

The Groton Independent

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Groton welcomes Ride 605 Legion Riders

The Groton American Legion Post 39 welcomed participants in the South Dakota American Legion Riders' annual Ride 605 fundraiser on Saturday morning, as dozens of riders stopped in Groton during their four-day, 1,400-mile journey across South Dakota to raise money for veterans and youth programs.

The riders were greeted with breakfast, lodging and a community welcome before continuing on the next leg of their trip. The Ride 605 event serves as a fundraiser for the South Dakota American Legion Foundation, with proceeds supporting veterans and youth initiatives throughout the state.

Groton Mayor Scott Hanlon welcomed the group and thanked them for including Groton on the route.

"We are honored to have you here," Hanlon said. "It's our pleasure to have you here and visit with everybody. You guys have a safe trip. If you ever go by, always feel free to stop in Groton. You're always welcome."

Hanlon encouraged the riders to return and praised the community spirit that makes Groton a welcoming place.

"If you ever break down, you ask anybody for help, they'll help you," he said. "It's a nice little town and we really enjoy you guys stopping through."

Post 39 Commander Doug Hamilton thanked the riders for their visit and recognized the volunteers who prepared breakfast for the group.

"The kitchen staff had a few hitches and glitches this morning, but they did a good job," Hamilton said, noting that members of the Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion all stepped up to help host the event.

Hamilton also highlighted recent improvements made to the American Legion building, including new flooring, lighting and interior renovations.

Ride 605 coordinator Bruce Babcock expressed appreciation for the overwhelming support received from Groton businesses and organizations.

"We went way over our goal," Babcock said. "Every one of the businesses in town took up the checkbook and asked, 'How much do you need?' It kind of touches me how they support the veterans of town."

Babcock announced that local donors contributed \$2,532 toward the Ride 605 effort. Contributors included Base Kamp Lodge, Bierman Farm Services, Circle Ag, Dacotah Bank, Groton Ag Partners, Groton American Legion Post 39, Groton City Hall, Groton Ford, Ken's Grocery, LW Sales, Thunder Basketball and Claremont American Legion Post 262.

Babcock also recognized South Dakota American Legion Department Commander Kevin Hempel and Ride 605 Trail Boss Fred Nelson, along with Nelson's wife, Micheline, for organizing the extensive four-day ride, which includes approximately 20 stops across the state.

Nelson thanked the Groton community for its hospitality and explained how the funds raised will be used.

"Those funds that you've donated all go to the South Dakota American Legion Foundation, which goes to the children and veterans programs in South Dakota," Nelson said. "One hundred percent of the money goes there."

Nelson praised the community's efforts and said Groton had set a high standard for other communities along the route.

"You definitely made it tough for others to meet what you did here," he told the crowd.

The event also promoted a fundraising drawing featuring a print of a Vietnam-era military painting donated to support the foundation.

Before riders departed for their next stop, participants observed a moment of silence in recognition of D-Day, marking the anniversary of the Allied invasion of Normandy on June 6, 1944.

With temperatures expected to climb into the upper 80s and low 90s, organizers wished the riders safe travels as they continued their journey. The Ride 605 fundraiser concludes Sunday after covering approximately 1,400 miles across South Dakota while raising funds to benefit veterans and youth programs statewide.



Groton Mayor Scott Hanlon gave the welcome on behalf of the Groton community. (Screenshot from GDILIVE.COM video)



Bruce Babcock, district commander for the American Legion, coordinated the local 605 Riders event in Groton. (Screenshot from GDILIVE.COM video)



Groton Legion Commander Doug Hamilton gave the welcome on behalf of Post #39. (Screenshot from GDILIVE.COM video)



Fred Nelson from the Spearfish Legion Post thanked all those who helped with the morning program and breakfast in Groton. (Screenshot from GDILIVE.COM video)



Those helping with breakfast for the 605 Riders were Travis McGannon, Sons of the Legion commander, Bruce Babcock, District Legion Commander; Doug Hamilton, Groton Post #39 commander; David McGannon, Steve Dresbach, Deb McKiver from the Groton Legion Auxiliary, and Scott Cooper; not pictured are Todd McGannon and Ben Smith, in front is Paul Kosel, Sons of the Legion adjutant.



Bruce Babcock and Doug Hamilton represented the Groton businesses who made a total donation of \$1,550 to the 605 Riders. Fred Nelson received the donation.
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Dale Kurth represented the Claremont American Legion with a \$100 donation to the 605 Riders. Fred Nelson received the donation. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Doug Hamilton represented the Groton American Legion with a \$250 donation to the 605 Riders. Fred Nelson received the donation. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Bruce and Karyn Babcock represented BaseKamp Lodge with a \$632 donation to the 605 Riders. Fred Nelson received the donation. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The bikers were going through the serving line. (Photo by Bruce Babcock)



Carol Howitz and Micheline Nelson, both of Spearfish, prepared the large presentation check for photos throughout the event. Using masking tape, they were able to quickly change the names and amounts displayed on the check. After each photo was taken, they simply removed the taped information and replaced it with the next set, which had been prearranged on the back side of the check. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Working the grills were Scott Cooper, Ben Smith, Travis McGannon and Todd McGannon. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



David McGannon was in charge of the pancakes. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Paul Kosel and Deb McKiver were the servers. (Photo by Bruce Babcock)



Spearfish American Legion members Fred and Micheline Nelson lead the Legion Riders on a 4 day 1,400 mile SD American Legion Foundation fundraising ride. (Photo by Bruce Babcock)

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Groton Independent ♦ Wed., June 10, 2026 ♦ 3



Every NFL offseason brings optimism. Every fanbase convinces itself the rookies will hit, the free agents will work out, and this is finally the year everything comes together. But before the season starts and hope takes over, it's worth taking a hard look at the roster as it actually exists today.

Over the next ten weeks, we'll break down every position group on the Vikings' roster and rank them from the group I have the most confidence in to the one I trust the least entering the 2026 season. We'll look at the projected starters, depth pieces, offseason additions, and biggest questions each group faces.

Coming in at number 10 is the wide receiver position.

Confidence level: 99%

Current projected starters: Justin Jefferson, Jordan Addison, Jauan Jennings, Tai Felton

Competing for a roster or practice squad spot: Myles Price, Dontae Fleming, Jashaun Jones, Dillon Bell

Why I'm confident: The Minnesota Vikings have the best WR in the NFL (Justin Jefferson). They also have one of the best WR2s in the NFL (Jordan Addison). Not resting on their laurels, the Vikings went out and signed Jauan Jennings to fill the WR3 void created when Jalen Nailor signed with the Raiders. This gives the Vikings an elite receiving corps they can deploy to create mismatches all over the field.

