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The Groton Independent

Vol. 143 No. 09 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2025 ♦ Established in 1889

City Council Reviews Roofing Bids, Moves Forward on Airport Electrical Upgrades

The Groton City Council worked through a full agenda Monday night, highlighted by the review of five bids for the City's Buildings Roofing Project. Four bids were complete, while one was submitted as a partial bid.

Complete bids included All Over Roofing at \$131,074.08, Radiant Roofing of Aberdeen at \$111,001.49, The Roofers at \$109,482.24, and Five Star Roofing of Iowa with the low bid of \$108,296.54. Ringneck Construction also submitted a bid, but not all buildings were included. Because the roofing work is being completed through insurance adjusters, the City will receive an insurance payment for the project. The Council tabled acceptance of the bids to allow more time for review, with plans to choose a contractor at the next meeting.

In other business, Darrell Hillestad was on hand to provide an update on airport improvements. Hillestad reported that the baseball concession stand has now been moved into place and will be converted into a pilots lounge. JVT has donated several items from its downtown office to furnish the space. Some drain tile was also replaced after it was discovered the area was not draining properly.

A larger discussion centered around electrical service to the new lounge. Hillestad presented four options: extending secondary power roughly 500 feet from the existing transformer or installing a second transformer on-site. Costs were nearly identical, and the Council opted to move forward with adding a second transformer at the recommendation of Electric Superintendent Todd Gay. Northern Electric will be notified. The City will also assume the \$77 monthly metering charge, which Hillestad has been paying for the past two years, noting that the building is City-owned and should be under City utilities.

The Council again tabled the Koker subdivision plat. The subdivision was originally designed for three lots, but only two water hookups exist. Adding a third hookup would require tearing into a newly constructed street—an option officials were reluctant to pursue. The developers agreed to replat it as two lots. Planning and Zoning will review the revised plat before returning it to the Council.

Discussion also touched briefly on speed zone signs. The 2026 budget includes \$20,000 for the project, but grants remain limited and involve additional requirements. City Attorney Chad Locken noted that while solutions will require creativity, the earliest installation could be 2027.

The Council approved the second reading of the 2026 appropriation ordinance. The City will request \$587,512 from Brown County for its levy, along with a \$230,000 opt-out, for a total county request of \$817,512, up by \$23,764 from last year's request.

Councilman Brian Barr raised concerns about standing water on Mark Abeln's property south of town, an issue stemming from earlier city work. The project had stalled for several years, but the Council agreed that low areas will now be filled to correct the problem.

Upcoming community reminders include the Holiday Lighting Contest on December 18, with prizes of \$100, \$75, and \$50 applied as utility bill credits. City offices will be closed November 27–28 for Thanksgiving, and dog licenses are due December 31.

Following executive session, the first reading of Ordinance 793, which sets 2026 salaries, was tabled.



The former baseball concession stand has a new home at the Groton Municipal Airport. It will be converted into a Pilot's Lounge.



A 500' trench was done to provide power to the Pilot's Lounge; however, the distance of 500 feet is too far and would cost over \$5,000 to install secondary wire, while adding a second transformer would cost roughly the same amount.

Groton Area November Students of the Month



Pictured in back, left to right, are junior Brody Lord, sophomore Sydney Locke, senior Jaedyn Penning and freshman Novalea Warrington; in front, left to right, are eighth grader Sophia Fliehs, seventh grader Bella Barrera and sixth grader Shaelee Gilchrist.

Groton Area School works to ensure that all levels of academic instruction also include the necessary life skills teaching, practicing, and modeling that encourages essential personal life habits that are universally understood to facilitate helping our students become good human beings and citizens.

It is learning with our heads, hearts, and hands to be caring and civil, to make healthy decisions, to effectively problem solve, to be respectful and responsible, to be good citizens, and to be empathetic and ethical individuals.

Students are selected based on individual student growth in the areas of: positive behavior, citizenship, good attendance, a thirst for knowledge, and high academic standards.



By David Adler

Remembering the Significance of the Landmark Case of Little v. Barreme as we Mark Veterans Day

This week's nationwide speeches and programs honoring military veterans reminds us of the courage of those who risked and sacrificed their lives on behalf of American ideals, principles and security. This grand federal holiday invites civic contemplation of the circumstances, events and decisions that led to the battlefield, and the sometimes difficult and complicated choices that men and women in uniform have been required to make when ordered by their superiors to carry out actions of doubtful legality.

The Supreme Court's landmark ruling in Little v. Barreme (1804), which arose in the context of the Quasi-War—a limited war between the United States and France, from 1798-1800-- raised a host of important constitutional issues at the intersection of congressional and presidential power in matters of war and peace, including some that have been fully resolved, others not, that resonate in our time, such as President Donald Trump's order to destroy fishing boats off the coast of Venezuela. While his orders are not the focus of this column, they have violated statutory, constitutional and international law. Of particular interest here, is the potential liability of military personnel for carrying out illegal acts.

