

The Groton Independent

Vol. 143 No. 03 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2025 ♦ Established in 1889

Groton City Council review budget requests, discusses community projects

By Elizabeth Varin

The Groton City Council got its first look at budget requests for the 2026 fiscal year, with proposals ranging from major infrastructure work to quality-of-life improvements across the community.

Early requests include more than \$120,000 for street resurfacing, a hoop barn to cover the city's salt and sand storage, radar signs along highways 12 and 37, upgrades to the baseball and softball complex, and the city's next phase of wastewater infrastructure improvements.

One of the largest potential projects would rebuild a transmission line entering town, a cost that could approach \$1 million.

More information about the potential purchases and contracts is expected in the coming meetings as the council looks at its 2026 fiscal year budget.

Something new this year could involve in-person discussion about requests made and why they are needed. Councilman Mike Shilhanek asked about having baseball and softball coaches present their needs and have a discussion with the council about the requests.

Mayor Scott Hanlon responded, "we've never done that. It would be good to get them in here to talk about it."

More information will be released as the city gets closer to approving its upcoming budget.

Council members also weighed in on other community topics, including the speed limit north of the golf course, renewal of wine and liquor licenses, and whether the city should assist the Groton Development Corporation with property cleanup efforts.

Representatives of the Olive Grove Golf Course have asked the city to add speed limit signs on Fifth Avenue north of the golf course. The topic of lowering the speed limit in that section of the roadway was also discussed.

The council approved adding a speed limit sign near where the avenue intersects with Highway 12. However, the council members hesitated about lowering the speed limit from the current 25 miles per hour down to 15 miles per hour.

Councilman Mike Shilhanek asked whether the city would be willing to assist the Groton Development Corporation with cleaning up properties on a case-by-case basis.

Shilhanek, who serves as vice president of the economic development board, said the purpose would be cleaning up problem properties and increasing the property values. While the development corporation doesn't currently own any properties in town, the idea would be to purchase or receive donated properties, clean them up and sell them with requirements on time frames to build structures and a review of proposed building plans.

Councilman Brian Bahr said it would be fine to help move things from properties to the city landfill (as long as it's accepted out there), but expressed hesitancy about doing more than that.

Mayor Scott Hanlon agreed.

"For you guys to expect the city to do everything, that might be asking a little much," he said.

City Attorney Chad Locken clarified, though, that the development corporation is not asking the city to do anything right away, and any assistance would be brought to the city on a case-by-case basis.

Shilhanek added that if a property becomes available, the development corporation would create a presentation for the council. They don't want to add liability to the city, but rather see what they can offer to help clean up and increase property values.

Later in the meeting, Shilhanek asked the council to authorize releasing \$50,000 in money from the Groton Community Fund that was earmarked in the 1990s for economic development. That decision was tabled as there would not be a quorum should Shilhanek abstain from the vote.

- The council tabled discussion of renewing liquor and wine licenses for 2026. City Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich said there hasn't been a problem with any of the businesses renewing their licenses, which includes The Jungle (package off-sale liquor and retail on-sale liquor), American Legion Post No. 39 (package off-sale liquor and retail on-sale liquor), Ken's Food Fair (package off-sale liquor), Red Horse Inn (retail on-sale liquor), Olive Grove Golf Course (retail on-sale liquor), Dollar General (retail on-off sale wine and cider) and

Rausch Carries on Family Tradition in Monument Crafting

BIG STONE CITY — For Val Rausch, working with granite isn't just a job — it's a legacy. As a third-generation craftsman in the monument and cemetery lettering business, Rausch has spent his life continuing the work his grandfather began.

"I started when I was about 19," Rausch said. "Our family's Rausch Granite Company has been part of this community for a long time. I grew up in the business — I'm third generation."

Rausch branched out from the family business 26 years ago to start his own company, continuing the tradition with a modern twist. "With computers today, if you're in the printing business, you know about two million fonts," he joked. "Unfortunately, the old days of standardized shop activities are gone, so I've got to try to copy whatever's there by whoever the latest guy is that can run a program."

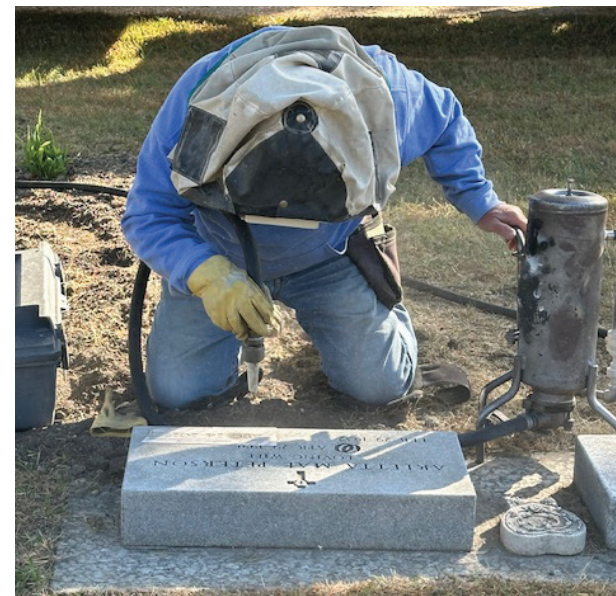
Rausch explained that monument lettering often comes down to precise craftsmanship — and patience. When asked about the pressure used for his work, he shared, "I'm right about a hundred PSI. I can do probably 75 to 100 depending. You can do it with less; it just takes longer."

This fall has been a busy one for him. "September deaths hadn't been buried yet, so it was kind of crazy," he said. "Normally, they're waiting for me to show up."

Through changing times and new technologies, Val Rausch continues to uphold his family's legacy, carving lasting memories in stone for families across the region.



Val Rausch gets everything lined up perfectly. He only has one shot at getting it right.



Rausch applies 100 psi to the stone to carve out the date.



Rausch gives it a shot of black paint to make it stand out.



And the date is all done.

City Council - Continues on Page 3

**Girls Soccer Game Saturday at 2 p.m.
Will be broadcast at GDILIVE.COM**

Weekly Sports Summary

Volleyball

Tigers 4–1, Runner-Up at Redfield; Sweep Mobridge-Pollock at Home

REDFIELD / GROTON — Groton Area stacked a quality week: four wins and a runner-up finish at the Redfield Tournament, followed by a clean 3–0 sweep of Mobridge-Pollock in Monday’s “Battle of the Tigers.”

At Redfield, Groton opened with a 25-19, 25-18 sweep of Redfield behind Jaedyn Penning (7 kills, 3 aces), Rylee Dunker (7 kills), and Chesney Weber (6 kills, 16 assists). The Tigers were sharp early at the line (46-of-49, 5 aces) and efficient on attack (65-of-80, 27 kills).

Groton then outlasted North Central in three (25-20, 15-25, 25-11). Penning paced the offense (9 kills), Dunker was dominant in the middle (10 kills on 17-of-19), and Weber steered the show (28 assists). Taryn Traphagen added 6 kills with 3 total blocks, while Sydney Locke went a perfect 10-for-10 at the stripe with an ace as Groton hit 35 kills and totaled 46 digs.

In a signature win, the Tigers rallied past Madison (19-25, 25-19, 25-21). Penning (9 kills, 14 digs), Dunker (10 kills), Tevan Hanson (7), Weber and Traphagen (5 each) spread the scoring; Jerica Locke anchored the back row (11 digs). Groton closed the final set on a 4-0 burst to seal it. “That’s the kind of side-out volleyball we need—point for point against good teams,” said head coach Chelsea Hanson.

Groton cruised by Timber Lake in the semifinal (25-11, 25-12) with Weber stuffing the stat sheet (7 kills on 10-for-10, 5 aces, 19 assists), Traphagen and Dunker adding 6 kills apiece, and Hanson 5 more. The Tigers served 45-of-50 with 9 aces and hit 53-of-60 for 28 kills.

In the title match, Northwestern edged Groton 25-20, 26-24. Penning led with 7 kills; Weber added 5 kills and 19 assists; Dunker, Hanson, and Traphagen combined for 16 more. The Lockes—Sydney and Jerica—combined for 30 digs as Groton served 44-of-45 with 3 aces. “A little fatigue set in, but we did really good things,” Hanson said. “I’d play Northwestern every night—we get better that way.”

Back home Monday, Groton swept Mobridge-Pollock 25-15, 25-13, 25-19. The Tigers flipped an early 10-10 tie into a 25-15 first set, then controlled the next two behind Dunker (11 kills), Penning (10 kills), Traphagen (6), Hanson (6), Makenna Krause (4), and Weber (7 kills, 29 assists). From the service line, Sydney Locke fired three aces and McKenna Tietz added one. Hanson praised the balance: “Our kills are so big people sometimes miss how good Sydney, McKenna, and Jerica are in the back row. Prevent our own errors, and we’re tough to stop.”

Broadcast note: All Redfield matches ran on GDILIVE.COM with sponsors including Agtegra, Avantara, Barry Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Full Circle Ag, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, Groton Legion, Heartland Energy, John Sieh Agency, Jungle Lanes & Lounge, and The MeatHouse. Monday’s home match aired on GDILIVE.COM with play-by-play by Justin Hanson and support from Agtegra, Avantara, Barry Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Full Circle Ag, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, Groton Legion, Harry Implement, Heartland Energy, John Sieh Agency, Jungle Lanes & Lounge, and The MeatHouse.

Girls Soccer

Tigers Advance on Late Locke-to-Locke Connection

GROTON — Groton Area is moving on after a 1–0 defensive gem over West Central in the Class A first round. Jerica Locke buried the winner off a feed from her sister Sydney with 31:21 left, and Jaedyn Penning posted seven saves for the clean sheet. The Tigers limited chances late by dropping numbers behind the ball. “All three with West Central have been one-goal games,” said head coach Matt Baumgartner. “We capitalized today, and Jaedyn had stellar saves to keep it tight.” Groton improves to 8–5 and heads to top-ranked Dakota Valley at 2 p.m. Saturday in the semifinals.

Boys Soccer

Season Ends in Shootout Heartbreaker

GROTON — The Tigers’ first-round duel with Belle Fourche finished level 3–3 after two overtimes before the Broncs prevailed 7–4 in kicks. Carson Zak scored less than two minutes in; Ethan Kroll equalized in the second half, and Becker Bosma (from Kroll) forced penalties with 1:23 left in double-OT. In the shootout, Belle Fourche converted its first four; Logan Olsen tallied Groton’s lone make. Gage Sippel was busy with 12 saves. Groton closes at 7–6, a season marked by resilience and late-game surges.

Broadcast note: Both playoff games aired on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Avantara Groton, Dacotah Bank, Groton American Legion, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton Daily Independent, Harry Implement of Ferney, Lori’s Pharmacy, Milbrandt Enterprises, and Sun & Sea Travel. Thanks to JVT for cell service support.

Football

Special Teams Spark Blowout Win at Dacotah Bank Stadium

ABERDEEN — Groton overwhelmed Aberdeen Roncalli 55–6, ignited by two punt-return touchdowns and a resurgent ground game. Ryder Johnson opened with a 40-yard punt return TD; Asher Johnson added a 5-yard rush, and Keegen Tracy raced 42 yards on another punt return as Groton led 21-0 after one. Asher notched a second TD; Anthony Tracy scored twice (including a 12-yarder after halftime); Ryder Schelle capped it from a yard out; Tracy also grabbed two interceptions.

Halftime analyst Tom Woods said the plan was simple: “Run, run, run.” The Tigers piled up 227 rushing yards on 37 carries—topping the 100-yard mark by halftime—behind simplified blocking schemes. Final lines: Schelle 18-102, 1 TD; Asher Johnson 8-75, 2 TDs (2-of-4 passing, 44 yards); Anthony Tracy 7-40, 2 TDs; Keegen Tracy 2 catches for 44 yards plus two punt-return TDs and two INTs. Defensively, Connor Glines (8 tackles, sack), Logan Warrington (5, sack), Jordan Schwan (2, sack), and Gunner Hardy (2, sack) led the charge. Roncalli finished with five first downs and four net rushing yards.

