee does, please contact City Hall at 218-302-5996

Current City of Vergas Committees:

- Planning Commission
- Park Board
- Economic Development Authority (EDA)/ Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA)
- Energy & Resiliency Advisory Board

Whether you have a lot of time to give or just want to lend your expertise occasionally, we'd love to hear from you!

Get involved. Share your voice. Help keep Vergas a great place to live, work, and play!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Upcoming Events in 2026 – Stay Tuned for Updates!

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

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

Community Club Meeting:
Monday – October 5th, 5:30 p.m.
Vergas Event Center
(1st Monday of the month)

Vergas Arts Club:
Thursday – October 8th, 2:00 p.m.
Billy's Corner Bar
(2nd Thursday of the month)

Vergas Lions Club:
Tuesday – October 13th, 5:30 p.m.
Vergas Event Center
(2nd Tuesday of the month)

City Office Hours

Monday- Thursday
10 am-4 pm
Fridays CLOSED
THE CITY OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED OCTOBER 12TH FOR COLUMBUS DAY
Or by appointment only call
218-302-5996

Community Resilience & Sustainability Fair
Saturday, October 10, 2026
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Vergas Event Center
140 W. Linden Street, Vergas

Join us as we explore practical solutions, connect with local experts, and work together to help build a stronger, more resilient community. We hope to see you there!

LIONS BLOOD DRIVE
THURSDAY 10/22/2026
12:30PM-6:30PM
VERGAS EVENT CENTER
CONTACT LINDA NORBY
AT 218- 298-4743

VERGAS COMMUNITY EXPO

📅 **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10**

⏰ **9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

📍 **VERGAS EVENT CENTER 140 W. LINDEN ST., VERGAS, MN 56587**



WHAT YOU'LL DISCOVER

☼ TOUR THE NEW EVENT CENTER SOLAR ARRAY

🌎 LEARN ABOUT SOLAR ENERGY AND THE BENEFITS

🏠 EXPLORE WAYS TO REDUCE ENERGY USE

🤝 CONNECT WITH EXPERTS

💡 ACCESS INNOVATIONS AND RESOURCES

🌱 LEARN ABOUT CREATING A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND LAKES

🎁 DOOR PRIZES AND REFRESHMENTS

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

SPONSORED BY

City of Vergas