

# The Groton Independent

Vol. 144 No. 05 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2026 ♦ Established in 1889

## Simunek family settle in America from Czech Republic

by Dorene Nelson

Jaromir and Jana ("yah nah") Simunek, formerly from Czechoslovakia (or the Czech Republic), moved to Groton in 2022. He came to the United States in 1998 with Jana arriving in 2000. They have two children, Simon, a twelve year old son, and Katerina, a ten year old daughter.



**Pictured are Jana, Simon, Jaromir and Katerina.**

"When we came to America, we settled in Topeka, Kansas, but Jaromir had some health issues due to the climate, so we moved to Groton," Jana explained, "and have been here ever since. Jaromir is disabled but as a hobby, he does make some very attractive wood burning projects such as Christmas ornaments and other wooden items."

"I work in Ken's on the register," Jana stated. "It is a good job and easy for me to get used to doing."

"We originally lived in a rented house, but two years ago we moved here," she said. "We liked the size of the rooms, having a garage to park our car in, and a basement for storage and for the kids."

"The weather in South Dakota is much like what we had back home," Jana explained. "It also allows our kids to ride their bikes or walk to school."

"Since our kids have grown up in America, they prefer American food," she smiled, "but Jaromir and I miss some of our favorite Czechoslovakian food that we grew up on!"

"Going to an American school has been a great way for our children to learn English," Jana explained. "It's been easier for them than it has been for us adults!"

"We do miss some things that were available in Czechoslovakia but are not here," she admitted. "For example, we really miss a kind of flour, which is available in three different types and is used to make some of our favorite food," she said.

"We are very happy to live in America and enjoy all of its benefits," Jana smiled.

## Groton Area school bond proposal draws questions at Columbia, Bristol meetings

By Elizabeth Varin (2 stories combined through AI)

Groton Area School District officials are continuing to inform voters about a proposed \$26 million bond issue that will be decided Nov. 3, with community meetings in Columbia and Bristol drawing questions about the project's cost, facility needs and impact on taxpayers.



About a dozen residents attended the first informational meeting Wednesday, Oct. 7, in Columbia, while approximately 20 community members gathered Tuesday, Oct. 13, at the Bristol Community Center. A final informational meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 21, 7 p.m., at Groton Area High School.

The proposed project would combine \$26 million in bond funding with \$5 million in capital outlay certificate funding for renovations and additions to the district's middle and high school facilities. Improvements would include renovations to portions of the existing building, additional classrooms, an expanded lunchroom and career and technical education (CTE) spaces.

Superintendent Joe Schwan told residents that many of the problems involve the school's 1934 addition, where aging infrastructure, undersized classrooms and outdated mechanical systems continue to create challenges.

Among the concerns are inadequate electrical access, lighting, heating and cooling systems, deteriorating plumbing, fire code compliance and accessibility requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Most classrooms in the 1934 and 1979 portions of the building average approximately 650 square feet, compared with today's average classroom size of about 900 square feet. Officials also cited inconsistent temperatures and insufficient electrical outlets as concerns affecting the learning environment.

"I need a room to stay the temperature that we set it at all day long," Schwan said. "I need the toilets to flush and get the waste out

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## Groton School Board hear technology update, dual credit issues during morning meeting

By Elizabeth Varin

The Groton Area school board heard presentations on technology, library and media services, and dual credit opportunities during its Tuesday morning meeting, highlighting programs and resources available to students.

The three program overviews provided board members with insight into how technology is integrated into classroom instruction, the variety of responsibilities handled by school library and media staff, and opportunities for high school students to earn college credit while completing their high school education.

District Technology Coordinator Aaron Helvig discussed summer work getting about 600 devices ready for students and staff. He also talked about new computer curriculum he teaches at the elementary school, which goes beyond basic usage of a computer, but also troubleshooting problems, basic fixes, keyboarding and more. However, it could expand to things like designing computers, learning parts of computers and more.

"I'd really like to see at some point some classes offered at the middle school and high school, just to continue what they learned at the elementary and to kind of reiterate and practice skills," he said. "...Computer science is the fastest growing occupational field. They're estimating that there are about 280,000 jobs per year generated in the computer science field. I just think that we should probably be exploring that as an option for our kids to take classes, or actually requiring a little bit of it so everybody has a taste of it."

Helvig also expressed concerns about some dated equipment, including some of the security cameras and servers.