“We’ve been close all year—this keeps our playoff hopes alive,” said head coach Shaun Wanner. “Our young backs are growing up fast, and the O-line’s confidence showed.” Groton moves to 2–5 entering a bye, then turns to Baltic. Roncalli (1–6) heads to Milbank.

Broadcast note: The football game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM with sponsors including Agtegra, Avantara, Barry Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Full Circle Ag, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, Groton Legion, Heartland Energy, John Sieh Agency, Jungle Lanes & Lounge, Krueger Brothers, Poet and The MeatHouse.

At a Glance

VB Record (week): 5–1 (including Mobridge-Pollock sweep) • Tournament: Redfield Runner-Up

GSoc: Won 1–0 vs. West Central • Next: at Dakota Valley (Quarterfinal)

BSoc: Lost in PKs to Belle Fourche • Final Record: 7–6

FB: Won 55–6 at Roncalli • Record: 2–5 • Next: Bye, then Baltic



Drake Peterson
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Jaedyn Penning
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Anthony Tracy gets a first down on this run. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

15 N Main St. - Ste. 101
Downtown Groton

Call/Text Paul: 605-397-7460

Call/Text Tina: 605-397-7285

Open 24/7

Living Heart Fitness Center

Exercise helps ease arthritis

pain and stiffness. - Mayo Clinic

2 ♦ Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Oct. 8, 2025



By David Adler

With Insufficient Resistance, Trump Overtaking Checks and Balances at Rapid Pace

President Donald Trump’s authoritarian assault on America’s constitutional democracy, as unbearable to the naked eye as watching an eclipse, has proceeded at a pace that has shocked academic experts who have spent their careers chronicling the rise of autocratic leaders in foreign nations across the years. By comparison, the entrenchment of authoritarianism in Russia under Putin, Hungary under Orban and Turkey under Erdogan, make those autocrats look like the proverbial tortoise to Trump’s hare.

The pace of Trump’s trampling of the Constitution, a reflection of insufficient political and institutional resistance, is largely attributable to the demise of checks and balances, seen by the founders of our nation as the backbone of the Constitution, designed to maintain the health, safety and integrity of the republic by pinning the three branches of the government to the terms of the Constitution. Trump’s raw usurpation of congressional power, facilitated by abject acquiescence of the GOP majority in Congress, has crumpled the working premise and promise of checks and balances as a critical mechanism for maintaining constitutional accountability. As James Madison explained it in Federalist No. 51, members of Congress would have both the personal and political ambition to defend their powers against executive acts of usurpation. The interest of the man in preserving power, Madison explained, would fit the interest of the place—the institution of Congress—in preserving its power.

GOP congressional leaders, as well as the rank and file, however, have abandoned all semblance of the Madisonian commitment to institutional independence, as manifested in their betrayal of a constitutional duty to defend, for example, the legislative power to tax and spend. Their obeisance to President Trump undermines nearly everything that the framers understood about the capacity, efficacy and resiliency of checks and balances. For traditional conservatives--unlike MAGA loyalists-- who have sported champions, however imperfect, of checks and balances over the years—Robert Taft, William F. Buckley, Barry Goldwater, Howard Baker, John McCain and Alan Simpson— we ask, where have all the statesmen and leaders gone? Those leaders distinguished themselves by their belief in constitutional government and the rule of law.

The doctrine of checks and balances, while not on its death bed, is failing, for lack of GOP stewardship in Congress. Federal courts, on the other hand, have rallied to the defense of the Constitution—enumeration of powers, checks and balances and Article II limitations—and thus done their part to check Trump’s usurpations, ruling against him in some 200 cases. These rulings, attentive readers will note, have been rendered by judges appointed by presidents from Reagan to Obama to Trump, who have cast aside politics and partisanship in upholding the rule of law—precisely what the framers expected of a judiciary clothed with independence. The Trump Administration, however, has ignored and flouted many of these rulings, in a flagrant act of contempt for judicial authority and the rule of law. Trump officials’ unprecedented public, personal and political attacks on judges, moreover, are true to the authoritarian’s creed: the ends justify the means.

Trump’s acts of usurpation have been aided by an activist Supreme Court, in thrall to the president. This Court has sucked the bone marrow from historic precedents, sapping their strength and value as a means of restraining the executive in a manner that can only be described as an effort to assist Trump’s derangement of separation of powers and checks and balances. Last week, for example, in Trump v. Slaughter, the Court ignored a 100-year-old precedent and permitted Trump to fire without cause—in violation of the governing statute—a member of the Federal Trade Commission, thus gutting the independence of the agency.

Authoritarian presidents—Putin, Orban and Erdogan, for example--are impervious to constitutional principles. Like those autocrats, for whom Trump has expressed admiration and envy, there are only the ends. The means to the ends are irrelevant. This anti-constitutional perspective, which Trump shares, stands in stark contrast to Chief Justice John Marshall’s landmark opinion in McCulloch v. Maryland (1819), in which he explained the sanctity in a constitutional system of legal means to legal ends. Without such prescription, there is no law, but only the will of an authoritarian. McCulloch stands for the proposition that government is obligated to adhere to the law of land. For an authoritarian, however, constitutional limitations and restraints are but trifling inconveniences.

David Adler is president of The Alturas Institute, a non-profit organization created to promote the Constitution, gender equality and civic education. This column is made possible with the support of the South Dakota Humanities Council, South Dakota NewsMedia Association and this newspaper.

Harry Implement
“Family Owned & Operated Since 1935!”
CERTIFIED DEALER AFS (605) 395-6421 Ferney

Weismantel Agency
Marty Weismantel 605/396-7341 weisag@nvc.net
AUTO HOME FARM COMMERCIAL CROP
PROGRESSIVE SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC INSURANCE ALLIANCE GREAT AMERICAN NORTH STAR NORTHWEST GF SFM
ACCESS TO MANY MORE COMPANIES!

Hanlon Brothers Gravel Hauling
New & Cleaning of Stockdams with our 60’ reach trackhoe
605/395-6531

City Council

Continued from front

MJ’s Sinclair (package off-sale liquor). However, questions came up about the Red Horse Inn licenses, specifically if the liquor license will be used within the next year or if the city should hold on to the liquor license in case another business wants to use it.

- The council opened the only bid received to lease land at the Groton Municipal Airport. Shawn Gengerke proposed leasing the approximately 95 acres of land for \$256.10 per acre for three years.
- The council approved purchasing a SnowWolf plow that attaches to a skid steer and would allow city employees to clear snow from more narrow roadways like alleys in town. The equipment costs \$11,960.
- The council appointed Doug Daly to the city Planning and Zoning Commission for a 5-year term.
- The council accepted a proposal from Soil Technologies, Inc., out of Mobridge to perform soil exploration of the area where the wastewater system improvements will take place.
- The council approved finalized paperwork denying an appeal by Mark Abeln Farms that would allow building storage units at 9 E. Railroad Avenue. The council denied allowing the project to move forward at its Sept. 16 meeting after a public hearing.
- Two events were announced Tuesday evening. The first, Enrich’s Winter Gear Distribution, takes place from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9, at the Groton Community Center. The other, Pumpkin Fest, takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the city park on Oct. 11.

Weekly SUDOKU King Crossword
Answer Answers
Solution time: 26 mins.
2 3 7 5 8 1 4 6 9
5 9 6 3 2 4 1 8 7
1 4 8 7 9 6 2 3 5
7 8 9 2 1 3 5 4 6
3 6 2 4 5 9 8 7 1
4 1 5 8 6 7 9 2 3
9 2 3 6 4 5 7 1 8
8 7 1 9 3 2 6 5 4
6 5 4 1 7 8 3 9 2
C E D E S S E T L I D
P L E A T U V A A N I
U M B R A D E B A C L E
A L I S O N M E E T
P O T D A K L U S T S
A L E C T U B E S
O D D I T Y L I E D T O
C O R G I D E A L
A B B E Y R N S B E E
L E A R M A I T A I
D E B O R A H A R T I E
A T E E R A L I E N S
S S S G E M L A D E S

Groton’s Events
Nov. 11: Veteran’s Day Program, 2 p.m.
Nov. 27: Community Thanksgiving at the Community Center, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Dec. 5: Tour of Trees at Wage Memorial Library, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Dec. 6: Olive Grove Holiday Party, 6 p.m.
Nov. 30: Groton Snow Queen Contest, 4 p.m.
Nov. 15: Legion Post #39 Turkey Party, 6:30 p.m.
Jan. 25, 2026: 88th Carnival of Silver Skates, 2 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Jan. 25, 2026: Groton Robotics Pancake Feed at the Community Center, 10 am. to 1 p.m.
GROTON Chamber of Commerce 120 N Main, Groton, SD 57445 605/397-8422 ~ GrotonChamber.com



The Minnesota Vikings and the Cleveland Browns faced off Sunday at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in London, England. This was the fifth time the Vikings have played in London, where they were undefeated entering Sunday’s game, including a win over the Browns in 2017. With significant injuries along the offensive line (right tackle Brian O’Neill, center Ryan Kelly, left guard Donovan Jackson, and backup center Michael Jurgens), and a Browns pass rush that features Defensive Player of the Year candidate Myles Garrett, this game had the potential to get ugly. It was a back-and-forth game with a wild finish, but the Vikings got the win 21-17.

Despite the game being played on another continent and both teams starting backup quarterbacks, the first quarter was full of action. Minnesota’s defense opened with a stop and forced a punt. The Vikings’ offense then put together a promising drive, averaging six yards per play, but a Jordan Mason fumble gave Cleveland the ball in good field position. Seven plays and 47 yards later, the Browns found the end zone to open the scoring at 7-0. Minnesota answered with a crisp eight-play, 82-yard drive to even the score. Minnesota averaged 8.4 yards per play, Cleveland averaged 4.9, and it looked like the game might turn into a shootout.

Then came the second quarter, which started with six straight punts. Cleveland did manage to put some points on the board with a field goal at the end of the quarter, however, giving them a three-point lead heading into halftime. Minnesota averaged just 3.5 yards per play in the quarter, while Cleveland was even worse at 3.0.

The Vikings got the ball to begin the second half and immediately drove the length of the field with an eight-play, 71-yard touchdown drive to take a 14-10 lead. That lead didn’t last long, though, as Cleveland put together a touchdown drive of their own on the very next possession. A Vikings three-and-out gave the ball right back to the Browns, and we were headed to the fourth quarter, with the Browns leading 17-14.

The fourth quarter started with a Cleveland punt, a Minnesota fumble (Zavier Scott), and another Cleveland punt. The Vikings had a promising drive going on their next possession, but a missed 51-yard field goal kept the score right where it was. A few punts later, the Vikings got the ball with three minutes left on the clock and needed a field goal to tie or a touchdown to take the lead. Carson Wentz methodically led the team down the field, covering 80 yards in 10 plays and culminating in a 12-yard touchdown pass to Jordan Addison that gave them a 21-17 lead with less than 30 seconds left in the game. A few hold-your-breath moments later and the clock hit zeros, locking in the Vikings’ win.

Carson Wentz completed 25 of 34 passes for 236 yards and one TD. Jordan Mason led the team on the ground with 13 carries for 52 yards

The Groton Independent
21 N Main, Groton 605/397-NEWS (6397)
Paul Irvin Kosel, Publisher paperpaul@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7460
Tina Kosel, Office Manager office@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7285
Notices: legals@grotonsd.net
News Items: news@grotonsd.net
Deadline to submit items: Noon Monday]
Yearly Subscription Rates are listed below.
The Groton Independent (USPS# 230-440) is published weekly with its periodicals postage paid at Groton, SD.
Postmaster: Send address changes to
Groton Independent, PO Box 34, Groton, SD 57445
© 2025 The Groton Independent

The Groton Independent
Printed & Mailed Weekly Edition
Subscription Form

All prices listed include 6.2% Sales Tax

☐ Black & White\$48.99/year

☐ Colored\$79.88/year

☐ Colored\$42.60/6 months

☐ E-Weekly*\$31.95/year

* The E-Weekly is a PDF file emailed to you each week. It does not grant you access to the GDI/Video Archives.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____

State, Zip Code _____

E-mail _____

Phone Number _____

Groton Daily Independent
www.397news.com
Subscription Form

This option will grant you access to the GDI/Video Archives.