The Court, in a trio of cases in the early days of the 19th Century, had decided that the "whole powers of war" are vested in Congress. Congress, alone, possessed the authority to declare total war or limited, that is, "imperfect" war, and with it the authority to determine the scope of military hostilities. The Court said the president has no authority to initiate hostilities on behalf of the American people. In an opinion written by Chief Justice John Marshall, the Court held in Barreme, that the president as commander in chief is subject to statutory commands, and thus obedience to a presidential order that violates a statute exposes an officer to liability for damages inflicted.

A 1799 statute authorized the president to seize vessels sailing "to" French ports. President John Adams exceeded his statutory authority by issuing an order that directed American ships to capture vessels sailing "to or from" French ports. Captain George Little of the U.S. frigate, Boston, carried out Adams's order and seized a Danish vessel sailing from a French port. The owner of the Danish vessel sued for damages, and the case went to the Supreme Court.

Chief Justice Marshall conceded that the case was a difficult one. At first blush, he admitted, it was clear that, although Adams had violated the law and his duty under the Take Care Clause of Article II to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed," which meant that he "could not give a right, yet they might yet excuse [a military officer] from damages." Marshall assumed an "implicit obedience" to "orders of superiors," which, he said, "is indispensably necessary to every military system." This reasoning would justify Little's actions. On further reflection, however, Captain Little could be sued for damages. Marshall admitted that he had been "influenced" by his "brethren" that Adams's instructions "cannot change the nature of the transaction, or legalize an act which, without those instructions, would have been a plain trespass." Since Adams's instructions collided with the act of Congress, they were illegal and could neither justify the seizure nor excuse Little from damages.

But a sympathetic Congress, in 1807, passed a private bill to reimburse Little for the damages against him. Congress likely concluded that the law had failed to clarify the difference between lawful and unlawful orders. The First Congress had enacted in 1789 a statute that required military personnel "to observe and obey orders of the President of the United States." In 1799, Congress passed a law that declared, "any officer who shall disobey the orders of his superior . . . on any pretense whatsoever" shall be subject to death or other punishment. In 1800, Congress clarified by statute the duty of officers to obey commands. They were not required to obey all orders and commands, but only those that are lawful. Indeed, they are prohibited from carrying out "unlawful orders."

At bottom, as Captain Little learned, the duties of military officers are governed by statute and cannot be altered by the commander in chief. If the president possessed authority to ignore or revise statutes, he would, by definition, cease to be subordinate to the law, which would scuttle our constitutional jurisprudence.

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.

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Northeast Conference Announces 2025 All-Conference Football Team

The Northeast Conference has released its 2025 All-Conference Football Team, highlighted by Clark-Willow Lake's undefeated conference season and a league-high six players named to the top squad. Deuel and Milbank followed with five each, while strong showings also came from Hamlin and Mobridge-Pollock with four apiece.

Clark-Willow Lake, the 2025 NEC champions, led all teams with six all-conference selections: seniors Lincoln Reidburn, Cooper Pommer, Emmerson Larson, Michael Severson, and juniors Seth Poppen and Jakob Steen. The Cyclones also had two honorable mentions, Diego Garcia and Ernesto Garcia.

Deuel placed five players on the team—Oliver Fieber, Troy Jenson, Gavin Kloos, Aidan Sievers, and Carson Marko—supported by honorable mentions Nathan Fieber and Kaleb TeKrony.

Milbank, competing as an 11A program, also earned five selections: Braylen Bowsher, Sam Rick, Carter Gloe, Layten Osowski, and Micah Tostenson, with honorable mentions Bennett Hunt and Ethan Owen.

Hamlin secured four all-conference spots with seniors Jackson Wadsworth, Aiden Abraham, Tate Everson, and junior Boden Stevenson, while Jaden Olsen and Caleb Drenth were named honorable mention.

Mobridge-Pollock likewise earned four selections—Mack Saxon, Kellen Pfitzer, Easton Eisemann, and Wyatt Ziegler—along with honorable mentions Luke Olson and Carter Schmeichel.

Britton-Hecla placed three on the team: Bryce Hawkinson, Jaxon Zuehlke, and Graham Fosness, with honorable mentions Riley Hofland and Bennett Suther.

Groton Area also earned three spots with seniors Keegen Tracy, Tucker Hardy, and Ryder Johnson, plus honorable mentions Karter Moody and Logan Warrington.

Redfield had two all-conference selections—Noah Johnson and Conner Zens—supported by honorable mentions Chace Odland and Rollie Betten.

Webster Area also placed two on the team: Matthew Mount and Gage Baumgarn, with honorable mentions Jeron McCreary and Jack Shoemaker.

Aberdeen Roncalli rounded out the list with senior Grady Jett named to the team and honorable mentions awarded to Jean Anthony Thomas and Ryan Schmidt.

The final conference standings reflected a balanced and competitive season: Clark-Willow Lake (5-0), Deuel (4-1), Mobridge-Pollock (3-2), Groton Area (2-3), Webster Area (1-4), and Aberdeen Roncalli (0-5). Milbank's games did not count toward the standings due to 11A scheduling requirements. Hamlin, Britton-Hecla and Redfield are Class 9AA Teams.



Fact brief: Can data centers lead to higher energy prices?