In addition to the phenomenal starters, the Vikings also have a group of talented youngsters waiting in the wings. Tai Felton is entering his sophomore season, Myles Price is an electric kick returner, Dontae Fleming and Jashaun Jones are already showing promise early in offseason workouts, and Dillon Bell might be another great undrafted rookie the Vikings uncovered.

Cause for concern: This is the NFL, and injuries happen, but because of the depth, the Vikings are equipped to handle that just fine. The biggest concern is who is throwing them the ball. Justin Jefferson played in all 17 games last season, and the team had to make a concerted effort to get him over 1,000 yards in the season finale. With the addition of Jennings, and Addison looking to boost his stock as we near the end of his rookie contract, everyone will be looking to feast. Will there be enough to go around?

Potential upgrades: It's unlikely the Vikings will look to bring in more help at wide receiver, but if an injury occurs and they need depth, there are still plenty of talented WRs available. Tyreek Hill, Stefon Diggs, DeAndre Hopkins, and Deebo Samuel are household names that remain unsigned as of June 7.

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If you're looking for reasons to be optimistic about the Vikings entering 2026, wide receiver is near the top of the list. Between elite top-end talent and promising depth, Minnesota should feel good about this room.

But we're only getting started.

Next week, we continue the countdown and move to the position group that came in at number nine. The confidence is still high, but the question marks are starting to show.



Chamber welcomes new Rosewood Court owners
Members of the Groton Chamber welcomed the Shilhanek family, the new owners of Rosewood Court, during its monthly meeting Wednesday. Chamber members had the opportunity to meet and congratulate the family as they begin this new chapter.

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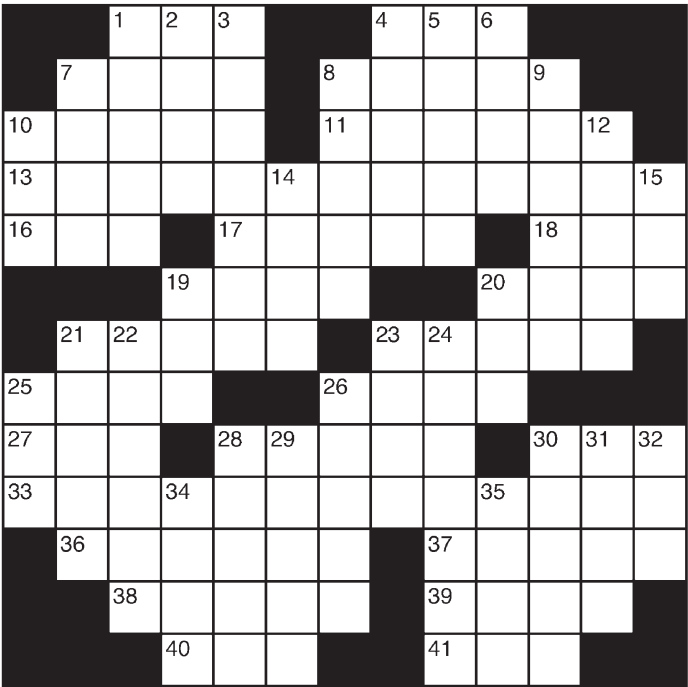
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4 Solo in space
7 Lawn mower brand
8 Spoils, with "on"
10 Wanderer
11 Beethoven's Third
13 Time management aids
16 Citric beverage
17 Got up
18 Mosquito barrier
19 " — chic!"
20 Feel sorry for
21 Mom's sister, informally
23 "Time in a Bottle" singer
25 Impudent
26 Owl call
27 Solid-rock insert
28 Spine-tingling
30 Lupino of film
33 Commuters' buys
36 Turned to mush
37 Lounges
38 Egypt's neighbor



- 39 Sloth's home
40 Ballpark fig.
41 Even so

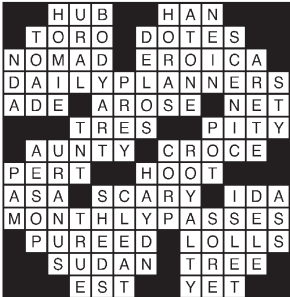
DOWN

- 1 Bro
2 Russian river
3 Tattoos, e.g.
4 Circle dances
5 Expiate
6 Dresden denial
7 Frog's kin
8 Apollo's birthplace
9 Picturesque
10 Secret protect-ing doc.
12 Mountain crest
14 Quarry
15 Farm pen
19 Stick with a kick
20 Cauldron
21 Greek storyteller
22 Faraway orb
23 Business abbr.
24 Author's payment

- 25 Actress Dawber
26 "Papa" of classical music
28 Molts
29 Traction aid
30 Archipelago part
31 Editing mark
32 Ninny
34 Verifiable
35 Harboring a grudge

King Crossword
Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.



Weekly SUDOKU
Answer

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

Groton City Council tables senior meal request, airport discussion; additional four-way stop approved

By Elizabeth Varin

The Groton City Council tackled a variety of community issues during its meeting Monday evening, including senior meal services, city mapping updates and traffic safety.

Council members tabled a request from Area IV Senior Nutrition to use the Community Center kitchen and a portion of the facility for senior meal services.

The executive director of Area IV Senior Nutrition toured the Community Center and said it would work well to prepare senior meals, according to information provided to the City Council. They would utilize the kitchen and a portion of the Southwest room, with the room on the east side of the building remaining fully available.

However, council members and senior citizens had questions about the proposal, including what specific space would be needed, the timing it would be utilized and whether a commercial kitchen would be necessary to provide food for the senior nutrition program. (It should be noted that the senior meals used to be prepared at the community center by Rose Locke)

The council tabled discussion pending as they seek more information about the proposed plan.

The council approved an agreement to update the city’s maps, though council members indicated additional discussion will be needed to determine how the city will handle mapping services and future updates moving forward.

The council approved an agreement with IMEG Consulting Corp. for an estimated \$3,500 to update the city’s base property map, which was last updated in 2018. Paper copies will be provided to the city.

Discussion about digital files and future map updates consumed an hour of the meeting as council members and staff reviewed the pros and cons of city staff mapping data points. That would eliminate having to pay to get the maps updated each year or as changes are made to plats in town.

However, that discussion was continued to a future meeting as equipment needed for mapping isn’t in the budget discussion until next year.

Discussion regarding airport leases and related airport matters was also tabled until the first meeting in July.

In other business, the council approved installing an eastbound stop sign on the west side of town, converting an existing three-way stop into a four-way stop.

Currently, the intersection of West Third Avenue and North State Street only has three stop signs, one on the west, one on of the north and one on the south side of the intersection.

The council approved adding a stop sign to the east side of the intersection, citing safety and the large number of kids in the area near the baseball and softball fields.