☐ 1 Month\$15.98

☐ 3 Months.....\$26.63

☐ 6 Months.....\$31.95

☐ 9 Months.....\$42.60

☐ 12 Months\$53.25

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____

State, Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

The following will be used for your log-in information.

E-mail _____

Password _____

Mail Completed Form to:

Groton Independent
P.O. Box 34
Groton, SD 57445-0034
or scan and email to paperpaul@grotonsd.net

and a TD. Justin Jefferson had seven catches for 123 yards, Jordan Addison had five catches for 41 yards and a TD, and Josh Oliver caught the other TD (which was thrown by Cam Akers on a trick play).

Defensively, the Vikings had two sacks (Ivan Pace Jr. and Tyrion Ingram-Dawkins) and held rookie QB Dillon Gabriel to only 190 passing yards, but they did allow Browns’ rookie running back Quinshon Judkins to rush for 110 yards on 23 carries (4.8 yards per carry).

Looking ahead, the Vikings (3-2) return home after spending two weeks in Europe and get a much-needed bye week. With the laundry list of injuries and a matchup with the Philadelphia Eagles looming, the bye couldn’t have come at a better time.

The Life of Dean D. Sombke

November 23, 1961 – October 5, 2025
Dean D. Sombke, age 63, of Grand Island, passed away on Sunday, October 5, 2025.
A funeral service will be held on Thursday, October 9th at 10:30am at Trinity Lutheran Church with Pastor Adam Snoberger officiating. Memorials are suggested to Trinity Lutheran Church. A burial will take place later at St. John’s Lutheran Cemetery in Columbia, SD. All faiths Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements. Condolences can be left at www.gjallfaiths.com.



Dean was born on November 23, 1961 in Aberdeen, SD to Dallas and Carol (Weihrauch) Sombke. He was raised on a farm outside of Ferney, SD and graduated from Groton High School in 1980. Dean graduated from UNL with a degree in Business Administration.

Dean was united in marriage to Paulette Zegers and to this union three children were born.

When Dean was growing up he was part of 4-H and showed cows and sheep. He enjoyed being outdoors whether it was scuba diving, fishing walleye in SD or pheasant hunting with his dogs. His children fondly remember the many trips to amusement parks, baseball games, fishing, hiking and tent camping. Dean even built a plane and over time became his children’s personal pilot. He liked spending his winters in Arizona. He was an avid Husker fan. Above everything else his greatest pride and joy was his grandchildren and the time he got to spend with them.

Dean was employed as a sales rep throughout his career while also being an entrepreneur. In his retirement he found a variety of activities and projects to keep him busy.

Those left to cherish his memory include his children, Dream (Tyler) Solko of St. Paul, Dakota Sombke of St. Paul and Destin (Kendall) Sombke of Lincoln; grandchildren, Dallas, Emma and Sawyer Solko and Emmett and Maura Sombke; brother, Doug (Mel) Sombke of Groton, SD; sister, Sharolyn Sombke of Aberdeen, SD and nieces, nephews and their families, Nikki, Brett, Bryce, Bryan, Sashia and Peyton.

Dean was preceded in death by his parents.

Lake Region Marching Festival 2025 Line Up

Exhibition Band

10:00 A.M. #1 Groton Area High School Marching Band

Middle School Bands

10:06 A.M. #2 Holgate-Simmons Middle School Marching Band

10:12 A.M. #3 Milbank Middle School Marching Band

High School Bands

10:18 A.M. #4 Britton-Hecla High School Marching Band

10:24: A.M. #5 Frederick Area High School Marching Band

10:30 A.M. #6 Great Plains Lutheran High School Marching Band

10:36 A.M. #7 Northwestern High School Marching Band

10:42 A.M. #8 Redfield High School Marching Band

10:48 A.M. #9 T.F. Riggs High School Marching Band

10:54 A.M. #10 Warner High School Marching Band

11:00 A.M. #11 Watertown High School Marching Band

Combined School Bands

11:06 A.M. #12 Aberdeen Roncalli Marching Band

11:12 A.M. #13 Castlewood Marching Band

11:18 A.M. #14 Hoven Marching Band

11:24 A.M. #15 Ipswich Marching Band

11:30 A.M. #16 Langford Area Marching Band

11:36 A.M. #17 Leola Marching Band

Exhibition Band

11:42 A.M. #18 Groton Area Middle School Marching Band (EXHIBITION)

Friday, Oct. 10
Awards at the
high school Arena
after event

The Festival will
be livestreamed at
GDILIVE.COM
And broadcast
locally on 89.3 FM



NOTICE OF HEARING
Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for a **CONDITIONAL USE PETITION (CUP)**. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex, on October 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Eugene Pence
Legal description of property: The SW1/4 of Section 22-T127N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (38546 110th Street; Frederick Twp.).
Reason: A Conditional Use Petition (CUP) to have a 1200 ft., private turf airstrip.

The public may attend the hearing and present comments and testimony regarding the proposed Conditional Use Petition (CUP) request.

Dated this 8th day of October 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144

Published once in the "Groton Independent" at the total approximate cost of \$11.94 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26072



NOTICE OF HEARING
Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for a **CONDITIONAL USE PETITION (CUP)**. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex, on October 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

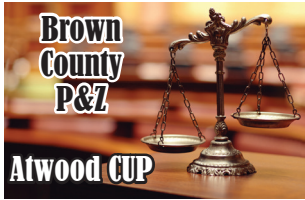
Petitioner: Michael Carrels
Legal description of property: Lot 1, "Jerke's First Addition" in the SE1/4 of Section 24-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (N Shore Drive; Ravinia Twp.).
Reason: A Conditional Use Petition (CUP) to allow a campground in a proposed Lake Front Residential District (R3) backlot without a residence.

The public may attend the hearing and present comments and testimony regarding the proposed Conditional Use Petition (CUP) request.

Dated this 8th day of October 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144

Published once in the "Groton Independent" at the total approximate cost of \$12.88 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26073



NOTICE OF HEARING
Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for a **CONDITIONAL USE PETITION (CUP)**. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex, on October 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner / Owner: Sea Atwood

Legal description of property: Lot 1, "Lowary Family First Addition" in the NE1/4 of Section 27-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (2208 S Highway 281; Aberdeen Twp.).

Reason: A Conditional Use Petition (CUP) for a new shop building to operate a primary agriculture equipment and attachments sales business in a proposed Highway Commercial District (HC).

The public may attend the hearing and present comments and testimony regarding the proposed Conditional Use Petition (CUP) request.

Dated this 8th day of October 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144

Published once in the "Groton Independent" at the total approximate cost of \$14.14 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26074



NOTICE OF HEARING
A PETITION to REZONE has been submitted to Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex on October 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Tim & Judy Siedschlag / Gerald & Kathy Goldade
Description of property: Proposed Lot 1 & Lot 2, "Siedschlag First Addition" and Lot 2, "Gehrke 1st Subdivision" in the SW1/4 of Section 13-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (37910, 37926 & approx. 37930 127th Street; Ravinia Twp.).

Reason: Rezone parcel from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring these parcels into compliance for their current use.

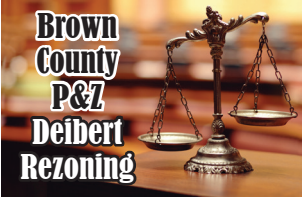
The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed rezone petition. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission will forward a recommendation to the Board of Brown County Commissioner's with a future meeting date in the Commission Chambers.

Verify the meeting dates with the Brown County Auditor.

Dated this 8th day of October 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144

Published once in the "Groton Independent" at the total approximate cost of \$16.34 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26075



NOTICE OF HEARING
A PETITION to REZONE has been submitted to Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex on October 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Sub Thirty Ventures, LLC - Brett Deibert/Brock Ball

Description of property: Lot 2, "Greg Hoffman Addition" in the E1/2 of Section 14-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota

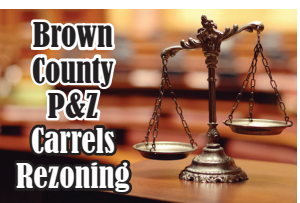
Reason: Rezone parcel from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Lake Front Residential District (R-3) backlot without a residence to bring this parcel into compliance for its future use.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed rezone petition. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission will forward a recommendation to the Board of Brown County Commissioner's with a future meeting date in the Commission Chambers. Verify the meeting dates with the Brown County Auditor.

Dated this 8th day of October 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144

Published once in the "Groton Independent" at the total approximate cost of \$15.40 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26076



NOTICE OF HEARING
A PETITION to REZONE has been submitted to Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex on October 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Michael Carrels
Description of property: Lot 1, "Jerke's First Addition" in the SE1/4 of Section 24-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota.

Reason: Rezone parcel from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Lake Front Residential District (R-3) backlot without a residence to bring this parcel into compliance for its future use.

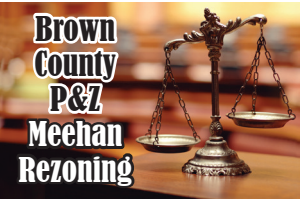
The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed rezone petition. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission will forward a recommendation to the Board of Brown County Commissioner's with a future meeting date in the Commission Chambers. Verify the meeting dates with the Brown County Auditor.

Dated this 8th day of October 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and

Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144

Published once in the "Groton Independent" at the total approximate cost of \$14.77 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26077



NOTICE OF HEARING
A PETITION to REZONE has been submitted to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex on October 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Owner / Petitioner: Vision Quest Real Estate LLC / Brad Meehan

Description of property: Lot 5C, "Gederos' Replat of Lots 5 & 7 of Evelo's Outlots" in the SE1/4 of Section 35-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota

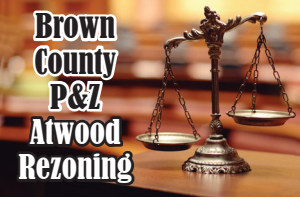
Reason: Rezone parcel from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed rezone petition. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission will forward a recommendation to the Board of Brown County Commissioner's with a future meeting date in the Commission Chambers. Verify the meeting dates with the Brown County Auditor.

Dated this 8th day of October 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144

Published once in the "Groton Independent" at the total approximate cost of \$ 16.02 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26078



NOTICE OF HEARING
A PETITION to REZONE has been submitted to Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex on October 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Sea Atwood

Description of property: Lot 1, "Lowary Family First Addition" in the NE1/4 of Section 27-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown

County, South Dakota (2208 S Highway 281; Aberdeen Twp.).

Reason: Rezone parcel from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Highway Commercial District (HC) to bring this parcel into compliance for its future use.

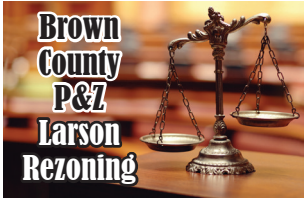
The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed rezone petition. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission will forward a recommendation to the Board of Brown County Commissioner's with a future meeting date in the Commission Chambers. Verify the meeting dates with the Brown County Auditor.

Dated this 8th day of October 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and

Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144

Published once in the "Groton Independent" at the total approximate cost of \$ 14.77 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26079



NOTICE OF HEARING
A PETITION to REZONE has been submitted to Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex on October 21, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Paul Larson

Description of property: Proposed Lot 1, "Paul Larson Second Addition" in the E1/2 of the SE1/4 of Section 6-T122N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13653 389th Avenue; Warner Twp.).

Reason: Rezone parcel from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use.