By Michael Klinski

Yes

Energy prices for people living in some areas where data centers are constructed increased after the facilities become operational.

An analysis by Bloomberg.com showed that electricity prices increased 267% over five years for energy customers who live near newly constructed data centers.

The report said that wholesale prices have doubled since 2020, mainly in areas near data center hot spots. Of the areas that had price increases, 70% are located within 50 miles of data centers.

The impact on energy prices can vary, however, according to a separate study. If data centers require new power plants or other substantial improvements to the grid, price changes could be more dramatic.

Data centers now have their eyes on South Dakota. Gemini Data Center SD LLC purchased 160 acres in northeastern Sioux Falls near an existing Xcel Energy substation. The project still requires city approval. Another company is proposing a multi-billion data center in Deuel County.

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Groton Legion Turkey Party

Photos Courtesy Bruce Babcock



Cake walk players are ready for another game while Emerlee Jones and Carly Gilbert prepare to start.



Groton Legion Auxiliary members L-R Mendy Jones, Dacy Kampa, and Rita Kampa help serve supper.



Brenda McCarthy and David Pigors run the "Chuck-a-luck" game.



Groton Legion Auxiliary members ran bingo L-R Samantha Oswald, Jan Siegel, and Melissa Gilbert.



The Groton American Legion annual "Turkey Party" was very popular last Saturday evening. Pictured is the packed Auxiliary bingo.



Legion members Scott Cooper and Brent Wienk manage the adult and children's favorite "horse races!"



Groton Legion Commander Bruce Babcock, helps the steady flow of attendees sign in and purchase raffle tickets.



Groton Legion members Ben Smith and Ron Falk run the games at the podium.



Large crowd in the rear Legion Hall.



Ever popular Delbert Hinkelman called the paddle wheel winners.

Notice of Regular Annual Meeting Of Full Circle Ag

Notice is hereby given that the regular annual meeting of Full Circle Ag, Britton, SD, will be held at the Britton Area Event Center at 1203 3rd St, Britton, SD on Tuesday, December 2nd. The meeting will be held at 10:30 am with lunch to follow. The meeting will include the following purposes:

- Review Annual Audit
- Election of Directors
- Any other business to come before the board

This is a very important business meeting of your cooperative; everyone is urged to attend.

Jason Asche, Secretary

Weekly SUDOKU

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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!

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The Minnesota Vikings lost to the Chicago Bears 19-17 on Sunday, falling to 4-6 this season and pushing the team farther into the basement of the NFC North. The Vikings were sloppy in all three phases – turnovers and dropped passes on offense, missed tackles and coverage lapses on defense, and miscues on special teams that cost them the game.

The game started slower than a herd of turtles. The two teams combined for four punts on the first four possessions, and the scoreboard was 0-0 until the Vikings kicked a field goal with two minutes left in the first quarter. Despite the slow start, the Vikings seemed to be building some momentum – they had 78 total yards compared to only 20 by the Bears.

Like the first quarter, the second quarter started with both teams trading punts. But this is when things started coming off the rails for Minnesota. Chicago put together a 15-play, 74-yard touchdown drive to take a 7-3 lead. Three plays later, J.J. McCarthy threw an interception, giving the Bears great field position that turned into three points. Five plays later, McCarthy threw another interception with less than a minute left in the first half.

The third quarter belonged to Chicago, which put together two field goal drives, extending its lead to 16-3. Chicago had 109 yards in the quarter, compared to just 21 for Minnesota. Despite being thoroughly outplayed through the first 45 minutes of the game, the Vikings were still in this game. All they needed was another magical fourth quarter. Unfortunately, the only Minnesota magic that happened was making the fans' hopes and dreams disappear.

All kidding aside, the Vikings finally showed some signs of life in the fourth quarter. A great punt return by Myles Price put the Vikings in good field position, which was converted into a 16-yard touchdown run by Jordan Mason. Chicago missed a field goal on their next drive, and after both teams traded punts again, the Vikings got the ball with a little over three minutes left to play and needed a touchdown to take the lead. 10 plays and 85 yards later, McCarthy found Jordan Addison in the endzone, giving Minnesota a one-point lead with only 50 seconds left on the clock. A special teams miscue allowed the Bears to return the ensuing kickoff 56 yards, and four plays later they kicked a field goal as time expired to steal the win.

J.J. McCarthy completed 16 of 32 passes for 150 yards, one touchdown, and two interceptions. Aaron Jones Sr. and Jordan Mason combined for 115 yards and a touchdown on 22 carries. Justin Jefferson led the team with five catches for 61 yards, while Addison added two

catches for 20 yards and a TD.

Blake Cashman led the team with 15 tackles. Andrew Van Ginkel and Dallas Turner each had a sack and two tackles for a loss. Turner, who got the start because of Jonathan Greenard sitting this game out due to injury, also knocked down a pass and had three of the team's QB hits.

Looking ahead, the Vikings travel to Green Bay to battle the Packers on Sunday (noon kickoff). Usually, teams would be wary of playing on the road, but the Vikings are 3-2 on the road compared to their 1-4 home record. We'll see if they can complete the trifecta by winning all three divisional road games.