President’s, Dean’s and Academic Recognition Lists for Spring 2026

ABERDEEN, S.D. — Northern State University is proud to recognize the outstanding academic achievements of students for the Spring 2026 semester. The university is pleased to announce the students who have earned a place on the President’s List, Dean’s List, and Academic Recognition List.

The President’s List honors full-time undergraduate students who have achieved a perfect 4.00 grade point average (GPA) for the semester. This distinction reflects a Commitment to academic excellence and dedication to their studies.

The Dean’s List recognizes full-time undergraduate students who have attained a GPA of 3.50 to 3.99 during the semester. This reflects their dedication and sustained effort in achieving high academic standards.

Part-time undergraduate students earning a place on the Academic Recognition List have achieved a system honor point average of 3.50 or higher for the semester. Eligibility requires completion of at least 12 credit hours prior to the current semester at one or more Regental institutions. This honor demonstrates their sustained commitment to academic success.

Northern State University congratulates these students on their remarkable accomplishments and wishes them continued success in their academic pursuits. Their hard work and dedication exemplify the university’s values of excellence and perseverance.

DEAN’S LIST

Anna Fjeldheim (Groton)
Aspen Johnson (Groton)
Ava Kramer (Groton)
Lydia Meier (Groton)
Cali Vandervorst (Claremont)
Laney Widener (Langford)
Caleb Willis (Westport)

ACADEMIC RECOGNITION LIST

Bradley Jung (Warner)
Katelyn Mehlhaff (Westport)

PRESIDENT’S LIST

Jackson Bahr (Langford)
Alexandria Cutler (Claremont)
Reegan Cvancara (Columbia)
Elizabeth Fliehs (Groton)
Abigail Hinman (Groton)
Audrey Reineke (Westport)
Cole Simon (Groton)
Bryson Wambach (Groton)
Avery West (Langford)

Groton School Board Advances Facilities Planning Process

By Elizabeth Varin

The Groton Area School Board took steps Monday to advance the district’s facilities master plan, looking at funding options and preparing for a bond vote.

Board members approved a contract with Co-Op Architects for pre-bond services that will help guide the district through the next phases of planning. The services include facilitating public meetings, developing project budgets, refining phasing concepts and creating both interior and exterior renderings of the proposed facilities master plan.

During discussion, board members expressed a desire to continue exploring options for moving forward with a bond election while obtaining more detailed information about how a potential project could be phased over time. The board also discussed financing options, including the possibility of dividing project costs between a bond issuance and capital outlay certificates.

Board Vice President Nick Strom said he hopes the community sees that something has to be done. If the district can lock in lower prices right away, it might be a good way to approach the discussion with voters.

Board President Grant Rix said he would prefer to fund the master plan all through a bond, but that may not be possible. He added he is concerned that capital outlay funding gets tied up paying for capital outlay certificates, it could be a problem if something comes down the line that needs to be fixed.

The pre-bond planning process is expected to provide additional information that will help the board evaluate project scope, costs and timelines before making final decisions about a bond proposal.

Board members expressed the need to be transparent about project funding options.

In other action, the board made a handful of hires for the coming school year.

The board approved hiring Tanya Dargatz as middle school math teacher and Sam Markley as middle school/high school social science teacher.

Dargatz has taught at Holgate Middle School in Aberdeen. She received her bachelor’s degree in elementary education and master’s degree in teaching and learning from Northern State University.

Markley graduated from the University of Sioux Falls with a secondary education degree. He was a student teacher in Sioux Falls before being asked to become a long-term substitute. He was also named South Dakota assistant debate coach of the year after helping lead Washington High School’s debate team.

The board also approved hiring Shaun Wanner as junior high football coach for the 2026 season, hiring Kelly Oswald as yearbook advisor for the 2026-2027 school year, hiring Trinity Smith and Aubray Miller as cheer coaches for the 2026-2027 school year and hiring Aaron Tvinnereim as maintenance director beginning July 15.

The board issued coaching/advisor agreements for the 2026-2027 school year as well for the following individuals.

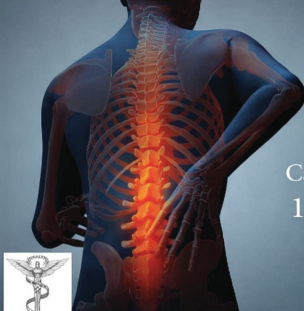
- Matt Baumgartner as head girls soccer coach
- Amanda Bisbee as head girls softball coach
- Chris Ehresmann as junior high wrestling coach
- Seth Erickson as assistant football coach
- Joni Groeblichhoff as co-Destination Imagination coordinator
- Chelsea Hanson as head volleyball coach
- Matt Locke as head girls basketball coach
- Brenda Madsen as senior class advisor
- Julie Milbrandt as co-Destination Imagination coordinator
- Ryan Olson as head boys soccer coach
- Sarah Schuster as junior high volleyball coach
- Trent Traphagen as assistant girls basketball coach
- Darin Zoellner as head wrestling coach
- Troy Zoellner as assistant wrestling coach

The district still has vacancies to fill before the upcoming school year. Those positions include a special education teacher, ag education teacher/FFA advisor, food service position and junior high football coach assistant.

The board also approved publishing a draft budget for the 2026-2027 school year. The board will hold a hearing at its next meeting Monday, July 13. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., with a budget hearing scheduled for 7:30 p.m.



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JUNE 2, 2026 – 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, Sutton and Wiese. Commissioner Dinger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None
RICHMOND DAM UPDATE: Chairman Sutton shared the following information from Commissioner Greenfield. They are going to look at deploying another pump south of Aberdeen to move the water out of the mog. They have shut down two of the three pumps at Richmond. Journey is monitoring the water levels and will adjust accordingly. Scott Meints, Emergency Management Director, shared they are monitoring the water levels on the Elm due to all the rain. Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent, informed the Commission that they have the first layer on the detour but with the rain that set them back a little bit. There have been no more reports of people messing with the pipes.