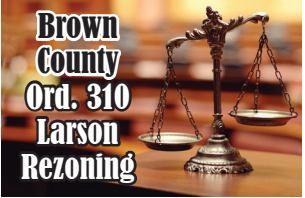
The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed rezone petition. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission will forward a recommendation to the Board of Brown County Commissioner's with a future meeting date in the Commission Chambers. Verify the meeting dates with the Brown County Auditor.

Dated this 8th day of October 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and

Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144

Published once in the "Groton Independent" at the total approximate cost of \$15.40 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26080



ORDINANCE #310
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES AS AMENDED TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that Ordinance #310, An Ordinance Amending Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended to rezone the following described property filed by petitioner Paul Larson was duly adopted by the Board of Brown County Commissioners on the 30th day of September 2025 and will become effective on the 28th of October 2025.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended to change the zoning on the following described property from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use.

Description of property: Proposed Lot 1, "Paul Larson First Addition" in the E1/2 of the

SE1/4 of Section 6-T122N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13653 389th Avenue; Warner Twp.).

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.

Passed and adopted this 30th day of September 2025.

Duane Sutton, Brown County Commission Chairman

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Notice of Hearing: September 3, 2025

First Reading: September 16, 2025

Second Reading/Adoption: September 30, 2025

Published: October 8-9, 2025

Effective Date: October 28, 2025

Published once in the "Groton Independent" at the total approximate cost of \$21.36 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26081



NOTICE OF HEARING OF THE BROWN COUNTY COMMISSION REGARDING AN AMENDMENT TO BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCE, TITLE 4

A public hearing will be held by the Brown County Board of Commissioners on the 21st day of October 2025 to consider an ordinance amendment to Wind Energy Systems (WES) to the Brown County Title 4 Zoning Ordinances by replacing: Chapter 4.36, Wind Energy System (WES) with the proposed changes: All Adopted by Ordinances #302, as amended in Title 4 Zoning Ordinance of Brown County South Dakota. The proposed ordinance will be made available for public inspection at the Brown County Auditor's Office or Brown County Planning and Zoning Office during regular business hours.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 302.

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published once in the "Groton Independent" at the total approximate cost of \$12.57 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26082



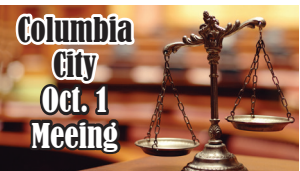
NOTICE OF HEARING OF THE BROWN COUNTY COMMISSION REGARDING AN AMENDMENT TO BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCE, TITLE 4

A public hearing will be held by the Brown County Board of Commissioners on the 21st day of October 2025 to consider a new ordinance, Data Center being added to the Brown County Title 4 Zoning Ordinances of Brown County, Chapter 4.01 – Definitions; Chapter 4.16 – H-I District; An Addition to Title 4 Zoning Ordinances of Brown County with Chapter 4.38 – Data Centers; All Adopted by Ordinances #303, as amended in Title 4 Zoning Ordinance of Brown County South Dakota. The proposed ordinance will be made available for public inspection at the Brown County Auditor's Office or Brown County Planning and Zoning Office during regular business hours.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 303.

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published once in the "Groton Independent" at the total approximate cost of \$13.20 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26083



City of Columbia Council Meeting – October 1, 2025

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL –Dana Mohr, Cara Dennert, Scott Meints, Sam Hoppock, Trevor Meints, Jeremy Dosch

Community: Lisa Mohr, Pam Blair, Bill & Michelle Johnson

Mayor Dana Mohr called the meeting to order. Dana called for a motion to approve the agenda. Trevor Meints made a motion to approve the agenda. Jeremy Dosch seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried. Dana called for any conflict of interest on agenda items. There were no conflicts.

Minutes were handed out from the September 8th meeting. Scott Meints made a motion to approve the minutes. Sam Hoppock seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried. Minutes were handed out from the special September 22nd meeting. Scott Meints made a motion to approve the minutes. Sam Hoppock seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

Warrant Vouchers JVT – fire prevention – 213.01; Jeremy Dosch– September wages -884.04; Cara Dennert – September wages– 1317.60; Dana Mohr – 3rd quarter wages – 362.34; Trevor Meints – 3rd quarter wages – 255.29; Sam Hoppock - 3rd quarter wages – 296.46; Jeremy Dosch - 3rd quarter wages – 255.29; Scott Meints - 3rd quarter wages – 296.46; SD Unemployment Insurance – insurance –40.09; United States Treasury – 3rd quarter 941 – 2386.56; GDI – Sept. publication – 42.13; Runnings – shop supplies – 29.27; United States Treasury – 1st quarter penalty – 345.86

Scott Meints made a motion to approve the vouchers. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All in favor - motion carried.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE: - e-mail from Mary Stotz USDA Rural Development regarding quarterly payments for outstanding loans; e-mail from Casey Kahler regarding loan for sewer project

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- Ted Dickey from NECOG worked on the resolution that we need to publish so that we can finalize our loan for the upcoming sewer project. The council reviewed the resolution. Sam Hoppock made a motion to accept and publish the resolution. Jeremy Dosch seconded the motion. All were in favor - motion carried.

Nuisances – There have been issues with residents violating dog ordinances in town. The board discussed how best to handle the situation. There are thoughts about adopting Brown County's dog ordinance. This will be further discussed at next month's meeting.

Streets – Dana will contact the blade contractor to work the roads one more time before winter. The contractor will talk to Jeremy as to some specifics that need to be completed.

Parks – Jeremy is continuing to work on the filter issue. He would also like to get some water samples taken before winter. There are more new trees coming in before winter as well.

Lagoon/Sewer-no report
Rubble Site – The site needs to be cleaned up a bit.

NEW BUSINESS The issue of mosquito control was brought to the board. We are spraying the town on days that the Brown County Weed & Pest advises. There is a lot of coordinating through weather conditions, West Nile counts, etc. Many surrounding communities use their services. Trevor Meints made a motion to go into executive session to discuss city attorney and sewer project contracts. Scott Meints seconded the motion. Executive Session started at 7:25pm. Council came out of executive session at 8:10 pm. The council approved proposed contracts for property owners involved with the sewer project. Trevor Meints made a motion to go ahead with the proposed contracts. Sam Hoppock seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT –

Cara presented bank balances. Trevor Meints made a motion to accept the financial reports as given. Sam Hoppock

Continues on next page

seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

September 30, 2025, balances: SF - \$ 96,070.02; SF Money Market –\$ 152,998.89; GF - \$ 178,056.71; GF Money Market - \$ 51,337.22; CD Money Market - \$ 41,690.97

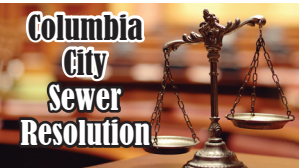
FIT - \$16,032.10; Cash on hand - \$0

Mayor Mohr adjourned the meeting.

Next City Council Meeting – Wednesday, November 5th, 2025 – 7:00 p.m

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

Published once in the “Groton Independent” at the total approximate cost of \$42.98 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26084



RESOLUTION NO. 25-02

RESOLUTION GIVING APPROVAL TO CERTAIN SEWER FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS; GIVING APPROVAL TO THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A REVENUE BOND TO FINANCE, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, THE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE FACILITIES; APPROVING THE FORM OF THE LOAN AGREEMENT AND THE REVENUE BOND AND PLEDGING PROJECT REVENUES AND COLLATERAL TO SECURE THE PAYMENT OF THE REVENUE BOND; AND CREATING SPECIAL FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS FOR OPERATION OF THE SYSTEM AND RETIREMENT OF THE REVENUE BOND AND PROVIDING FOR A SEGREGATED SPECIAL CHARGE OR SURCHARGE FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS.

WHEREAS, one of the purposes of SDCL Chapter 9-40 (the “Act”) as found and determined by the Legislature is to provide for financing the acquisition, maintenance, operation, extension or improvement of any system or part of any system for the collection, treatment and disposal of sewage and other domestic, commercial and industrial wastes; or any system for the control of floods and drainage; or any combination thereof, together with extensions, additions, and necessary appurtenances; and,

WHEREAS, a municipality is authorized by Section 6 of the Act to issue revenue bonds to defray the cost of extensions, additions and improvements to any utility previously owned without pledging its credit and is authorized to pledge the net income or revenues from the Project in accordance with Section 15 of the Act; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia currently operates a sewer system for the collection, treatment and disposal of sewage and other domestic, commercial and industrial wastes; and for the control of floods and drainage and has determined that improvements to the sewer facilities are necessary for the conduct of its governmental programs and qualifies as an improvement, extension or addition to its sewer system; and,

WHEREAS, the City has determined to issue its revenue bonds to finance the improvements to its sewer system for the purpose of collecting, treating and disposing of sewage and other domestic, commercial and industrial wastes (the “System”) and has applied to the South Dakota Conservancy District (the “District”) for a Clean Water State

Revolving Fund Loan to finance the improvements;

WHEREAS, the City shall adopt special rates or surcharges for the improvements to be pledged, segregated and used for the payment of the Bonds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City as follows:

SECTION 1. Definitions. The terms when used in this Resolution shall have the following meanings set forth in this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise. All terms used in this Resolution which are not defined herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Loan Agreement unless the context clearly otherwise requires.

“Act” means South Dakota Codified Laws Chapter 9-40.

“Loan” means the Loan made by the South Dakota Conservancy District to the City pursuant to the terms of the Loan Agreement and as evidenced by the Revenue Bond.

“Project” means the City of Columbia Wastewater Improvement Project.

“Revenue Bond” means the revenue bond or bonds issued the date of the Loan Agreement by the City to the South Dakota Conservancy District to evidence the City’s obligation to repay the principal of and pay interest and Administrative Expense Surcharge on the Loan.

“System” means the City’s system of collecting, treating and disposing of sewage and other domestic, commercial and industrial wastes.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Necessity and Findings.

2.1.1. Declaration of Necessity. The City hereby determines and declares it is necessary to construct and finance improvements to its System described as the Project.

2.2. Findings. The City does hereby find as follows:

2.2.1. The City hereby expressly finds that if the Project is not undertaken, the System will pose a health hazard to the City and its inhabitants and will make the City unable to comply with state and federal law.

2.2.2. Because of the functional interdependence of the various portions of the System, the fact that the System may not lawfully operate unless it complies with State and federal laws, including SDCL Chapter 34A-2, and the federal Clean Water Act, and the nature of the improvements financed, the City hereby finds and determines that the Project will substantially benefit the entire System and all of its users within the meaning of Sections 15 and 17 of the Act.

2.2.3. The City hereby determines and finds that for the purposes of the Act, including, in particular, Sections 15 and 17 of the Act, only the net income from the Project financed by the Revenue Bond be pledged for its payment.

SECTION 3. Authorization of Loan, Pledge of Revenue and Security.

3.1. Authorization of Loan. The City hereby determines and declares it necessary to finance up to \$3,700,000 of the costs of the Project through the issuance of bonds payable from the revenue of the Project and other funds secured by the City. The City hereby determines that because the Revenue Bond is issued in connection with a financing agreement described in SDCL 46A-1-49, pursuant to Section 15 of the Act no election is required to issue the Revenue Bond.

3.2. Approval of Loan Agreement. The execution and delivery of the Revenue Obligation Loan Agreement (the “Loan Agreement”), the form of which is on file with the Finance Officer (the “Finance Officer”) and open to public inspection, between the City as Borrower and the District, is hereby in all respects authorized,

approved and confirmed, and the Mayor and Finance Officer are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Loan Agreement in the form and content attached hereto, with such changes as the Attorney for the City deems appropriate and approves, for and on behalf of the City. The Mayor and Finance Officer are hereby further authorized and directed to implement and perform the covenants and obligations of the City set forth in or required by the Loan Agreement. The Loan Agreement herein referred to and made a part of this Resolution is on file in the office of the Finance Officer and is available for inspection by any interested party.