The Groton Independent

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Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League Week #2 Results

Team Standings: Jackelopes 6, Cheetahs 6, Shihtzus 5, Foxes 3, Chipmunks 2, Coyotes 2

Men's High Games: Doug Jorgensen 205, Vern Meyers 171, Brad Larson 167

Women's High Games: Sam Bahr 175 & 161, Darci Spanier 170 & 162, Brenda Waage 149

Men's High Series: Brad Larson 475, Clay Wattier 461, Vern Meyers 452

Women's High Series: Sam Bahr 483, Darci Spanier 479, Brenda Waage 389

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Team Standings: Giants 27, Braves 26, Cubs 22, Mets 21, Stooges 21, Pirates 15

Men's High Games: Tim Olson 176, Chad Furney 162, Austin Schuelke 156

Men's High Series: Chad Furney 451, Tim Olson 438, Skip Kettering 402

Women's High Games: Joyce Walter 180, Sam Bahr 169, Vickie Kramp 158

Women's High Series: Joyce Walter 462, Sam Bahr 460, Vickie Kramp 445

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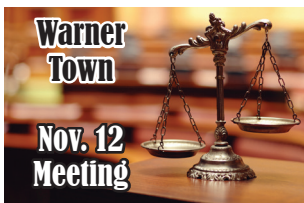
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**TOWN OF WARNER
MINUTES FOR MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12th, 2025**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gaylon Townsend, Terry Evans, and Nichol Townsend and Stewart Nelson. Dave Fair was absent. David and Tracy Nash were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Evans and seconded by Townsend to approve the minutes from October 8th, 2025. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: MSC: Evans/Townsend. Checking: Town \$289,637.44; Water \$75,581.56; Sewer \$196,870.25. CDs: Town \$32,978.33; Water \$50,140.44; Sewer \$28,375.31.

BILLS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT: MSC: Townsend/Evans.

AGTEGRA (fuel) \$399.47, Target (office supplies) \$12.74, Wal-Mart (office supplies-laptop) \$1474.05, USDA (water & sewer loans) \$2083, WEB Water (city water) \$5643.35, Badger Meter (reads) \$111.32, Brown County Treasurer (mosquito spraying) \$1011.66, Dakota Fluid Power (repair equipment) \$845.9, David Fair (travel expenses) \$495.71, Dependable Sanitation (garbage service) \$2640, Groton Independent (advertising) \$36.67, Hofer Repair (repairs) \$1668.85, J.P. Cooke Tag Company (supplies) \$90.95, Just McCord (IT) \$375, Lynn Aman (janitorial) \$75, MACS (supplies) \$83.21, Menards (supplies) \$40.01, Midcontinent (phone & internet) \$298.42, NASASP (dues) \$39, Northwestern Energy (electricity) \$2067.19, OnSolve/One Call (annual fees) \$985.05, Warner Post Office (PO box rent) \$78, Runnings (supplies) \$44.55, SD Dept of Rev (Sales Tax) \$204.29, SD Municipal League (workmen's comp) \$2066, SD Public Health Lab (testing) \$570, Town of Warner (Water/Sewer) \$183.12, TranSource \$465.44, SD Retirement Fund \$539.76, Payroll Taxes \$1353.74, PAYROLL: Stewart Nelson \$3587.28, Terry Evans \$114.51, Dave Fair \$581.80, Gaylon Townsend \$55.41, Nichol Townsend \$1098.78.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Planning & Zoning Ordinance changes were discussed. Working with NCOG to update existing planning and zoning information.

Ball field lights were discussed. City will get the old football field lights to be used at the ballfield. To be installed at later date.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approved Liquor License Applications submitted by DT Nash, LLC doing business at The Den Bar & Grill. MSC: Townsend/Evans

Approved agreement with Northeast Council of Governments (NECOG) for Comprehensive Plan Assistance. MSC: Evans/Townsend. Signed: David Fair, Council Chairman, Attest: Nichol Townsend, Finance Officer

Approved agreement with NCOG for Zoning Ordinance Assistance. MSC: Evans/Townsend. Signed: David Fair, Council Chairman, Attest: Nichol Townsend, Finance Officer

DELINQUENCIES: 9 were noted and notices will be posted on doors. One has already been shut off.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10th, 2025 @ 7PM @ the Warner Community Center.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45PM.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Dave Fair, Chairman; Nichol Townsend, Finance Officer

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Notice of Surplus Property

The Groton City Council has declared the following items as surplus property: Direct Lift 4 post hoist with a 9,000lb capacity. The hoist is operational but needs a slide repaired. Bids will be accepted at Groton City Hall, 120 N Main Street or mailed to PO Box 572. Bids are due by December 2, 2025, by 5:00pm and will be opened that same evening during the regular council meeting at 7:00pm. Please call 605-397-8422 with any questions. The City Council reserves the right to refuse any and all bids.