SPEED LIMIT ON BC HWY. 13: Chairman Sutton reminded everyone that they had received a request to lower the speed limit from 55 to 45 on Br. Co. Hwy. 13 from Hwy. 281 to Br. Co. 14. He heard from several people that they want it to be left alone. Commissioner Dinger stated he had no interest in lowering the speed limit and even would like to shorten the 45 mph at Prairiewood from ½ mile instead of a mile. Commissioner Wiese shared that they got the traffic incidents and there were no concerns; people need to obey the traffic signs and not to pull out and cut people off. Chairman Sutton also pointed out that this was intended to be the North Bypass for traffic around Aberdeen. After the discussion, Commissioner Dinger made a motion to deny the request to lower the speed limit on Br. Co. Hwy. 13 from 55 to 45, seconded by Gage. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #324 - SECOND READING/POSSIBLE ADOPTION: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to adopt Ordinance #324, Applicant Shawn & Melissa Schultz 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: Lot 3, "Jones 2nd Subdivision" in the SE1/4 of Section 22-T123N-R62W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (39756 134th Street, Bath Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LANDFILL CELL #5 CONSTRUCTION – PAYMENT #1: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dinger to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Payment #1 for Landfill Cell #5 Construction to Midland Contracting, Inc. for \$657,385.84. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the General Meeting Minutes of May 26, 2026. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Claims/Payroll. Claims: Insurance: Insurance Plus \$675.00. Professional Fees: CenturyLink-Lumen \$221.00; Courtney Wolff \$320.00; Credit Collections Bureau \$627.40; ISI, LLC \$120.00; Jerome

Akin \$163.00; Kylee Boomsma \$1,338.40; Modern Day Health Care Prof LLC \$4,725.00; PRIA \$60.00; SD Dept of Transportation \$1,549.38; Taliaferro Law Firm, PC \$1,177.30. Publishing: Aberdeen Parks, Recreation and Forestry \$200.00; Groton Daily Independent \$341.31; McQuillen Creative Group, Inc \$421.26. Rentals: Dakota Electronics LLC \$123.00. Repairs & Maintenance: Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$27.41; Dakota Pump & Control \$531.63; Eco-Lab Pest Elimination Division \$118.47; Gary's Engine and Repair \$216.29; House of Glass \$1,748.79; Pierson Ford Lincoln, Inc \$1,489.02; Prahm Construction, Inc \$285,087.59; Steven Lust Automotive \$1,101.29. Supplies & Materials: Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$903.05; Cartney Bearing \$25.56; Century Business Products \$206.69; Charm-Tex, Inc \$367.20; Cook's Direct, Inc. \$163.48; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$1,118.02; Fire Safety USA, Inc \$98.71; L.G. Everist, Inc \$9,029.31; Lien Transportation Company \$1,245.50; McQuillen Creative Group, Inc \$125.00; Menards \$628.14; Midstates Group \$92.00; Midwest Pump & Tank \$282.00; Nutrien Ag Solutions, Inc \$5,031.00; Performance Oil \$131.08; PharmChem, Inc \$1,151.34; Pitney Bowes Global Financial Services LLC \$1,046.10; Precision Kiosk Technologies \$175.00; Runnings \$1,848.22; SD Secretary of State \$3,308.00; Share Corporation \$1,227.60; Steven Lust Automotive \$79.90; Trav's Outfitter Inc \$174.99; TrueNorth Steel \$2,145.03; Yokselin Garcia \$99.98. Travel & Conference: Heather Wilkinson \$106.00; Joe Kretchman \$19.00; Kendel Simon \$171.00; Linda Marcuson \$19.00; Makayla Madsen \$19.25; Makendra Ochsner \$210.00; National Rifle Association \$745.00; Neil Bittner \$38.00; Scott Kolb \$38.00. Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$184.89; CenturyLink \$0.86; Northwestern Energy \$12,887.93; T-Mobile USA Inc \$1,302.48. Other: City of Hecla \$500.00. Payroll: Commission \$5,165.81; Elections \$5,449.32; Auditor/Welfare \$12,064.02; Treasurer \$20,150.88; SA \$38,050.70; Public Defender \$14,449.33; Maintenance \$13,604.29; Assessor \$17,541.97; Register of Deeds \$11,511.04; VSO \$5,006.26; GIS \$3,110.76; IT \$10,616.94; HR \$5,721.14; Sheriff \$62,722.77; Jail \$79,779.47; Coroner (Voucher) \$1,500.00; Court Security \$7,665.93; JDC \$32,217.57; Museum \$14,073.12; Parks/Fairgrounds \$9,118.04; Fair Board \$5,123.36; 4-H \$1,146.60; Weed \$5,759.04; Planning & Zoning \$8,568.33; Highway \$53,270.38; Dispatch \$34,556.93; Emergency \$5,805.33; 24/7 Sobriety \$2,822.75; Landfill \$16,578.50; Meal Benefits \$73.00; FICA \$31,199.87; Medicare \$7,296.72; Health Insurance-Wellmark CBBS \$138,141.19; Dental Insurance-Delta Dental \$9,642.36; Life Insurance-Dearborn \$1,139.85; Retirement-SDRS \$94,802.21. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SET BID DATE & AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING FOR WEED & PEST VEHICLE: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to set bid date and authorize publication for the Weed & Pest Vehicle. Bid Opening Date will be held on June 23, 2026 at 8:45 A.M. for a 4x4 Chassis Truck or Flatbed Bids. Details can be found on Brown County website at <https://www.brown.sd.us/brown-county-bid>. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SHERIFF REPORTS: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to acknowledge the April 2026 Sheriff Reports: Incidents and offenses, Prisoner Care, JDC, and money deposited with the County Treasurer. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Ross Aldentalar, State's Attorney Deputy had an amendment for approval but wanted to go into Exec first to discuss contracts.

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

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

OTHER BUSINESS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign amendment to change closing date of purchasing the EAC Building from June 3rd to June 11th. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:45 A.M. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

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pay period – effective June 21, 2026. Request to fill.

o Promotion of Mickey Schulz from Brown County Building and Grounds Maintenance Worker to Brown County Assistant Building Maintenance Superintendent; starting wage \$28.91/hr. – effective June 21, 2026. Request to fill.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

AUDITOR'S REPORT OF AC-COUNTS FOR APRIL 2026: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dinger to approve the Auditor's Report of Accounts for April 2026: Total Cash and Checks on Hand \$7,700.00; Total Checking Account Balances: \$39,200.841.72; Total Savings Account Balances: \$2,625,447.42; Total Certificates of Deposit: \$13,329,732.53; Grand Total Cash and Balances: \$55,163,721.67. General Fund \$21,456,569.39; Road & Bridge Fund \$2,313,259.98; 911 Service \$609,166.49; Emergency & Disaster \$217,208.43; Domestic Abuse \$1,109.03; SA Grants \$175,442.47; 24/7 Sobriety \$64,190.29; ROD M&P \$69,953.52; Opioid Settlement Fund \$40,956.81; Rural Access Infrastructure \$376,393.85; TIF Debt Service \$530,127.16; Landfill + cash change \$8,418,254.71; Landfill - restricted \$1,894,495.06; Trust and Agency Funds \$20,891,089.54; GRAND TOTAL GENERAL FUND CASH AND INVESTMENTS \$55,163,721.67. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SET BID DATE & AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING FOR WEED & PEST VEHICLE: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to set bid date and authorize publication for the Weed & Pest Vehicle. Bid Opening Date will be held on June 23, 2026 at 8:45 A.M. for a 4x4 Chassis Truck or Flatbed Bids. Details can be found on Brown County website at <https://www.brown.sd.us/brown-county-bid>. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SHERIFF REPORTS: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to acknowledge the April 2026 Sheriff Reports: Incidents and offenses, Prisoner Care, JDC, and money deposited with the County Treasurer. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Ross Aldentalar, State's Attorney Deputy had an amendment for approval but wanted to go into Exec first to discuss contracts.