3.3. Approval of Revenue Bond. The issuance of a revenue bond in a principal amount not to exceed \$3,700,000 as determined according to the Loan Agreement in the form and content set forth in Appendix B attached to the form of Loan Agreement (the “Revenue Bond”) shall be and the same is, in all respects, hereby authorized, approved, and confirmed and the Mayor, Finance Officer, and other appropriate officials shall be and are hereby authorized and directed to execute and seal the Revenue Bond and deliver the Revenue Bond to the District, for and on behalf of the City, upon receipt of the purchase price, and to use the proceeds thereof in the manner set forth in the Loan Agreement. The Mayor and Finance Officer are hereby authorized to approve the final terms of the Revenue Bond and their execution and delivery thereof shall evidence that approval. The Revenue Bond shall be issued under the authority of SDCL Chapter 9-40 and SDCL Chapter 6-8B, and the provisions of the Act are hereby expressly incorporated herein as provided in Section 19 of the Act.

3.4. Pledge of Revenues. The Revenue Bond together with the interest thereon, shall not constitute a charge against the City’s general credit or taxing power, but shall be a limited obligation of the City payable solely out of the Project Debt Service Account, which payments, revenues and receipts are hereby and in the Loan Agreement pledged and assigned for the equal and ratable payments of the Revenue Bond and shall be used for no other purpose than to pay the principal of, interest and Administrative Surcharge on the Revenue Bond, except as may be otherwise expressly authorized in the Loan Agreement (including the purpose of securing Additional Bonds issued as permitted by the terms thereof). The City covenants and agrees to charge rates for all services from the Project or establish special charges or surcharges which will be sufficient to provide for the payments upon the Revenue Bond issued hereunder as and when the same become due, and as may be necessary to provide for the operation and maintenance and repairs of the Project, and depreciation, and the Rate Resolution shall be revised from time to time so as to produce these amounts. The City hereby reserves the right to determine on a periodic basis the appropriate allocation of operation and maintenance expenses, depreciation, repair and reserves associated with the facilities financed with the Revenue Bond, provided that such determination of allocable operation and maintenance expenses shall in no event abrogate, abridge or otherwise contravene the covenant of the City set forth in this Section 3 or any other covenant or agreement in the Loan Agreement.

SECTION 4. Special Charge or Surcharge for Revenue Bond.

4.1. The City does hereby create the Revenue Bond Special-Surcharge District (the “Surcharge District”) which shall include all users which benefit from the Project. There shall be charged a special charge or surcharge pursuant to Section 15 of the Act for the services provided by Project financed by the Revenue Bond. The special charge or surcharge shall be segregated from other revenues of the System and shall be used for the payment of the Revenue Bond. The special charge or surcharge shall create net income, remaining from time to time after first paying all reasonable and current expenses of maintenance, repairs, replacements and operation, sufficient to fund interest, reserve and debt service fund annual requirements and shall be 110% of the debt service requirements on the

Revenue Bond.

4.2. Rates and collection. The rate herein specific will be collected as a special charge or surcharge for the Project. This special charge or surcharge shall remain in effect until such time as the Revenue Bond is defeased or paid in full.

4.3. Initial Surcharge. The initial special charge or surcharge shall be set by resolution and collected at the same time as other charges of the utility. All users within the Surcharge District which benefit from the Project, current and future, shall be charged the special charge or surcharge. The special charge or surcharge is found to be equitable for the services provided by the Project. The special charge or surcharge shall begin at such time as will produce sufficient revenue to pay principal of, interest and Administrative Surcharge on the Revenue Bond when due.

4.4. Segregation. The Finance Officer shall set up book-keeping accounts in accordance with South Dakota Legislative Audit guidelines for the segregation of the revenue, special charges and surcharges.

4.5. Periodic review. The amount of the surcharge shall be reviewed from time to time, not less than yearly, and shall be modified in order to produce such funds as are necessary and required to comply with the Loan Agreement’s rate covenant and to pay principal of, interest and Administrative Surcharge on the Revenue Bond when due. The surcharge may be set by resolution in accordance with this Section. The rate resolution shall be necessary for the support of government and shall be effective upon passage.

SECTION 5. Additional Bonds. As permitted by Sections 8 and 9 of the Act, Additional Bonds payable from revenues and income of the System or Project may be issued, as permitted in the Loan Agreement, and no provision of this Resolution shall have the effect of restricting the issuance of, or impairing the lien of, such additional parity bonds with respect to the net revenues or income from the extensions, additions or improvements. The City shall have the right to issue additional bonds secured by a lien subordinate to the lien from the Revenue Bond pursuant to the Loan Agreement.

SECTION 6. Project Fund Accounts. For the purpose of application and proper allocation of the income of the Project and to secure the payment of principal, Administrative Surcharge and interest on the Revenue Bond, the following mandatory asset segregations shall be included in the sewer system account of the City and shall be used solely for the following respective purposes until payment in full of the principal of and interest on the Revenue Bond:

6.1. Project Revenue Account. There shall be deposited periodically into the Project Revenue Account the net revenues as defined in Section 17 of the Act derived from the operation of the Project collected pursuant to the resolutions and ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Dakota (collectively the “Rate Resolution”). Moneys from the Project Revenue Account shall be transferred periodically into separate funds and accounts as provided below.

6.2. Project Debt Service Account. Out of the revenues in the Project Revenue Account, there shall be set aside no later than the 25th day of each month into the account designated Project Debt Service Account, a sum sufficient to provide for the payment as the same become due of the next maturing principal of, interest and Administrative Surcharge on the Revenue Bonds and any reserve determined by the City’s governing body to be necessary. The amount set aside monthly shall be not less than one-third of the total principal, interest, and Administrative Surcharge payable on the following February 15, May 15, August 15 or November 15 and if there shall be any deficiency in the amount previously set aside, then the amount of such deficiency shall be added to the current requirement.

6.3. Depreciation Account. There shall be established a General Depreciation Account. Out of the revenues of the Project Revenue Account there shall be set aside each month into the General Depreciation Account an amount determined by the Common Council to be a proper and adequate amount for repair and depreciation of the Project.

6.4. Project Surplus Account. There shall be established the Project Surplus Account. Rev-

enues remaining in the Project Revenue Account at the end of any fiscal year after all periodic transfers have been made therefrom as above required, shall be deemed to be surplus and shall be transferred to the Project Surplus Account. If at any time there shall exist any default in making any periodic transfer to the Project Debt Service Account, the Common Council shall authorize the Finance Officer to rectify such default so far as possible by the transfer of money from the Project Surplus Account. If any such default shall exist as to more than one account or fund at any time, then such transfer shall be made in the order such funds and accounts are listed above.

When not required to restore a current deficiency in the Project Debt Service Account, moneys in the Project Surplus Account from time to time may be used for any of the following purposes and not otherwise:

(a) To redeem and prepay the Revenue Bond when and as such Revenue Bond becomes prepayable according to its terms;

(b) To pay for repairs of or for the construction and installation of improvements or additions to the System; and, if the balances in the Project Debt Service Account and the Project Depreciation Account are sufficient to meet all payments required or reasonably anticipated to be made there from prior to the end of the then current fiscal year, then:

(c) To be held as a reserve for redemption and prepayment of any bonds of the System which are not then but will later be prepayable according to their terms; or

(d) To be used for any other authorized municipal purpose designated by the Common Council.

(e) No moneys shall at any time be transferred from the Project Surplus Account or any other account of the Fund to any other fund of the City, nor shall such moneys at any time be loaned to other municipal funds or invested in warrants, special improvements bonds or other obligations payable from other funds, except as provided in this Section.

SECTION 7. Approval of Paying Agent/Registrar. The Revenue Bond shall be payable at the office of U.S. Bank National Association, St. Paul, Minnesota, hereby designated as paying agent and registrar.

SECTION 8. Approval of Bond Counsel. Meierhenry Sargent LLP is hereby retained as Bond Counsel with respect to the Revenue Bond.

SECTION 9. Tax Matters. The Interest on the Revenue Bond shall be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (“the Code”) and applicable Treasury Regulations (the “Regulations”).

SECTION 10. Covenants. The City hereby covenants and agrees with the District and other owners of the Revenue Bond as follows:

10.1. The City will punctually perform all duties with reference to the Project, the System and the Revenue Bond required by the constitution and laws of the State of South Dakota and by this Resolution.

10.2. The City agrees and covenants that it will promptly construct the improvements included in the Project.

10.3. The City covenants and agrees that pursuant to Sections 25 through 27 of the Act, the lawful holders of the Revenue Bond shall have a statutory mortgage lien upon the Project and the extensions, additions and improvements thereto acquired pursuant to the Act, until the payment in full of the principal and interest on the Revenue Bond, and the City agrees not to sell or otherwise dispose of the System, the Project, or any substantial part thereof, except as provided in the Loan Agreement and shall not establish, authorize or grant a franchise for the operation of any other utility supplying like products or services in competition therewith, or permit any person, firm or corporation to compete with it in the distribution of water for municipal, industrial, and domestic purposes within the City.

10.4. The City covenants and agrees with the District and other owners of the Revenue Bond that it will maintain the System in good condition and operate the same in an efficient manner and at a reasonable cost, so long as any portion of the Revenue Bond remains outstanding; that it will maintain insurance on the

System for the benefit of the holders of the Revenue Bond in an amount which usually would be carried by private companies in a similar type of business; that it will prepare, keep and file records, statements and accounts as provided for in this Resolution and the Loan Agreement. The Revenue Bond shall refer expressly to this Resolution and the Act and shall state that it is subject to all provisions and limitations thereof pursuant to Section 19 of the Act.

SECTION 11. Depositories. The Finance Officer shall cause all moneys pertaining to the Funds and Accounts to be deposited as received with one or more banks which are duly qualified public depositories under the provisions of SDCL Ch. 4-6A, in a deposit account or accounts, which shall be maintained separate and apart from all other accounts of the City, so long as any of the Bonds and the interest thereon shall remain unpaid. Any of such moneys not necessary for immediate use may be deposited with such depository banks in savings or time deposits. No money shall at any time be withdrawn from such deposit accounts except for the purposes of the Funds and Accounts as authorized in this Resolution; except that moneys from time to time on hand in the Funds and Accounts may at any time, in the discretion of the City’s governing body, be invested in securities permitted by the provisions of SDCL 4-5-6; provided, however, that the Depreciation Fund may be invested in such securities maturing not later than ten years from the date of the investment. Income received from the deposit or investment of moneys shall be credited to the Fund or Account from whose moneys the deposit was made or the investment was purchased, and handled and accounted for in the same manner as other moneys therein.

SECTION 12. Consent to Appointment. In the event of mismanagement of the Project, a default in the payment of the principal or interest of the Revenue Bond, or in any other condition thereof materially affecting the lawful holder of the Revenue Bond, or if the revenues of the Project are dissipated, wasted or diverted from their proper application as set forth in the Loan Agreement, Revenue Bond, or herein, the City hereby consents to the appointment of a receiver pursuant to Section 33 of the Act, and agrees that the receiver will have the powers set forth therein, and in Sections 34 and 35 of the Act to operate and administer the Project, and charge and collect rates as described therein.

SECTION 13. Severability. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Resolution, the Loan Agreement, the Revenue Bond, or any other Loan Document shall be held invalid, the invalidity of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the other provisions of this Resolution or said Loan Agreement, Revenue Bond, or any other Loan Document.

SECTION 14. Repeal of Resolution. At such time as the Revenue Bond is defeased or paid in full, this Resolution and the special charge or surcharge shall automatically be repealed without any further action of the City.

SECTION 15. Authorization of City Officials. The Mayor, Finance Officer, City Attorney and City officials shall be and they are hereby authorized to execute and deliver for and on behalf of the City any and all other certificates, documents or other papers and to perform such other acts as they may deem necessary or appropriate in order to implement and carry out the actions authorized herein.

SECTION 16. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect on the 20th day following its publication, unless suspended by a referendum.

Adopted at Columbia, South Dakota, this ____1__ day of __October__ 2025.