Published November 12 and 19, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$13.01 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26194



NOVEMBER 4, 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 Dennert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chairman Sutton mentioned that Centennial Village 2025 Fair Report was being scratched from the agenda for this week. Commissioner Dinger moved to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Dennert. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

BID OPENING FOR GRANDSTAND CONCESSIONS DURING BROWN COUNTY FAIR 2026-2028: Time and place, as advertised, to open, read and consider sealed bids for operation of Grandstand Concessions during Brown County Fair in 2026, 2027, and 2028 located on the Brown County Fairgrounds. One bid was received from the Aberdeen Boys and Girls Club of the Aberdeen Area.

MINIMUM BID. BID AMOUNT

Per Keg: \$85.00 \$86.00

Per Malt Beverage Case: \$20.00..... \$21.00

Per RTD Beverage Case: \$40.00..... \$41.00

The Commission appreciates the partnership we have had over the years and getting the many volunteers. Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to accept the bid from Aberdeen Boys and Girls Club of the Aberdeen Area for the 2026, 2027, and 2028 Brown County Fair. All members present voting aye, Motion carried.

APPROVE & AUTHORIZE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN RODEO STOCK CONTRACT: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the rodeo stock contract with Dakota Rodeo for the 2026, 2027 and 2028 Brown County Fair for a three-year total of \$109,000.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

Chairman Sutton declared the Executive Session closed with No Action taken.

FAIR CONTRACTS – CONFIDENTIAL: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Fair Contracts that are Confidential until released. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #302 – SECOND READING/POSSIBLE ADOPTION: Commissioner Gage went through the proposed amendments of decommissioning/restoration/abandonment. As a condition, a Wind Energy Systems (WES) permit, the decommissioning plan and financial instruments securing funds for decommissioning and restoration shall be updated by the owner or operator in the 10th year of operation and every 5 years thereafter to reflect the current cost estimates. The updated plan shall be submitted to and approved by the county beginning with the 10th year update to the decommissioning restoration plan and the permit shall post a bond or other adequate security sufficient to pay 120% of the current estimated decommissioning and restoration costs. Permits required to provide financial assurance for decommissioning as part of permit granted by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission shall be exempt from this requirement. Michael, the developer working for Wind Energy, needed a few clarifications. In section 2E where there is reference to unincorporated cities, is there a definition written into this ordinance or elsewhere in the zone ordinance and if not, would it be able to be removed to the ambiguity of that. Scott Bader indicated it was already defined, but we can clarify more in the ordinance. In section 13A, looking at the noise portion of it with the last sentence that states noise level should be at an average of 45 dBA at setback distances. It will be difficult for a developer to be able to document our compliance with that at noise levels. Can the last sentence be removed. Motion by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to postpone the approval of the amended ordinance until November 18th to clean up the language and add in the proposal for decommissioning. Draft six will be available on the website before November 18th. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #303 – SECOND READING/POSSIBLE ADOPTION: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to approve and adopt Ordinance #303, as amended, a new Ordinance entitled Data Centers. Data Centers is being added to 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 members present voting aye. Motion carried. Ordinance #303 Adopted. (Copies of the full Ordinance are available at the Brown County Auditor's Office or Brown County Planning & Zoning Office during regular business hours).

OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS 2025: Commissioner Gage offered the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION #2025-55

OPERATION GREEN LIGHT FOR VETERANS 2025

WHEREAS, the residents of Brown County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Brown County seeks to honor individuals who have made countless sacrifices for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veterans Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than \$52 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, active military service members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Brown County appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, Brown County hereby declares from November 4 - 11, 2025 (Veterans Day) as a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifices of those transitioning from active service;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Brown County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place of business or residence from November 4-11, 2025.

Seconded by Commissioner Dennert.

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

PETITION FOR ANNEXATION OF THE FAIRGROUNDS: Commissioner Dinger offered the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION #2025-56

APPROVAL OF PETITIONING THE CITY OF ABERDEEN FOR VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION OF THE FAIRGROUNDS

WHEREAS, Brown County owns, maintains, and supervises land contiguous to the corporate limits of the City of Aberdeen for the purpose of hosting a county fair established under the authority granted to the County by the State of South Dakota.

WHEREAS, to benefit the public, Brown County is continuously exploring revenue options for the improvement of the fairgrounds.

WHEREAS, Brown County fairgrounds activities also serve to promote the City of Aberdeen.

WHEREAS, The City of Aberdeen has undertaken an amendment to its ordinances providing for the remittance of sales tax revenue collected at the fairgrounds and permitting Brown County to retain jurisdiction over the fairgrounds in the event of annexation.

WHEREAS, the Brown County Commission approved the terms and conditions of annexation in an agreement with the City of Aberdeen on October 14, 2025. The City of Aberdeen approved the same annexation agreement on October 20, 2025.

WHEREAS, amendments to ordinances of the City of Aberdeen beneficial to the Brown County fairgrounds are set to become effective on November 13, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Brown County Commissioners does hereby authorize the chair to sign and submit a petition to annex the property known as the Brown County fairgrounds into the city of Aberdeen pursuant to the approved annexation agreement at such time when the relevant amendments to Aberdeen City ordinances take effect.

Dated at Aberdeen, South Dakota, this 4th day of November, 2025.