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

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

OTHER BUSINESS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign amendment to change closing date of purchasing the EAC Building from June 3rd to June 11th. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:45 A.M. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

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JUNE 5, 2026 – CANVASS OF JUNE 2, 2026 PRIMARY ELECTION

Brown County Commissioners Chairman Duane Sutton, Mike Gage, Drew Dennert, Kyler Dinger and Mike Wiese convened for the purpose of canvassing the

June 2, 2026 Primary Election, as authorized by SDCL 12-20-36 at 1:00 p.m. on June 5, 2026 in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD.

Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the Official Canvass, as follows: (Note: There was 1 provisional ballot, and it is included in these totals)

United States Senator
Justin McNeal..... 1,406
Mike Rounds 4,458
United States Representative
Marty Jackley 4,730
James Bialota 1,039
Governor
Larry Rhoden 1,094
Jon Hansen 1,332
Dusty Johnson..... 1,734
Toby Doeden..... 1,982
State Senator-District 03
Carl Perry..... 1,443
Katherine (Katie) Washnok ..
..... 2,509
State Representative-District

01 Logan Manhart..... 817
Keith Miller..... 780
Daniel Kjos..... 400
Nick Fosness 628
State Representative-District

03 Kaleb Weis 1,096
Al Novstrup 1,598
Timothy Hanigan 1,980
Spencer Sommers..... 2,217
State Representative-District

23 Spencer Gosch 240
Dick Werner 128
Amber Werdell 137
Sheriff
Robert L. Weinmeister 2,829
Dan Kaiser 1,928
Linn Kamin..... 267
Dave Lunzman 822
Delegates to State Convention
Charlene Cornelius..... 2,119
Ashton Dennert 3,023
Wayne Bierman 2,602
Maryann Bierman 2,282
Precinct Committeeman –

Precinct 02
Steven Lust..... 725
Allan Novstrup..... 436
Precinct Committeeman-Precinct 03
Daniel Richardt..... 204
Talmage Ekanger 356
Precinct Committeeman-Precinct 05
Larry Inches..... 79
James Washnok..... 169
Precinct Committeeman-Precinct 08
Michael Kum 182
Logan Manhart 232
Precinct Committeeman-Precinct 09
Kaleb Weis 91
Dana Breske..... 58
Precinct Committeeman –

Precinct 12
Lowell Harms 201
Jesse Zak..... 93
Precinct Committeewoman-Precinct 03
Emily Richardt..... 240
Laura J. Saunders..... 246
Precinct Committeewoman-Precinct 05
Katherine Washnok..... 188
Jan Inches 72
Precinct Committeewoman-Precinct 09
Kayla Weis 70
Jenny Bladow 66
Precinct Committeewoman-Precinct 10
Brenda Dreyer 100
Anne Miller..... 96
School Board Member:
Britton-Hecla School District

45-4
Angela Grupe 41
Jeff Christenson..... 55
Heather Landreth 59
Amy Jo Vietor 52
Jeanne Ahlgren 0
Heidi Eimers..... 16
POST-ELECTION DRAW:

Chairman Sutton drew VC-11 – Frederick, which only had 83 ballots cast, so Vice-Chairman Gage drew VC-5 – Westport, which had 87 ballots cast. Commissioner Dennert drew for the Statewide race, which will be United State Representative race. Commissioner Wiese drew Delegates to the State Convention for the Local race. The Post Election Audit will be on Wednesday, June 10, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Wiese to adjourn the Canvass Meeting for the June 2, 2026 Primary Election. All members

present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published June 10, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$52.94 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26899



ORDINANCE #324
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES AS AMENDED TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that Ordinance #324, An Ordinance Amending Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended to rezone the following described property filed by petitioner Shawn & Melissa Schultz was duly adopted by the Board of Brown County Commissioners on the 2nd day of June 2026 and will become effective on the 30th day of June 2026.

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: Lot 3, "Jones 2nd Subdivision" in the SE1/4 of Section 22-T123N-R62W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (39756 134th Street, Bath 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 2nd day of June 2026.

Duane Sutton, Brown County Commission Chairman

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Notice of Hearing: May 6, 2026

First Reading: May 19, 2026
Second Reading/Adoption: June 2, 2026

Published: June 10, 2026
Effective Date: June 30, 2026
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NOTICE TO AUTO DEALERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Courthouse Annex, 25 Market St., Aberdeen, SD 57401 until 8:45 A.M. on June 23, 2026. At that time and place, all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners for furnishing and delivery of a 4 x 4 Chassis Truck or Flatbed for Weed & Pest. Delivery shall be made F.O.B. to Brown County.

Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed and delivered to the Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, SD 57401. Bids are to be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: "Bid on 4 x 4 Truck for Weed & Pest" to be opened on June 23, 2026.

Price and quality are the determining factors in awarding contracts. In determining the successful bidder, the lowest or most advantageous price upon grade, quality, or quantity and general conditions specified, shall be the determining factors.

The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids which they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County.

Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise Tax and State Sales Tax.

Specifications are on file in the Brown County Auditor's Office, and the Brown County Weed & Pest Department, and may be obtained at no charge.

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

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City of Columbia Council Meeting – June 3, 2026

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Cara Dennert, Scott Meints, Sam Hoppock, Trevor Meints

Community: Julie Zastrow

President Trevor Meints called the meeting to order. Trevor called for a motion to approve the agenda. Scott Meints made a motion to approve the agenda. Sam Hoppock seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried. Trevor called for any conflict of interest on agenda items. There were no conflicts. Minutes were handed out from the May 18th meeting. Sam Hoppock made a motion to approve the minutes. Scott Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried. Minutes were handed out from the May 6th meeting. Scott Meints made a motion to approve the minutes. Sam Hoppock seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

Warrant Vouchers Northwestern Energy – electricity – 1357.54; Web – fire prevention – 55.30; NVC – fire prevention – 213.12; Jeremy Dosch– May. wages -1494.90, Cara Dennert – May. wages– 1317.60; GDI – publications– 167.28; Runnings – shop supplies – 107.31; Menards – shop supplies – 139.66; TruGreen – park care – 2060.00; Cheryl Kampa – flower reimbursement – 327.13; Dacotah Bank – funeral flowers – 71.88; Columbia Baseball Association – repayment of scoreboard grant – 16,750.50; Brian Ermer – park mowing – 5833.33

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

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE: - Julie was present to discuss a couple pothole areas and a rubble site incident. The board thanked her for the heads up.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- wastewater project - nothing new

Nuisances –Trevor met with our Code Enforcement Officer. Letters are being sent in connection with ordinance violations that were discussed.