APPROVED:
Mayor
(SEAL)
Attest:
Finance Officer
First reading: Oct. 1, 2025
Published: Oct. 8, 2025
Effective: Oct. 21, 2025

Published once in the “Groton Independent” at the total approximate cost of \$235.01 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26085



SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 – GENERAL MEETING

Meeting called to order by Chairman Sutton at 8:45 A.M. in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Dennert, Dinger, Gage, and Sutton. Commissioner Wiese was absent. Commissioner Gage led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to approve the agenda. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None
AMEND AGENDA FROM SEPTEMBER 23, 2025: There was a typo on the September 23rd agenda. Under the Consent Calendar it should have been September 16th minutes, which is what was in the packet not September 2nd. Moved by Commissioner Dinger to amend the agenda from September 23rd to show the correct date for the minutes of September 16th. Seconded by Gage. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #310 – SECOND READING/POSSIBLE ADOPTION: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to adopt Ordinance #310. Applicant Paul Larson to rezone from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use. Description of property: Proposed Lot 1, "Paul Larson First Addition" in the E1/2 of the SE1/4 of Section 6-T122N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13653 389th Avenue; Warner Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

APPOINT BOARD MEMBER FOR CLAREMONT FIRE DISTRICT: Claremont Area Fire District had a vacancy come up on their Board of Directors. Under SDCL 34-31A-15.1 the Board of County Commissioners are entrusted with filling the vacancy on a Rural Fire Protection District. William Colby Crawford was recommended by the Claremont Area Fire Board of Directors. Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Dennert to approve appointing William Colby Crawford to the Claremont Area Fire Protection District Board of Directors. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Marshall County Commissioners will also need to approve of the appointment.

ADOPT RESOLUTION #2025-48 FOR FY2026 BUDGET: Commissioner Gage offered the following Resolution:

ANNUAL BUDGET FOR BROWN COUNTY, SD

For the Year January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2025

RESOLUTION #2025-48

ADOPTION OF ANNUAL BUDGET FOR BROWN COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

WHEREAS, (7-21-5 thru 13), SDCL provides that the Board of County Commissioners shall each year prepare a Provisional Budget of all contemplated expenditures and revenues of the County and all its institutions and agencies for such fiscal year and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners did prepare a Provisional Budget and cause same to be published by law, and WHEREAS, due and legal notice has been given to the meeting of the Board of County Commissioners for the consideration of such Provisional Budget, and all changes, eliminations and additions have been made thereto.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that such Provisional Budget as amended and all its purposes, schedules, appropriations, amounts, estimates and all matters therein set forth. SHALL BE APPROVED AND ADOPTED AS THE ANNUAL BUDGET ON THE APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURES FOR BROWN COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA and all its institutions and agencies for calendar year beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2026 and the same is hereby approved and adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Brown County, South Dakota this 30th day of September.

The Annual Budget so adopted is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the office of the County Auditor,

Brown County, South Dakota. The accompanying taxes are levied by Brown County for the year January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

COUNTY TAX LEVIES WITHIN LIMITED LEVY: Dollars –\$/1,000

*General County Purposes (10-12-9): \$18,835,723.00 -3.385

* County Road & Bridge (10-12-13) \$ 2,171,370.00- 0.390

TOTAL TAXES LEVIED BY COUNTY: \$21,007,093.00 -3.775

*These amounts include the 25% to be distributed to cities.

Seconded by Commissioner Dennert.

Roll call vote: Dennert-aye; Dinger-aye; Gage-aye; Sutton-aye; Wiese-absent. Resolution adopted.

HIGHWAY 5-YEAR PLAN: Time and place, as advertised to discuss and receive public comment on the 5-year County Highway and Bridge Improvement Plan. Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent, presented his 5-year plan to the Commission outlining plans for 2026-2030. Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to acknowledge and approve the 5-year County Highway and Bridge Improvement Plan. All members voting aye. Motion carried.

Scott Solberg asked about the Richmond Dam project. Dirk informed him that the Dam and Spillway are all encompassed in the whole project. Chairman Sutton shared that at the meeting they said the Dam in 2026 and the Spillway in 2027.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent, informed the Commission they are still paving on 27 then will go to Bridge 21 then will do the North Parking Lot across from the Courthouse. They still have some patching and mowing to do. Dirk shared that the James River 40' below crest and Crow Creek is 38', slowly going down but there is a lot of water moving through at this time. Dirk notified the Commission that there will be a bill coming through for \$26,400 to Ducks Unlimited because of the Sand Lake Bridge project we needed to purchase 1.1 acres of Wetland credits. Dirk explained the background on the Wetland process and stated that you are still able to mitigate, which is a little cheaper but takes between 6-7 years. Commissioner Gage asked if this was something new with the purchasing of wetlands and due to a new project? Dirk explained there is a lot that goes into this scenario, but he believes there is a wetland bank to be able to purchase what is needed. Commissioner Gage asked if the bridge is that much bigger that we need the 1.1 acres and Dirk explained it is due to having to go down and dig out the footings for the Bridge, which affect the wetlands.

Commissioner Gage asked if they were done striping because at the 14 / 12 Junction by RDO it has worn off so wondering if they could update that. Dirk said he would contact State D.O.T. to see if they would take care of it. **MINUTES:** Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to approve the General Meeting Minutes of September 23, 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to approve the following claims: Professional Fees: Aberdeen Advanced Care Ambulance \$996.66; Aberdeen Fire Rescue \$298.00; Avera Medical Group Radiology \$300.06; Avera St Luke's \$398.78; Avera St. Luke's Hospital \$397.36; Brick's TV and Appliance \$1,987.50; Carrels & Bain Family Dental Care, LLC \$1,632.68; CenturyLink-Lumen \$208.98; Christy Griffin-Serr Law Office \$5,250.00; City of Redfield \$147.77; Cogley Law Office, Prof LLC \$3,948.00; Dependable Sanitation, Inc \$48,288.00; Dohrer Law Office, PC \$468.00; Modern Day Health Care Prof LLC \$900.17; Saber Shred Solutions \$2,747.76; Sanford Clinic \$1,415.67; Sara Zahn \$34.00; Taliaferro Law Firm, PC \$8,336.50. Publishing: McQuillen Creative Group, Inc \$163.54. Repairs & Maintenance: Gary's Auto Body & Accessories \$960.98; Huff Construction Inc \$5,000.00; Ken's Alignment \$170.00; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$99.42; SD Dept of Public Safety \$2,340.00. Supplies: Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$284.95; American AED \$1,261.00; Dakota Supply Group \$4.94; Geffdog Designs \$60.00; Hillyard Sioux Falls \$61.79; House of Glass \$120.05; Howmedica Osteonics

Corp \$97.25; Menards \$156.65; Midstates Group \$334.94; Quality Welding, Inc \$145.60; Sanders's Sew-N-Vac \$179.47. Travel & Conference: Duane Sutton \$521.90; Holiday Inn City Centre Sioux Falls \$2,780.00; Kent Karlen \$14.00; Linda Marcuson \$14.00; Neil Bittner \$14.00; Pennington County Jail \$153.65; Safety Benefits Inc \$75.00. Utilities: Northwest Western Energy \$12,614.22; T-Mobile USA Inc \$1,234.65. Other: Transsource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$883,450.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Allison Tunheim:

o Resignation of Milton Gonzales Sambolin as Brown County Jail Detention Officer: FT – effective October 14, 2025. Request to fill.

o Hiring of Jason Kumpf as Brown County Fair & Park Maintenance Technician: FT – starting wage \$23.04/hr. – effective October 9, 2025.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Auditor Heupel to sign the Claim Assignments against individuals to Credit Collections Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the following Travel Requests: Pat Wolberg, IT Director to attend SD Secure DSU Incident Response Plan Workshop on Sept. 29 – Oct. 1, 2025 in Rapid City; Lynn Heupel, Auditor to attend Election Committee meeting with Municipalities & Schools on October 9, 2025 in Pierre; C. Scott Bader, Planning & Zoning Director to attend FEMA Managing Floodplain Development CEU on October 20-24, 2025 in Sioux Falls; Russell Metz, Equalization Deputy Director to attend SDAAO Education & Executive Board meeting on October 22, 2025 in Pierre; Randy Zens, Assistant Building Superintendent to attend 2025 Safety & Loss Control Conference on November 12-13, 2025 in Pierre. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENT: Moved by Commission Dennert, seconded by Dinger to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the following lease agreement: Steve Streier to lease the Club House from October 11-14, 2025 for a Wedding. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ZONING ORDINANCES – SET HEARING DATE/AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING:

• Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to set hearing date and authorize publication for the first reading of the Revised Ordinance #302 – Wind Energy Systems to be held on the 21st day of October 2025 in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota. An ordinance amendment to Wind Energy Systems (WES) to the Brown County Title 4 Zoning Ordinances by replacing: Chapter 4.36, Wind Energy System (WES) with the proposed changes: All Adopted by Ordinances #302, as amended in Title 4 Zoning Ordinance of Brown County South Dakota. The proposed ordinance will be made available for public inspection at the Brown County Auditor's Office or Brown County Planning and Zoning Office during regular business hours. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

• Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to set hearing date and authorize publication for the first reading of the Revised Ordinance #303 – Data Centers to be held on the 21st day of October 2025 in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota. To consider a new ordinance, Data Center being added to the Brown County Title 4 Zoning Ordinances of Brown County, Chapter 4.01 – Definitions; Chapter 4.16 – H-I District; An Addition to Title 4 Zoning Ordinances of Brown County with Chapter 4.38 – Data Centers; All Adopted by Ordinances #303, as amended in Title 4 Zoning Ordinance of Brown County South Dakota. The proposed ordinance will be made available for public inspection at the Brown County Auditor's Office or Brown County Planning and Zoning Office during regular business hours. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to go into Executive Session for Personnel and Legal per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

The Chair declared the executive session closed with No Action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Dennert to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:24 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published October 8, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$121.02 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublic-notices.com. 26086



NOTICE TO RODEO STOCK CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Brown County Courthouse Annex, 25 Market Street, Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota; until the hour of 8:45 A.M. on October 21, 2025, at said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners for: Project – Rodeo Stock Contractor in years 2026, 2027, and 2028 at the Dacotah Bank Stampede Rodeo at the Brown County Fair located on the Brown County Fairgrounds, 400 24th Ave. NW, Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed to the following:

Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street, Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401

And the envelope marked with:

"Brown County Fair Rodeo Stock Contractor"

Received by 8:45 A.M. on Tuesday, October 21, 2025.

CONTRACT: Brown County will give notice to the successful

bidder that the proposal has been accepted and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County. The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids that they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County, and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise and State Sales Tax. Copies of the specifications can be obtained at no charge and are on file at the following locations:

• Website: <https://www.brown.sd.us/brown-county-bids>

• Brown County Fair Office: 400 24th Ave. NW, Aberdeen, SD 57401 / Ph: 605-626-7116

• Brown County Auditor's Office: 25 Market Street, Ste. 1, Aberdeen, SD 57401 / Ph: 605-626-7110

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published October 8, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$21.68 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublic-notices.com. 26087

Weekly SUDOKU

				5			4		9
			6			4	1	8	
1		8		9				3	5
7					3	5	4		
3	6		4			8			
4		5	8		7	9			3
	2			4	5			1	8
				3	2				
6				7	8	3	9		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

© 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- Surrenders
- Tennis match division
- Cover
- Fold
- Sch. founded by Jefferson
- Blackbird
- Shadow
- Utter disaster
- Author Lurie
- Bump into
- Soup cooker
- Cowboys quarterback Prescott
- Has an intense craving
- Actor Guinness
- Toothpaste holders
- Strange thing
- Deceived
- Welsh pooch
- Bargain
- "Downton —"
- ER workers
- Quilters' get-together
- Tragic king
- Rum cocktail
- TV anchor Norville
- "Glee" guitarist
- Packed away
- Historic period

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11
12						13				14		
15						16			17			
		18			19				20			
21	22			23				24				
25			26		27		28					
29				30		31				32	33	34
			35			36			37			
38	39	40				41		42		43		
44					45				46			
47				48				49			50	51
52				53				54				
55				56				57				

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 54 Property claims | 8 Bar bill | 33 — kwon do |
| 55 Radiator sound | 9 Shoe fasteners | 34 Flamenco cheer |
| 56 Tiara sparkler | 10 Cove | 36 Cracker type |
| 57 Stows cargo | 11 Losing ventures? | 38 Actors Robert and Alan |
| | 17 Tickled | 39 Borscht base |
| DOWN | 19 Nymph pursuer | 40 Innocents |
| 1 PC's brain | 21 Kung — chicken | 42 Play for time |
| 2 Shade tree | 22 Vintage | 45 Stallion's mate |
| 3 Battled verbally | 24 Floral garland | 46 Operatic solo |
| 4 — Grey tea | 26 Roman orator | 48 Rule, for short |
| 5 Composed | 28 Russian pancakes | 50 Chemical suffix |
| 6 Number puzzle | | 51 Curved letter |
| 7 Divisible by two | 30 Playpen item | |
| | 32 Deducted | |

© 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.