Seconded by Commissioner Gage.

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

ent voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Motion by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to approve the General Meeting Minutes for October 28, 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to approve the following Claims/Payroll: Claims: Professional Fees: Bill Schaefer \$16.00; Cogley Law Office, Prof LLC \$804.00; Dohrer Law Office, PC \$3,216.00; Fox Law Firm, PLLC \$204.00; Janet Wright \$40.00; Kristi Brandt \$263.95; Kuck Law Office \$2,670.00; Lenling Law Office, Prof. LLC \$690.00; Lewis & Clark BHS \$450.00; Lucy Lewno \$180.00; Marco Technologies, LLC \$1,116.76; Mark Katterhagen \$40.00; Pauer Sound, LLC \$2,987.24; Sanford Health \$486.00; Sewer Duck, Inc \$200.00; St. Croix County \$200.00; Valerie Larson \$24.00; Yankton County Sheriff's Office \$100.00. Publishing: Black Hills Pioneer \$14.34; McQuillen Creative Group, Inc \$207.74; Southwest Messenger Press, Inc \$97.44. Rentals: H & H Farms \$250.00; Les Frohling \$200.00; Ron Jacobson \$250.00. Repairs & Maintenance: Aberdeen Chrysler Center \$361.00; City of Aberdeen Treasurer \$13,040.00; CWF Masonry & Construction \$213.39; Fastcase Inc \$528.00; House of Glass \$850.89; Jebro Inc \$2,350.10; K&S Plumbing, Inc \$3,787.30; Lawson Products, Inc \$99.02; Precision Kiosk Technologies \$3,000.00; Sewer Duck, Inc \$425.00; Steel Structures of Aberdeen \$1,530.00. Supplies: Aberdeen Chrysler Center \$409.33; Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$2,309.74; Century Business Products \$184.97; Cole Paper Inc \$241.94; Crescent Electric Supply Co \$327.03; Fastenal Company \$127.36; Fox Law Firm, PLLC \$3.51; Jebro Inc \$13,639.78; Ken's SuperFair Foods \$236.76; Kuck Law Office \$63.38; Lawson Products, Inc \$1,430.10; Leidholdt Tool Sales, LLC \$31.46; Lien Transportation Company \$14,131.80; Lucy Lewno \$6.74; Maximum Promotions Inc \$119.44; Menards \$574.56; Midstates Group \$382.08; Performance Oil \$295.81; Pheasantland Industries \$598.70; Plumbing & Heating Wholesale, Inc \$858.78; Runnings \$90.13; Safety Service \$399.80; Sander's Sew-N-Vac \$954.94; Schwan Welding \$131.86; Van Diest Supply Company \$12,543.42. Travel & Conference: Adelaide Mouna \$319.60; Erin Spencer \$6.00; Heartland Association of Fairs, Festivals & Events \$1,615.00; Lynn Heupel \$312.40; Neil Bittner \$14.00; Scott Kolb \$14.00; Stephanie Jacobson \$80.00. Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$86.46; CenturyLink \$345.87; City of Aberdeen Treasurer \$984.59; Montana-Dakota Utilities Co \$35.64; Northwestern Energy \$12,865.79. Other: Aaylyn Cray \$10.00; Bexley Perrier \$5.00; Carl Kimbler \$10.00; Dawn Rux \$10.00; Dee Sander \$10.00; Lisa Hartung \$5.00; Melissa Denelsbeck \$10.00; Ron Lyren \$10.00; Seth Beaman \$5.00; Trudy Anderson \$5.00. Payroll: Commission \$4,896.51; Elections \$1,936.80; Auditor/Welfare \$11,393.91; Treasurer \$18,935.03; SA \$37,292.02; Public Defender \$11,352.04; Maintenance \$12,817.87; Assessor \$16,589.78; Register of Deeds \$10,905.91; VSO \$4,741.87; GIS \$2,946.49; IT \$9,855.68; HR \$5,419.29; Sheriff \$60,533.20; Jail \$76,854.70; Coroner (Voucher) \$1,100.00; Court Security \$8,987.07; JDC \$35,492.08; Museum \$13,444.73; Parks/Fairgrounds \$8,186.06; Fair Board \$3,487.73; 4-H \$738.27; Weed \$5,722.07; Planning & Zoning \$8,144.34; Highway \$50,365.23; Dispatch \$41,129.40; Emergency \$5,637.96; 24/7 Sobriety \$2,876.48; Landfill \$20,336.64; Mileage Benefits \$1,227.80; Meal Benefits \$70.00; FICA \$30,591.88; Medicare \$7,154.55; Health Insurance-Wellmark BCBS \$136,527.39; Dental Insurance-Delta \$9,456.93; Life

Insurance-Dearborn \$1,131.86; Retirement-SDRS \$92,082.21. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

o Hiring of Alexis Marrero Rodriguez as Brown County Jail Detention Officer, FT: starting wage \$21.93/hr. – effective November 4, 2025.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Dennert to approve the following Travel Requests: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent to attend Asphalt Conference Planning Meeting on November 5, 2025 in Brookings; Austin Ball, Deputy Sheriff to attend Investigative Interviewing on February 10-12, 2026 in Sioux Falls. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