Streets – The streets need to be graded. A new culvert was put in where a new home is going in on Lake Blvd. The city received a gravel bid from Shane for \$17.75/ton.

Parks –The baseball committee would like us to add some shelving in the concession stand. We will look into some pricing options. The parks look good. In the old park, some things need to be marked (before the grass gets too high) in case it is mowed again. Scott will do that. Jeremy helped with replacement of filters, faucets and toilets in the new parks (because of water damage).

Lagoon/Sewer- nothing further

Rubble Site – The site has been stacked – ready for a burn.

NEW BUSINESS – Scott presented the county's 5 year plan for emergency mitigation goals & actions. Cheryl Kampa wanted the council to know that the Community Cares group is looking into purchasing some Columbia flags for our existing poles/rods. They will purchase 2 or 3 and wondered if the city would be willing to do the same. The council said yes, they would. She also wanted to know that the community lending library will be refurbished soon. She was wondering where it could be installed to minimize damage and maximize use.

FINANCIAL REPORT
May 30, 2026, balances: SF - \$ 132,514.41; SF Money Market –\$ 153,888.32;

GF - \$ 282,801.14; GF Money Market - \$ 51,635.67; CD Money Market - \$ 41,933.33
FIT - \$ 16,403.38; Cash on hand - \$0

President Trevor Meints adjourned the meeting.

Next City Council Meeting - Wednesday, July 1, 2026 - 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

Published June 10, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$36.19 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26902

160+/- ACRES IN CHARLES MIX COUNTY, SD

ONLINE LAND AUCTION

From Geddes, SD: 4 miles West on 285th St. then 1 mile South on 370th Ave. to the NW Corner of the property. From Platte, SD: 9 miles South on 367th Ave., then 3 miles East on 285th St. then 1 mile South on 370th Ave. to the NW Corner of the property.

►► REGISTER TODAY FOR THIS AUCTION!!

Bidding Start Date:

Friday, June 26, 2026 at 1:00 pm (CDT)

Bidding Close Date:

Tuesday, June 30, 2026 at 1:00 pm (CDT)

Land Marketers Realty

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TRAVIS DOUGHERTY, Broker

Mobile (402) 336-7612

www.LandMarketers.com

6 ♦Groton Independent ♦ Wed., June 10, 2026



June 9, 2026

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00pm at 120 N Main Street for their first monthly meeting with the following members present: Bahr, Shilhanek, Voss-Severson, Babcock, Cutler, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were Attorney Chad Locken, Kellie Locke, Elizabeth Varin, Dwight Zerr, Jesse Anderson, Todd Gay, Ken Heier, Scott Bader, Braylin Scott Bader, John Aldrich, Ruby Donovan and Beverly Sombke.

Moved by Babcock and seconded Voss-Severson to approve the agenda with no additions or changes. All members present voted aye.

Public comments were welcomed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1, but none were received.

Allowing Area IV Senior Nutrition to use kitchen and portion of southwest room at the Community Center was tabled on a motion by Cutler and Bahr. All members present voted aye.

Aldrich and Donovan exited the meeting.

Moved by Bahr and seconded by Cutler to approve Shirley Larson First Addition Plat. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Bahr and seconded by Voss-Severson to approve WW Rentals LLC Lot 1 Plat. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Voss-Severson and seconded by Cutler to approve IMEG City Map Agreement. All members present voted aye.

Discussion took place regarding GIS.

Bader, Bader, Sombke, Heier and Anderson exited the meeting.

Department reports were reviewed and discussed.

Zerr and Gay exited the meeting.

Airport discussion and an update on hangar leases was tabled on a motion by Shilhanek and Voss-Severson. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Bahr to Surplus a 2007 Ford F55 4x4 Bucket Truck. Sealed bids are due by July 21st, 2026 at 5pm. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Voss-Severson and seconded by Babcock to authorize the install of an Eastbound Stop Sign at West 3rd Avenue and State Street. All members present voted aye.

Discussion took place regarding late payments and post-marks.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Cutler and seconded by Shilhanek. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Bahr and seconded by Cutler to authorize the following bills for payment. All remaining members present voted aye.

Payroll, \$65,504.65, Employee salaries; Executive, \$725.46; Administrative, \$9,941.38; Public Safety, \$9,973.87; Public Works, \$28,823.04; Culture & Recreation, \$16,040.90; Darrell Hillestad, \$77,403.05, Reimbursement for airport expenses; City of Groton, \$20.00, U12 hat reimbursement; Dacotah Bank, \$6,064.60, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$689.57, HSA contributions; Rich and Heather Fliehs, \$40.00, U10/U12 baseball hat refund; Matt and Nicole Jacobsen, \$75.00, Softball fee refund; Dacotah Bank, \$4,136.98, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Reliance Standard Life Insurance, \$85.60, Employee insurance; AFLAC, \$456.96, Employee insurance; Colonial Life, \$69.40, Employee insurance; Health Pool of South Dakota, \$16,687.14, Employee insurance; Verizon Wireless, \$40.01, Wireless router - Rubble Site; US Bank, \$21,426.46, DW-05 loan payment; US Bank, \$6,734.43, DW-06 loan payment; US Bank, \$30,467.50, 2015 refi-