The next report to the board was from Middle School/High School Librarian Brenda Madsen. Beyond library duties, Madsen is senior class advisor and an e-mentor, overseeing students taking online courses including agriculture classes left without a teacher after the department of the agriculture teacher at the end of the last school year.

Madsen is already looking to various upcoming events, including celebrating national honor society inductees in March and reordering caps and gowns for graduation.

New Opportunity Coordinator Maria Carlson reviewed dual credit opportunities junior and seniors have, including benefits of college credit and lower costs for college courses, as well as drawbacks like taking a course not needed for specific fields of study and the challenge of online-only learning.

The board also discussed the use of volunteers in the kindergarten classrooms. However, members tabled the discussion to give district officials additional time to review how the district wants to move forward with long-term volunteers and determine an appropriate approach.

# Groton Area sports roundup

## Groton Area rallies past Britton-Hecla in four-set volleyball victory

Groton Area overcame a slow start to defeat Britton-Hecla, 3-1, in volleyball action Monday night in Britton. The Tigers won by scores of 24-26, 25-21, 25-18 and 25-20, improving their record to 12-10. Britton-Hecla fell to 13-4.

The Braves controlled much of the opening set, building leads of 11-5 and 20-14 before Groton Area rallied to tie the score at 24. Britton-Hecla scored the final two points, with Kennady Van Lith delivering the winning ace serve.

Groton Area found its rhythm in the second set, taking an early lead before the Braves rallied to tie the score at 18. The Tigers regained control for a 25-21 victory and carried that momentum into the third set, winning 25-18 without trailing after the opening points.

In the fourth set, the teams battled through five ties, the last at 12-12. Groton Area responded with six consecutive points to build an 18-12 advantage and went on to secure the match with a 25-20 victory.

Groton Area coach Chelsea Hanson said the Tigers settled into their rotations after some uncertainty surrounding Chesney Weber, who had not been feeling well before the match.

"We didn't really make a lot of adjustments between the first set and second set," Hanson said. "It was just getting in rhythm."

Elizabeth Cole highlighted Groton Area's defensive effort with eight blocks, including four solo and four assisted blocks, finishing one shy of the school record of nine. Hanson said the coaches were reviewing film to determine whether an additional block should be credited.

Tevan Hanson led the Tigers with 13 kills and an ace serve, while Taryn Traphagen contributed 11 kills and four blocks. Kella Tracy and Cole each added eight kills, with Tracy recording two blocks.

Makenna Krause finished with seven kills and four assisted blocks. Weber added a kill and three ace serves, while Abby Fjeldheim contributed a kill, an ace serve and a block.

Hanson praised the balanced offensive production, noting that opponents cannot concentrate solely on stopping Traphagen.

"The nice thing is if they can slow her down, but we have five other people that can score, that makes us really tough to beat," Hanson said.

Britton-Hecla was led by Madelynn Micko with 11 kills and three blocks, while Chellon Pruitt added 11 kills and two ace serves. Daynika Zuehlke finished with eight kills and 15 digs. Jaelee Grupe recorded eight kills, three blocks, 28 assists and 15 digs.

Hanson credited the Braves for their defensive effort but said serving consistency remains an area where Groton Area needs improvement heading into postseason competition.

"We only have to win three games at the right time to make it to the state tournament," Hanson said. "Our goal is just getting ourselves prepared for battle so that whenever and whoever we face at the end of October, beginning of November, that we're ready to go."

Groton Area also swept the junior varsity and C matches.

The junior varsity Tigers posted a 25-18, 25-15 victory. Abby Fjeldheim led Groton with 10 kills and four ace serves, followed by Kinley Sandness with six kills and Libby Cole with four. Brooklyn Spanier added two kills and an ace serve, while Tori Schuster contributed an ace.

In the C match, Groton Area won 25-17 and 25-20. The Tigers broke a 10-10 tie in the opening set with 10 consecutive points.

Brynlee Dunker led Groton with eight kills and three ace serves, while Charli Jacobsen added seven kills and an ace. Mya Moody recorded seven ace serves and two kills, Maycee Moody contributed three kills and an ace, and Riley Stoltenberg finished with five kills.

Groton Area travels to Deuel on Thursday before competing in the Miller Tournament on Saturday.

## Groton Area runners compete at Northeast Conference meet

Groton Area's cross country teams competed in the Northeast Conference Meet held Thursday, Oct. 8, at Webster, with Ryelle Gilbert and Riley Shellenberger leading the Tigers in the varsity races.

Gilbert finished 11th in the girls' 5,000-meter race with a time of 22:01.6, while Ashlynn Warrington placed 23rd in 24:21.5.