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

Chairman Sutton declared the Executive Session closed with No Action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:59 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Erin Kumpf, Chief Deputy Auditor

Published November 19, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$140.54 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26199

Brown County Ord. 303 Data Centers

NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE #303

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES AS AMENDED

TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that Ordinance #303, A New Ordinance Entitled Data Centers – being added to Title 4 Zoning Ordinances of Brown County: Chapter 4.01, "Definitions"; Chapter 4.16, "Heavy Industrial District (HI)"; An Addition to Title 4 Zoning Ordinances of Brown County with Chapter 4.38 – Data Centers was duly adopted by the Brown County Board of Commissioners on the 4th day of November and that Ordinance #303, shall be in full force and effect on 24rd day of November, 2025. (Copies of the full Ordinance are available at the Brown County Auditor's Office or Brown County Planning and Zoning Office during regular business hours).

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published November 19, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$11.31 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26200

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Hanlon Brothers Gravel Hauling
New & Cleaning of Stockdams with our 60' reach trackhoe
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Northern Plains Forage Assoc.
Annual Meeting & Educational Seminars
Alfalfa Weevil Mgmt. • Diverse Crop Systems/Livestock Integration • Baleage Panel Disc. • More!
December 11, 2025 | 9:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn Express, Brandon, SD
Free to members. \$20 non-members. Lunch included. Sign-up by Nov. 26.
REGISTER NOW > npforage.com
For more info: npforage@gmail.com | 605-995-7378

Managing Soil: Maximizing Profit
2025 Conference and SE Research Farm Business Meeting
December 9, 2025 | 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Freeman Academy Arboretum
900 Cedar Street, Freeman, SD 57029
Registration: \$25/pp. or FREE to SESD Exp. Farm Members
Register by Dec. 1 at extension.sdstate.edu/events or call Southeast Research Farm at (605) 563-2989.

Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Nov. 19, 2025 ♦ 5

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Listening device
- 4 Wrestling style
- 8 Wax-coated cheese
- 12 Cagers' gp.
- 13 Jannings of old films
- 14 Showroom model
- 15 Cheek
- 17 Pleased
- 18 Sports venues
- 19 CEO's deg.
- 21 Cowboys quarterback Prescott
- 22 Equivalence
- 26 London —
- 29 Allen or Tebow
- 30 "Kitchy- —!"
- 31 Ore deposit
- 32 Madrid Mrs.
- 33 Small bell sound
- 34 '50s president
- 35 Layer
- 36 Speakers' platforms
- 37 Chasteness
- 39 Fixed
- 40 Search for gold
- 41 Salad choice
- 45 Designer Wang

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53					54			55		

- 48 Magnitude
- 50 During
- 51 Vend
- 52 Homer's bartender
- 53 First-rate
- 54 Lays down the lawn
- 55 Evening hrs.
- 7 Dukakis of "Moonstruck"
- 8 Mystery writer's award
- 9 N.J. neighbor
- 10 "I — Rock"
- 11 '60s chic
- 16 "Frasier" pooch
- 20 "Kapow!"
- 23 "— you not!"
- 24 "Sula" author Morrison
- 25 Meditative practice
- 26 Radar image
- 27 Video-streaming brand
- 28 Baltic Sea
- 29 Attempt
- 32 Fox's trait
- 33 Tribal emblem
- 35 Sch. fundraising group
- 36 Gems from oysters
- 38 Apple tablets
- 39 Berate
- 42 Ninny
- 43 Fermi's bit
- 44 Deli loaves
- 45 Cistern
- 46 Punk rock offshoot
- 47 Shred
- 49 "The Matrix" hero

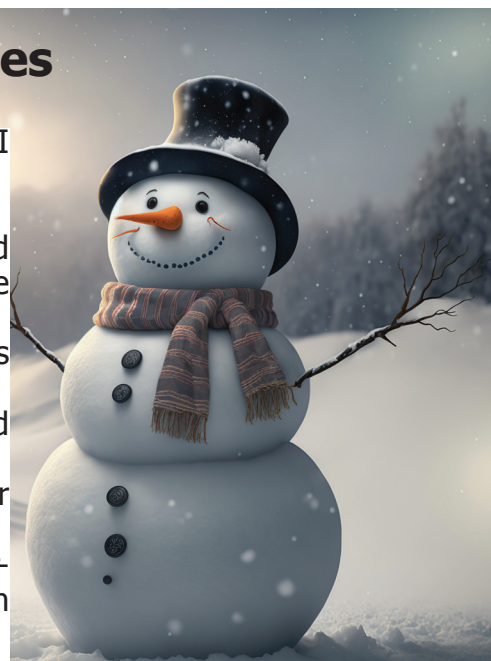
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Frosty is Back!!!

Please check the Groton Daily Independent for daily clues as to who the Groton Area Mystery Frosty is. The unveiling of Frosty will take place at the Groton Area Snow Queen Contest on Sunday, November 30th, at 4:00 pm.