Upcoming Events

Wednesday, Sept. 8
Senior Menu: Oven fried chicken, sweet potatoes, green beans, pears, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Omelets.
School Lunch: Pasta primavera, cooked carrots.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 4 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:30 pm.
United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 5:30 p.m.
Groton C&MA: Kid's Club, Youth Group, Adult Bible Study, 7 p.m.
Fourth Grade GBB, 3:30 p.m.
Sixth Grade GBB, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 9
Senior Menu: Baked fish, au gratin potatoes, 3-bean salad, peach cobbler, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Biscuits.
School Lunch: Sloppy joe, tri taters.
Flu Shot at Groton Area, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Northeast Conference Cross Country Meet, 1 p.m. at Webster
Parent-Teacher Conferences, 1:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Third Grade GBB, 5 p.m.
Third through Sixth Grade GBB Skills, 6 p.m.
Groton Lions Club meeting, 6 p.m., at 104 N Main.

Friday, Sept. 10
NO SCHOOL
Senior Menu: Creamed chicken over biscuits, peas and carrots pineapple..
Lake Region Marching Festival, 10 a.m.
JV Football vs. Sisseton at Langford, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 11
Second Round Soccer Playoffs
Junior High Volleyball Tournament at Warner
Pumpkin Fest, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
United Methodist Charge Conference with lunch, noon.

Sunday, Oct. 12
Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship with communion, 9 a.m.; Sunday School 10:15 a.m.; Choir 6 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Worship St. John's, 9 a.m., and Zion, 11 a.m.
United Methodist: Worship at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton, 9:30 a.m.; at Britton, 11:15 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.
Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.
First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.
Groton CM&A: Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.
1st Grade GBB, 3:30 p.m.
2nd Grade GBB Practice, 6 p.m.
Dance Team Practice, 5 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 13
Native American Day
No School
Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.
4th Grade GBB, 4 p.m.
Volleyball hosts Britton-Hecla ((Gym: 7th-5, 8th-6; Arena: C-5, JV-6, V-7:15)
Senior Citizens meet at the Community Center, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct 14
Senior Menu: Baked chicken, mashed potatoes, cauliflower, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Muffins.
School Lunch: Pasta with meat sauce, corn.

8 ♦ Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Oct. 8, 2025

Emmanuel Lutheran: Council, 6 p.m.
5th Grade GBB, 4:15 p.m.
2027 Washington DC Informational Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 15
Senior Menu: Chili with beans, tossed salad, peaches, corn bread/muffin.
School Breakfast: Oatmeal.
School Lunch: Soup, ham and cheese sandwich.
Region 1A Cross Country Meet at Webster, 11 a.m.
6th Grade GBB, 6 p.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 4 p.m.; League, 6:30 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:45 p.m.
United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 5:30 p.m.; Groton Ad Council, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 16
Senior Menu: Baked meatballs with gravy, mashed potatoes, California blend, mixed fruit, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Maple French toast bake.
School Lunch: Chicken tacos, Fiesta beans.
Emmanuel Lutheran: WELCA: 1:30 p.m. Final Day of packing LWR kits. Hostess: Potluck.
Volleyball hosts Deuel: (Gym: 7th-5, 8th-6; Arena: C-5, JV-6, V-7:15)
4th Grade GBB, 4 p.m.
3rd Grade GBB, 5 p.m.
MS Football hosts Sisseton at Doney Field, 4 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 17
Senior Menu: Kielbasa with mac and cheese, Catalina blend, pears, dinner roll.
School Breakfast: Breakfast boats.
School Lunch: Garlic cheese bread, cooked carrots.
End of First Quarter
Football at Baltic, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 18
Boys and Girls Soccer Second Round Play-offs.
C and JV VB Tournament at Northwestern
Varsity VB Tournament at Milbank
United Methodist North HIghland Coat Give A Way, 9 a.m.

Sunday, Oct. 19
Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School 10:15 a.m.; Choir 6 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Worship with communion at St. John's, 9 a.m., and Zion, 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
United Methodist: Worship at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton, 9:30 a.m.; at Britton, 11:15 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.
Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.
First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.
Groton CM&A: Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.
2nd Grade GBB Practice, 4 p.m.
Dance Team Practice, 5 p.m.
5th Grade GBB Practice, 4 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 20
Senior Menu: Hot beef combination, mashed potatoes, carrots, mixed fruit.
School Breakfast: Eggs.
School Lunch: Corn dogs, baked beans.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.
1st Grade GBB Practice, 3:30 p.m.
Volleyball at Langford Area: (JH-4, JV-6:30, V-7:30)
Senior Citizens meet at the Community

Center, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 21
Senior Menu: Roast pork, baked potato, cauliflower, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Scones.
School Lunch: Pizza burger, waffle fries.
4th Grade GBB Practice, 3:30 p.m.
5th Grade GBB Practice, 4:14 p.m.
Volleyball hosts Northwestern Area: (Gym: 7th-5, 8th-6; Arena: C-5, JV-6, V-7:15)
City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 22
Senior Menu: Hamburger cabbage soup, chicken salad sandwich, Mandarin oranges, oatmeal raisin cookie.
School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza.
School Lunch: Mac and cheese, peas.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 4 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:45 p.m.
6th Grade GBB Practice, 6 p.m.
United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 23
Senior Menu: Goulash, green peas, apple crisp, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Cereal.
School Lunch: Burrito bowl.
3rd Grade GBB Practice, 5 p.m.
3rd-6th GBB Skills, 6 p.m.
First Round FB Playoffs, 7 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 24
Senior Menu: Parmesan chicken, creamy noodles, California blend, fruit cocktail.
School Breakfast: Egg wraps.
School Lunch: Cheese pizza, green beans.
Volleyball at Redfield: (Aux. Gym: 7th-5, 8th-6; Greeno Gym: C-5, JV-6, V-7:15)

Saturday, Oct. 25
State Cross Country Meet at Huron.

Sunday, Oct. 26
Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School 10:15 a.m.; Choir 6 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Worship at St. John's, 9 a.m., and Zion, 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
United Methodist: Worship at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton, 9:30 a.m.; at Britton, 11:15 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.
Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.
First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.
Groton CM&A: Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.
4th-6th GBB hosts Britton-Hecla, 2 p.m.
1st Grade GBB Practice, 3:30 p.m.
5th Grade GBB Practice, 4 p.m.
2nd Grade GBB Practice, 4 p.m.
Dance Team Practice, 5 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 27
Senior Menu: Chicken Alfredo with broccoli, fruit, breadstick.
School Breakfast: Stuffed bagels.
School Lunch: Hot dogs, fries.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.
Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center, potluck at noon.
4th Grade GBB Practice, 4 p.m.
Volleyball hosts Faulkton: (JV-6, V-7:15)

Tuesday, Oct. 28
Senior Menu: Turkey and swiss sandwich, baked beans, potato chips, tomato spoon salad, mixed fruit.
School Breakfast: Breakfast sliders.
School Lunch: Chicken nuggets, mixed vegetable.
5th Grade GBB practice, 4:15 p.m.
Volleyball host s Milbank: (Arena: C-5, JV-6, V-7:30)
FFA National Convention, Indianapolis, Ind.

Wednesday, Oct. 29
Senior Menu Tuna noodle casserole, peas, fruit cocktail, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Omelets.
School Lunch: Pizza crunchers, corn.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 4 p.m.
St. John’s Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:45 p.m.
United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 5:30 p.m.; UMYF, 6:15 p.m.
FCCLA Blood Drive, 8 a.m.
6th Grade GBB Practice, 6 p.m.
4th-6th Grade GBB hosts Britton-Hecla, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 30
Senior Menu: Baked lemon chicken, creamy noodles, tossed salad, fruit, dinner roll.
School Breakfast: Biscuits.

School Lunch: Chicken patty, mashed potatoes.
3rd Grade GBB Practice, 5 p.m.
Football Playoffs

Friday, Oct. 31
Senior Menu: Beef stew, waldorf salad, buttermilk biscuits.
School Breakfast: Doughnuts.
School Lunch: Witches brew, headstones (stew with biscuits).
St. John’s Lutheran: Reformation Day Service, 7 p.m.
United Methodist: Trunk or Treat, 5 p.m.
Downtown Trick or Treat, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

**Classifieds
and Card of Thanks**

The following rates are for Classifieds published in both the Groton Daily Independent and the Groton Independent. Cut rate in half if you just want it in the GDI or just the weekly.
1 Week: \$9 for first 30 words, 20¢/word thereafter
2 Wks: \$17 for first 30 words, 38¢/word thereafter
3 Wks: \$24 for first 30 words, 54¢/word thereafter
4th consecutive week is free
605/397-NEWS (6397)
PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445

AGRICULTURE

ATTENTION FARMERS seeing white mold in your fields? Noticing SDS? Share your location and enter to win FREE soybean seeds for 2026. Call Emily 605/290-8383

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STATEWIDE ATP PUBLIC MEETINGS: South Dakota Department of Transportation is developing a Statewide Active Transportation Plan (ATP). The Study Areas include all the State of South Dakota Highway Rights of Way. Public Meeting Open House Locations: Aberdeen – 5:30 P.M. CDT, Tuesday Oct. 14, 2025 – Best Western Ramkota Hotel, 1400 8th Ave. NW; Mitchell – 5:30 P.M. CDT, Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2025 – SDDOT Mitchell Region Office, 1300 S Ohlman St.; Sioux Falls – 5:30 P.M. CDT, Thursday, Oct 16, 2025 – Siouxland Libraries Downtown, 200 N Dakota Ave.; Rapid City – 5:30 P.M. MST, Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2025 – SD-DOT Rapid City Region Office, 2300 Eglin St.; Pierre – 5:30 P.M. CST, Wednesday, Nov. 5 2025 – SDDOT Central Office, 700 E Broadway Ave. The opportunity to present written comments will be made available at public meetings and can be made on the project webpage and will be accepted through Friday, Nov. 14. Meetings will be in-person. For more information and how to participate virtually, please visit: <https://isginc.mysocialpinpoint.com/sddot-active-transportation-plan>. Individuals needing assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), should contact the SDDOT ADA Coordinator (605-773-3540) two business days prior to the meeting in order to ensure accommodations are available. For any in-person meeting, notice is further given to individuals with disabilities that the meeting is being held in a physically accessible location. Cost to publish: \$2,240.00.

**Groton Chiropractic
Clinic**

Carol McFarland-Kutter, D.C.
1205 N 1st St., Groton 397-8204

GROTON
Ford
605/397-2311
www.grotonford.com

FOR SALE

HOUSE FOR SALE in Gettysburg. Great hunting getaway. 75’x140’ lot, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$50,000, will consider offers. Call/text Bill Fischer 605-769-2004. Pics on Zillow.com

LAND

IN SEARCH OF PASTURE for 50-300 Pairs. 5th Generation, SD, ranchers looking to expand. Long term lease preferred but would consider short term. Call (605)690-1997

MISCELLANEOUS

WE BUY HOUSES FOR CASH AS-IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Call today for your fair cash offer: 1-605-601-9373

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-877-754-0067

STOP OVERPAYING FOR HEALTH INSURANCE! Reduce premiums and out-of-pocket costs while getting the coverage you need! Call now for a competitive free quote. 1-877-906-0290. Plus... Income based government subsidies are available for those that qualify!