nance bond interest payment; NW Energy, \$14.01, Natural gas service - PD; Daktronics, inc., \$40,419.00, New scoreboard for Locke/Karst Field; J's Superior Cleaning, \$225.00, Commercial cleaning services - City Hall/PD; Colonial Research, \$232.78, Cleaning supplies - Community Center; Core & Main, \$723.12, Valve tops - Street Dept.; Metering & Technology Solutions, \$1,924.02, Cellular endpoints for water meters; Share Corporation, \$135.56, Case of hand soap - City Shop; Avera Medical Group, \$40.00, Drug/alcohol screening fee; S&S Lumber Co., \$1,035.15, Field markers, cable ties, marking paint, sprayer, gloves, bolts, nets, fittings, blow gun, trimmer line, caulk, keys cut, bulb, plywood, rope, park bathroom supplies, baseball concessions project supplies - Multiple Depts.; Kromer Company, \$239.35, x3 brooms for Kromer - Baseball; Jackie Iverson, \$2,020.00, 2026 softball umpire pay; Full Circle Ag, \$293.75, Weed control chemicals; Payment Service Network, Inc., \$206.75, PSN gateway and eBill fees - May 2026; WEB Water, \$28,742.98, Water services - May 2026; Northern Electric Coop, \$90.34, Power services at airport - May 2026; SD Retirement System, \$10,427.92, Employee retirement; Dacotah Bank, \$8,887.23, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$2,939.57, HSA contributions; Douglas Heinrich, \$300.00, Med flex; USPS, \$328.61, Utility billing postage; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$540.00, Supplemental retirement; Lori's Pharmacy, \$21.96, Window paint - Swimming Pool; SD Department of Health, \$568.00, Water/sewer testing; Associated Supply Company, \$21,643.28, Swimming pool chemicals; Team Lab Chemical Corp, \$2,100.00, Lagoon chemicals - Sewer Dept.; Altec Industries, Inc., \$266,747.48, 2026 Ford F550 Bucket Truck - Electric Dept.; Kellie Locke, \$29.00, Mileage reimbursement for baseball hats at Geffdog and drop off pool brick sheets; SD DANR, \$600.00, 2026 drinking water permit; The Groton Independent, \$88.38, Publishing costs; Railroad Management Co., LLC, \$917.41, Water pipeline crossing rent; Farmers Union Coop Assoc., \$959.20, Fuel purchases - Cemetery/Baseball Complex; Dakota Pump & Control, \$12,406.26, New pump at swimming pool; Harve's Sport Shop, \$2,526.54, Softballs, baseballs, scorebooks, ump indicators, catchers gear - Baseball/Softball; Schwan Welding & Boiler Repair, \$418.00, Welding of scoreboard post - Baseball; Menards, \$87.38, Wire shelf and 7-way test strip - Baseball/Pool; Geffdog Designs, \$616.40, Baseball hats and banner; Cole Papers, Inc., \$202.74, Paper towels - City Hall/Baseball; Irby, Inc., \$19,521.84, Rubber goods, flashlight, screw sealing rings, lineman gloves, FR clothing, Form 2S meters, pruning saw, saw chain, fuse links - Electric Dept.; Dollar General, \$330.46, Toilet paper, soap, paper bowls, candy, paper towels, garbage cans, wipes, vinegar, garbage bags, cleaning supplies, pump sprayers, cortizone cream, paint sticks - Multiple Depts.; The Roofers, \$8,476.69, Final bill for shingles at City Hall; Coca-Cola Bottling Company, \$1,600.80, Drinks for resale - Pool/Baseball; Jesse Anderson, \$79.99, Reimbursement for purchase of tire at TSC; Ecolab Pest Elimination, \$117.98, Rubble site rodent control; Darrels LLC, \$18.00, Tire repair on mower - Baseball; VESTIS, \$69.50, Rug rent - City Hall; Ken's Fair Foods, \$2,529.13, Foam cups, paper towels, toilet paper, fuel, food for resale - Baseball/Pool Concessions, bottled water - Multiple Depts.; A&B Business Solutions, \$275.57, Printer/copier lease - City Hall; Bruce Kleinsasser, \$1,895.00, 2026 in-service training and recertification; Auto Value Aberdeen, \$179.39, Pressure switch for dump truck - Street Dept.; Runnings, \$50.71, Parts for sprayer - City Shop.

Varin exited the meeting.

Moved by Shilhanek and seconded by Babcock to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal matters 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 9:05pm. All members present voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 9:23pm.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Voss-Severson to adjourn the meeting at 9:23pm. All members present voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Kellie Locke, Assistant Finance Officer

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Town of Westport General Meeting

The Town of Westport met on June 1, 2026 at 7:00 p.m., with Mitch Wilson, Shane Storm, Troy Tschappat, Jason Bender, Alex Jones, and Deb Schlosser present.

The following bills were presented:

City General: NW Energy-utilities (\$624.10), Groton Independent-May meeting minutes (\$20.08), Performance Oil-propane (\$125.61), DSG-supplies (\$90.02), Mitch Wilson-payroll (\$925.00), Shane Storm-payroll (\$275.00), Troy Tschappat-payroll (\$275.00), Deb Schlosser-payroll (\$900.00), Runnings-mowing supplies and battery (\$159.97), Westport Community Days-fireworks donation (\$1500.00)

Sewer: NW Energy-Lift Station utilities (\$56.57), Dakota Pump & Control-inspection (\$1158.17)

Water: Water Maintenance District-April testing (\$714.29), Public Health Laboratory-April & May testing (\$40.00), WEB-water (\$2233.89), DANR-environmental fee (\$30.00)

Troy Tschappat motioned, second by Shane Storm to pay all bills.

The following deposits were presented:

City General: State of SD (\$6583.53), Brown County Collections (\$4049.05), Interest (\$48.81)

Sewer: Resident Payments (\$2859.26)

Water: Resident Payments (\$4288.88)

Old Business: the estimate from Dakota Pump & Control was approved as the May meeting. The estimate did not include travel and installation. Shane Storm motioned, seconded by Troy Tschappat to approve additional expenses.

New Business: The Board approved Alex Jones' request to use the ballpark bleachers for the tractor pull during Community Days. Troy Tschappat motioned, second by Mitch Wilson to approve special liquor license for The Shed during community days. Shane Storm abstained from voting. Troy Tschappat, on behalf of Westport Community Days, asked if the Board would be willing to make a donation towards the fireworks. Mitch Wilson motioned, second by Shane to donate \$1,500.00. Troy Tschappat abstained from voting.

Meeting dismissed at 7:34 p.m.