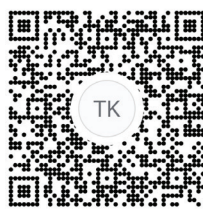
2025 Frosty Clues

- 10. Went to Europe when I was in college
- 11. My Dad was a Spartan
- 12. Went to Girl's State and Youth Business Adventure (YBA) in high school
- 13. My favorite vacation was to Hawaii
- 14. Spend my days around teenagers
- 15. Love breakfast food for supper
- 16. Made it to the state tournament in volleyball in high school



Be an angel this holiday season by bringing joy to those in need!

Tina Kosel
@Tina-Kosel-1



venmo

If you want to donate to the Angel Tree Fund and want us to buy the presents for you, scan the Venmo code to the left. Thanks for your support of the Groton Angel Tree!

Any questions Call/Text Tina at 605-397-7285

1ST GENERATION **2ND GENERATION** **3RD GENERATION**

KEN FIEDLER KEVIN FIEDLER CONNER FIEDLER

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

ABERDEEN WILL BE OPEN ON THANKSGIVING DAY!
GROCERY STORE HOURS: 7AM - 5PM
LIQUOR STORE HOURS: 7AM - 5PM
Ken's FOOD FAIR & SHELL EXPRESS
GROTON & IPSWICH • 9AM - 12PM
THANKSGIVING DAY

ALL OTHER Ken's LOCATIONS CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY

ENTIRE WINE DEPT 15% OFF ALL SIZES & BOX WINES INCLUDED

USDA CHOICE BONELESS RIBEYE STEAK \$17.99 Lb.

USDA CHOICE DEMKOTA BONELESS WHOLE RIBEYE \$15.99 Lb.

FRESH CELERY 99¢ Each

App Deal OF THE WEEK!

59¢ SWANSON BROTH (32 Oz. Box)

MEAT

COOK'S BONE-IN SMOKED HAM PORTIONS \$1.99 Lb.

<p>GROCERY</p> <p>STOVE TOP STUFFING MIX 6 OZ. BOXES 2/\$4</p>	<p>GROCERY</p> <p>CAMPBELL'S CREAM OF MUSHROOM OR CHICKEN SOUP 10.5 OZ. CANS 5/\$5</p>	<p>GROCERY</p> <p>GREEN GIANT CORN, PEAS OR GREEN BEANS 14.5-15.25 OZ. CANS 5/\$5</p>	<p>GROCERY</p> <p>FRENCH'S FRIED ONIONS 6 OZ. CAN \$3.99</p>
<p>GROCERY</p> <p>KRAFT MIRACLE WHIP 19-30 OZ. JAR OR BOTTLE \$4.49</p>	<p>GROCERY</p> <p>FOLGERS COFFEE 22-25.9 OZ. CAN \$8.99</p>	<p>DAIRY</p> <p>BEST CHOICE BUTTER 1 LB. QTRS. \$2.99</p>	<p>FROZEN</p> <p>COOL WHIP DESSERT TOPPING 8 OZ. TUBS 2/\$3</p>
<p>LIQUOR-BEER</p> <p>FULTON'S HARVEST PUMPKIN PIE LIQUEUR 750 ML. \$9.99</p>	<p>BAKERY</p> <p>JESSIE LORD PUMPKIN OR APPLE PIES 22 OZ. 8" \$5.99</p>	<p>DELI</p> <p>CHEESE OF THE WEEK! BELGIOIOSO MASCARPONE 8 OZ. PKG. \$4.49 Each</p>	

SELLING 920 COMMERCIAL BRED HEIFERS

20 AGE ADVANTAGE HERD SIRES

DOWLING RANCH

FT PIERRE, SD

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025

4:30 p.m. CT, at the ranch, southeast of Ft. Pierre, SD

B BAR **BLACK MASS** 3045
AAA #18137165

* AI Service Sire

VIDEOS OF THE HEIFERS ARE ONLINE

- ▶ **AI Group** 450 HEAD
Ultrasound tested to calve 3-8-26 for 1 day
- ▶ **Group 1** 270 HEAD
Ultrasound tested to calve 3-20-26 for 21 day
- ▶ **Group 2** 127 HEAD
Ultrasound tested to calve 4-10-26 for 21 day
- ▶ **Group 3** 75 HEAD
Ultrasound tested to calve 5-1-26 for 15 day

Heifers cleaned up with calving ease herd sires from Newsam Angus, J Spear Cattle Co., & Grygiel Angus

Guest Consignor: Griemsmann Performance Horses will offer 2 outstanding performance horses for sale!

Over 40 years of developing heifers

Luke & Sawyer Dowling // Tracy & Karen Dowling // Kristie Hoggarth
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30125 SD HWY 1806, FT. PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57532

DOWLINGRANCH.COM

Thank you for subscribing!

— King Crossword —
Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

E	A	R	S	U	M	O	E	D	A	M	
N	B	A	E	M	I	L	D	E	M	O	
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V	E	R	A	E	N	O	R	M	I	T	Y
A	M	I	D	S	E	L	L	M	O	E	
T	O	P	S	S	O	D	S	P	M	S	