Groton Senior Citizens

Sept. 8: Groton Seniors met for a meeting and cards. Twelve members were present. President Ruby Donovan had the flag pledge. Minutes and treasurer reports were read and accepted. Meeting adjourned and cards were played. The winners of the games. Pinochle- David Kliensossor, Whist- Tony Goldage, Canasta- Pat Larson, John Aldrich door prizes Ruby Donovan, Don Hoops, Tony Goldage, Ruby Donovan served lunch.
Sept. 15: Twelve members met to play cards.

President had the flag pledge. Cards were played, the winners of the games. Pinochle- Kelly Miracle, Whist- Tony Goldage, Canasta- Ruby Donovan and Eunice McColister. Door prizes Kelly Miracle, Pat Larson, Ruby Donovan. Lunch was served by Bev Sombke.

Sept. 22: Groton Seniors met for their pot lunch dinner and cards. Sixteen members were present. the treasurer led the flag pledge and table prayer. After dinner bingo was played. Bev Sombke won the blackout. Cards were played after bingo. It was good to have Julie Shilhank back. Dessert was served after cards. Door prizes Dick Donovan, Eunice McColister, Bev Sombke

MEYERS
TRACTOR SALVAGE
ABERDEEN, SD

1000+ Salvaged Tractors & Combines
400+ Reground Crankshafts
500+ Tractor Tires
300+ Rebuilt Radiators

Large Line of Swather, Baler & Cutter Parts.

GREAT BUYS & SERVICE!

WANT TO BUY TRACTORS, COMBINES & SWATHERS FOR SALVAGE

Phone (605) 225-0185
5 Miles North & 1 Mile West of CASE-IH

**Full Time Position Open in Mobridge for
Specialty Clinic Director**

This position is responsible for the leadership, coordination, and strategic development of all specialty services offered by the hospital. This includes both external specialists operating under professional service agreements and internal specialty providers. The Director will ensure operational excellence, drive growth through the addition of new specialties and services, and maintain a strong focus on quality, patient experience, and financial performance. Minimum Qualifications - Bachelor’s degree in healthcare administration, business, or related field (Master’s preferred), 3–5 years of experience in clinic or healthcare service line management.

GREAT benefits package including Health with both FSA and HSA accounts, Dental, Vision, Retirement, and Life Insurance coverages, as well as a generous Paid Time Off and Short Term Disability Leave accrual policy.

Mobridge Regional Hospital and Clinics

For complete job description and to apply, go to: www.mobridgehospital.org
Questions? Call Keri: 605.845.8171
Wages will depend upon education and experience.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



**Learn to spot
a stroke.**

And call 911 immediately.



American Heart Association®
Mission: Lifeline®
Stroke



F
FACE
DROOPING



A
ARM
WEAKNESS



S
SPEECH
DIFFICULTY



T
TIME TO
CALL 911

actfastsd.org

Lab-Grown Food Reduces Humanity’s Ag Footprint
by Krisha Chhabra

Dear Earth-Talk: How are we growing food in labs to lessen the agricultural impact on the planet?
—Bill Jehsen, via email



Coffee is one of the best candidates for lab-based cultivation. Credit: pexels.com.

The U.S. has nearly two million farms, with over half of its land used for agriculture. Climate change affects agricultural productivity, sometimes enhancing or reducing yields, while air pollution from ground-level ozone weakens plant growth and increases disease susceptibility. Also, rising populations and demand for food, feed, fiber and fuel have intensified competition for land, a phenomenon known as the global land squeeze. The New World Resources Institute projects that by 2050, agricultural expansion will need land nearly twice the size of India; demand for wood will require an area the size of the U.S.

Agriculture is the largest driver of land-use change, causing significant carbon loss and biodiversity loss. It has cleared 70 percent of grasslands, 50 percent of savannas, 45 percent of deciduous forests, 27 percent of tropical forests, and 50 percent of wetlands worldwide. Scientists argue that halting ecosystem conversion and degradation is crucial for meeting climate and biodiversity goals, as projected agricultural expansion could use up to 40 percent of the remaining

carbon budget needed to limit warming.

One industry particularly affected by this issue is coffee. Brazil, a major coffee producer, may lose 50 percent of arable land by 2050. A potential solution comes from Atomo Coffee, a company that has developed a ‘beanless brew’ using superfoods and ingredients like date seeds, lemon, sunflower seeds and caffeine from decaffeinated green tea. Andy Kleistch, the CEO, says they “started this company to actually make a difference in the world,” and this movement is spreading to larger coffee chains. Atomo has attracted nearly \$52 million in investment, and in 2023 New York’s Gumption Coffee introduced it to the market. The company aims to scale up production to 40 million pounds annually.

Meat is another major threat. Pet food accounts for 20 percent of global meat consumption. Lab-grown pet food has recently become available in Europe, with UK consumers now able to but cultivated chicken-based pet food from London startup Meatly, made by culturing animal cells in bioreactors with water and nutrients, offering a more sustainable alternative with 50-60 percent less land use, 30-40 percent less water use, and 40 percent lower carbon emissions. Meatly also aims to bring cultivated meat to human consumers—though it will still produce emissions. Similar innovation is happening in the dairy industry. Boston-based Brown Foods has developed UnReal Milk, the first lab-grown whole cow’s milk made without cows. Independent testing confirms it contains all essential dairy proteins, fats and carbohydrates.

Lab-grown food options could become mainstream, but consumer acceptance is crucial..

• EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://emagazine.com>. To donate, visit <https://earthtalk.org>. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

“From Maiden to Mother to Matriarch: Understanding the Transition of Perimenopause”

Women experience distinct stages throughout their lives. In literature, these are often described as the maiden, the mother, and the matriarch phases. The transitions between these phases can be challenging times for a woman. Perimenopause is the transition between mother to matriarch.



The prefix peri- means around, about or near, and menopause is defined as the point when a woman has not had a menstrual period for 12 consecutive months. The average age of menopause is 51 years old. Perimenopause typically starts for women in their 40s and lasts between four to ten years. In some cases, it can start as early as 30s or as late as 50s.

During perimenopause, the ovaries start producing fewer hormones. Estrogen and progesterone levels can vary significantly week to week leading to the symptoms associated with perimenopause. Because of these hormonal shifts, lab tests for hormone levels can be unreliable for diagnosis. Elevated Follicle Stimulating Hormone (FSH) and low Estradiol levels in a woman over the age of 45 can suggest menopause, although repeated testing is usually needed to confirm a diagnosis. Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH) is often checked in women, since low TSH can mimic perimenopause or menopause symptoms.

One of the first perimenopause symptoms many women experience is menstrual cycle changes. Menstrual cycles may become more irregular, longer, shorter, heavier or lighter. Hormonal changes can also lead to hot flashes, night sweats, vaginal dryness, sleep problems, mood changes, and 'brain fog'. Slower metabolism during perimenopause can also lead to weight gain in some women.

While perimenopause is a natural part of aging, there are lifestyle changes and medications that can help minimize its symptoms. Limiting alcohol and caffeine, improving sleep quality, and reducing stress can all help diminish hot flashes. Doing more weight bearing exercises and taking a Calcium with Vitamin D supplement can help reduce the increased risk of osteoporosis and heart disease, which is caused by the decrease in estrogen. Quitting smoking is also an important step to help minimize symptoms of perimenopause and menopause. Discussing with your physician can help you find one of the multiple prescription medications that are available to help reduce symptoms.

Although this transition from mother to matriarch is not always smooth or easy, knowing what to expect can help alleviate anxiety and fear. Making healthy lifestyle choices and maintaining regular doctor visits are key. If you are experiencing symptoms, speak with your doctor about possible treatments and how to best support your well-being through this important life phase.

Dr. Jill Kruse is a hospitalist at the Brookings Health System in Brookings, SD. She serves as one of the Prairie Doc Volunteer Hosts during its 24th Season providing Health Education Based on Science, Built on Trust. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairedoc.org, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Tik Tok. Prairie Doc Programming includes On Call with the Prairie Doc®, a medical Q&A show (most Thursdays at 7pm on SDPB, YouTube and streaming on Facebook), 2 podcasts, and a Radio program (on SDPB, Sundays at 6am and 1pm).

3 DAYS ONLY

Stock up Sale

Check out our next HUGE 3 Day Stock Up Sale in this weeks Thursday, Oct. 8th Edition of the Aberdeen American News

Ken's

SUPER FAIR FOODS

FOOD FAIR & SHELL EXPRESS

ABERDEEN • GROTON • CLARK • IPSWICH • EUREKA • BRITTON • WWW.KENSSUPERFAIR.COM • FOLLOW US!

1ST GENERATION

2ND GENERATION

3RD GENERATION

ABERDEEN'S ONLY LOCALLY FAMILY-OWNED GROCERY STORE THAT TAKES PRIDE IN MAKING THEIR CUSTOMERS FEEL AT HOME!

Ken's 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF

10 Lb. Tubes

\$4.99 Lb.

SAVE 80¢ Per Lb.

RED SEEDLESS GRAPES

\$1.49 Lb.

USDA CHOICE DEMKOTA BONELESS TOP ROUND ROAST

\$6.59 Lb.

SAVE \$1.20 Per Lb.

MEAT

PORK BABY BACK RIBS

\$2.99 Lb.

SAVE \$2.00 Per Lb.

GROCERY

MALT-O-MEAL CEREAL

23-30 Oz. Bag

Sale Price \$3.99 -50¢ Digital Coupon NET PRICE

\$3.49

DAIRY

BEST CHOICE MILK SKIM, 1%, 2% OR WHOLE

1 Gall Jug

\$3.49

GROCERY

OLD HOME WHITE BREAD

20 Oz. Loaf

\$1.79

FROZEN

MR. DELL'S HASHBROWNS

30-32 Oz. Bag

\$2.99

DAIRY

BEST CHOICE GRADE AA BUTTER

1 Lb. Quarter

Sale Price \$3.49 -50¢ Digital Coupon NET PRICE

\$2.99

GROCERY

PROGRESSO READY TO SERVE SOUP

18.5-19 Oz. Can

\$2.49

FROZEN

RED BARRON PIZZA

15-24.4 Oz. Box

Sale Price \$3.99 -\$1.00 Digital Coupon NET PRICE

\$2.99

FROZEN

BLUE RIBBON CLASSIC ICE CREAM

128 Oz. Pail

\$5.99

LIQUOR-BEER

WOODFORD RESERVE "2025 SOUTH DAKOTA PHEASANT HUNT EDITION" 750ML

\$29.99

BAKERY

KEN'S BAKERY FRESH WHITE PARTY BUNS

12 Ct.

\$3.29

DELI

CHEESE OF THE WEEK! RED APPLE SMOKED GOUDA

8 Oz. Pkg.

\$6.29 Each

Brew Up Wishes

Make a wish Representatives will be in the store Wed. Oct. 8th and Thurs. Oct. 9th from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm to answer any questions you may have! Scan the QR code to learn more about the Make a Wish Foundation and how to donate to Make a Wish Now! www.makeawish.org

Make A Wish

Ken's

SUN 9 AM - 1 PM MON-FRI 7 AM - 5 PM SAT 8 AM - 2 PM Call 605.225.6671

COFFEE • GOURMET DRINKS & FOODS

\$1.00 OFF \$3.99-\$4.99

PRICES GOOD AT ALL KEN'S LOCATIONS: OCT. 5TH – OCT. 11TH

SUN. 5

MON. 6

TUES. 7

WED. 8

THURS. 9

FRI. 10

SAT. 11

10 ♦ Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Oct. 8, 2025