Deb Schlosser, Finance Officer

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General	Capital	Special	Food	Enterprise	
EXPENDITURE BUDGET	Fund	Outlay	Education	Service	Fund
Elementary Programs	1,232,770	52,000			
Elementary Summer Program	9,781				
Middle School Programs	602,776	55,600			
High School Programs	1,031,471	148,200			
Jr. Kindergarten	45,284	400			
NCAI/Hi Tech Programs	1,500	4,000			
Destination Imagination	19,891				
Mild/Moderate Disabilities		600	624,450		
Severe Disabilities		150	139,450		
Residential Programs			87,000		
Early Childhood Programs		800	36,642		
Opportunity Classroom	66,327	200			
Limited English Proficient	28,622	400			
Title I Programs	189,139				
Counseling Services	83,258	250			
Medical Services	52,461	9,200	5,000		
Psychological Services			17,090		
Speech Pathology Services		100	49,370		
Physical Therapy			75,000		
Occupational Therapy			115,000		
Curriculum Development	120				
Instructional Staff Training	16,947				
1003 Grant	2,700				
School Library Services	60,466	6,150			
Technology in School	83,810	110,500			
Election Services	5,000				
Legal Services	3,000		400		
Audit Services	19,200				
Board of Education	66,550				
Office of the Superintendent	196,673	1,000			
Office of the Principals	382,219	2,000			
Other Support Services	600				
Fiscal Services	193,755	20,000			
Architect & Engineering	10,000				
Other Facilities Acq & Constr		20,000			
Building Care & Upkeep	931,490	660,000			
Building Services Equipment		100,000			
Vehicle Maintenance	557,991	195,000			
School Lunch				317,500	
Special Ed Administrative			21,092		
Special Ed Transportation			45,860		
Out-of-School Time Program					105,325
Driver's Education					16,095
State Unemployment	2,000				
Early Retirement	16,150				
Debt Service		584,910			
Athletics	269,744	80,200			
Other Co-Curricular	36,130	1,600			
Contingency	50,000				
Transfers Out					
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	6,267,825	2,053,260	1,216,354	317,500	121,420
General		Capital	Special	Food	Enterprise
MEANS OF FINANCE	Fund	Outlay	Education	Service	Fund
Local Sources:					
Taxes	4,383,550	2,232,094	1,217,900		12,000
Regular Tuition					
Summer School Fees					
Transportation Fees	25				
Interest Earned	72,000				
Food Service Sales				164,700	
Co-Curricular Revenue	74,400				
Other Local Revenue	17,400		700		93,500
Total Local Sources	4,547,375	2,232,094	1,218,600	164,700	105,500
County Sources:					
State Fines	40,000		100		
Revenue In Lieu of Taxes	50				
Total County Sources	40,050	-	100	-	-
State Sources					
State Aid	737,434				
State Apportionment	70,000				
Wind Farm Revenue	175,000				
Bank Franchise Tax	81,000				
Mentor Teacher Program	2,000				
State Cash Reimbursements				1,000	
Other State Revenue	500				
Total State Sources	1,065,934	-	-	1,000	-
Federal Sources:					
Federal Wetlands	6,000				
Small Rural School Achievement	21,735				
Clean Diesel Grant					
Title IV, Part A	12,095				
Title I, Part A	125,282				
Improving Achievement					
Title II, Part A	39,167				
EL Grant	9,800				
Federal Cash Reimbursements				76,000	
Other Federal Revenue	1,000	1,000	150		
Total Federal Sources	215,079	1,000	150	76,000	-
Other Sources:					
Transfer In					
Sale of Surplus Property	25				
Total Other Sources	25	-	-	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE	5,868,463	2,233,094	1,218,850	241,700	105,500
Cash on Hand	399,362	(179,834)	(2,496)	75,800	15,920
TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCE	6,267,825	2,053,260	1,216,354	317,500	121,420
Rebecca Hubsch, Business Official, Groton Area School District No. 06-6, Groton, SD					
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Groton Independent ♦ Wed., June 10, 2026 ♦ 7

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Brookings to host traveling replica of Vietnam Veterans Memorial June 11-14; all ages welcome

BROOKINGS, S.D. – A traveling replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial will arrive in Brookings this week, giving area veterans, families and the public an opportunity to honor those who served and died in the Vietnam War.

Brookings was selected as one of only 31 communities nationwide to host The Wall That Heals during its 2026 national tour. It will be the exhibit’s only stop in South Dakota this year. “As our nation celebrates its 250th birthday this year, Brookings is humbled to serve as a place of remembrance, reflection and honoring of our Vietnam veterans,” said Kristin Zimmerman, director of the city’s Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department.

The Wall That Heals is a three-quarter-scale replica of the memorial in Washington, D.C. It will be displayed from June 11-14 at the Fishback Soccer Complex, 1100 20th St. S. Free for all ages to experience, the exhibit will be open 24 hours a day starting Thursday, June 11, and ending at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 14.

Operated by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF), The Wall That Heals is the only traveling exhibit connected to the Washington, D.C., memorial and features the country’s largest mobile replica of The Wall. The three-quarter-scale exhibit stretches 375 feet in length and stands 7.5 feet high at its tallest point. Visitors can walk along the rising panels toward the apex, mirroring the design of the Memorial in Washington, D.C., and also make name rubbings of individual service members.

The Wall arrived in Brookings on Tuesday, June 9, with a motorcade escort and watch locations along the route. Assembly began at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 10. Disassembly will start at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, June 14.

Zimmerman is leading the project and said it has special meaning to her.

“I’m a military child, born and raised. My grandfather was in the Korean War, my dad was in Operation Desert Storm, Vietnam and all other conflicts in between,” she said. “I’m excited for people in Brookings and the region to visit The Wall That Heals. I’m sure it will be a moving experience for all who do.”

The traveling exhibit honors the more than 3 million Americans who served in the Vietnam War and bears the names of the 58,281 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice. The exhibit also includes a mobile education center focused on the history of the Vietnam War, the experiences of veterans, and an In Memory feature that honors Vietnam War veterans from South Dakota who returned home from service but later died as a result of their time in the war.

Volunteers are needed to help with The Wall That Heals. To sign up, go to www.cityofbrookings-sd.gov/TheWallThatHealsBrookings2026.

The Wall That Heals Schedule of Events

Several special events will occur, starting Tuesday, June 9, with The Wall’s arrival. “Taps” will be performed at sunset June 11-13. Details can be found online at www.cityofbrookings-sd.gov/TheWallThatHealsBrookings2026.

Guided Tours

Guided tours will be offered for all ages Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The tour times are 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2 p.m., and 6 p.m. One exception: The 9 a.m. tour will not be offered Thursday due to the Welcome Home Ceremony that will happen at that time.

Schedule of Events

Tuesday, June 9:

1:00 PM – The public is encouraged to help welcome The Wall That Heals motorcade escort to Brookings. The Rolling Thunder and others will help escort the motorcade as it winds its way through Brookings to Fishback Soccer Complex. A map of the route, along with watch areas, can be found online.

Wednesday, June 10:

Assembly of The Wall will start at 8:30 a.m. at Fishback Soccer Complex. Volunteers are welcome to help.

Thursday, June 11:

9:00 AM – A patriotic Welcome Home Ceremony will mark the official opening of The Wall.

Friday, June 12:

Evening – A “Light the Night in Teal for PTSD Awareness Month” ceremony will take place. In the evening leading up to sunset, The Wall will be lit in teal, the official color for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Saturday, June 13:

No special events.

Sunday, June 14:

1:30 PM - Closing ceremony to thank volunteers

1:58 PM - final performance of “Taps”

2:00 PM - Disassembly begins. Volunteers are welcome to help.

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