Aberdeen Roncalli's Addison Cassady won the girls' individual championship in 20:07.2, followed by Milbank's Ella Koplin in 20:17.9 and Macy Mueller in 20:57.3.

Shellenberger led Groton Area in the boys' 5,000-meter race, placing 15th in 19:36.7. Calvin Locken finished 40th with a personal-best time of 22:09.8, followed by Grayden Zeck in 46th at 22:52.9 and Tate Johnson in 48th at 22:56.8. Logan Clocksene placed 56th in 31:21.5.

Groton Area finished seventh in the boys' team standings with 129 points. Deuel captured the conference championship with 18 points, followed by Sisseton with 39, Milbank with 53, Aberdeen Roncalli with 57, Clark/Willow Lake with 85 and Webster Area with 110.

Milbank's Jeter Scoular won the boys' individual title in 17:13.6, followed by Sisseton's Ryder Graff in 17:32.0 and Deuel's Caden Hourigan in 17:49.7.

In the junior varsity boys' 4,000-meter race, Groton Area seventh-grader Titan Johnson finished 19th with a personal-best time of 24:27.7. Webster Area's Vance Tolifson won the race in 17:37.8.

## Groton Area reclaims Battle of the Tigers trophy with 18-12 victory

Groton Area reclaimed the traveling Battle of the Tigers trophy Friday night with an 18-12 football victory over Mobridge-Pollock, using a strong first-half performance and a late defensive stand to secure the win.

Both teams moved to 3-4 on the season as Groton Area extended its advantage in the rivalry series to 20-16.

Groton's special teams made an immediate impact when Layne Johnson blocked a Mobridge-Pollock punt on the visitors' opening possession, giving the Tigers the football at the Mobridge-Pollock 20-yard line. A Groton fumble ended that opportunity, but Ryder Schelle later sacked Mobridge-Pollock quarterback Easton Eiseman on fourth-and-one to give the Tigers another possession.

Groton capitalized as Asher Johnson scored on a one-yard run with 2:24 remaining in the first quarter for a 6-0 lead.

Mobridge-Pollock answered early in the second quarter when Eiseman connected with Kale Knudson on a 42-yard touchdown pass to tie the game at six.

After the teams exchanged fumbles, Groton regained possession at the Mobridge-Pollock 26-yard line. A penalty pushed the Tigers backward, but Johnson broke loose on a 31-yard touchdown run on third-and-15 to restore Groton's lead at 12-6.

Layne Johnson blocked a second punt later in the quarter, although that scoring opportunity ended with an interception in the end zone.

Groton Area added another touchdown before halftime when Jordan Schwan scored on a one-yard run with 37 seconds remaining, giving the Tigers an 18-6 advantage.

During the GDILIVE halftime broadcast, statistician Tom Woods praised Groton's defensive effort.

"I'm proud of our Tigers is an understatement," Woods said.

Groton held Mobridge-Pollock to just seven rushing yards on 14 attempts in the opening half and allowed only four first downs. The Tigers, meanwhile, collected eight first downs, 103 rushing yards and 44 passing yards.

Mobridge-Pollock narrowed the deficit in the third quarter with an 89-yard drive capped by Eiseman's two-yard touchdown run with 3:54 remaining. The score brought the visitors within six points at 18-12.

Both defenses took control in the fourth quarter as penalties and stalled drives prevented either team from scoring.

Mobridge-Pollock had a late opportunity but turned the ball over on downs with 2:21 remaining. Groton was eventually forced to punt, giving the visitors one final chance.

Anthony Tracy ended the comeback threat with an interception with 1:40 remaining, allowing Groton to run out the clock.

"It was one heck of a win right there," Groton Area head coach Jordan Carson said. "When you have a guy like Travis Kurth calling the defensive plays, you feel pretty fortunate to have a guy like that in your corner."

Carson credited his players' effort, preparation and execution, particularly on defense.

"I think we just had a lot of guys that were playing, you know, 110% out there, which is what we've been trying to get our guys to do all year," Carson said.

Groton Area finished with 10 first downs, 128 rushing yards and 61 passing yards. Asher Johnson led the ground attack with 76 yards on 17 carries and two touchdowns. Case Reints added 25 yards, while Schelle rushed for 24.

Johnson completed seven of 16 passes for 61 yards. Schwan caught four passes for 38 yards, Schelle had two receptions for 18 yards and Tracy added one catch for five yards.

Mobridge-Pollock also recorded 10 first downs, rushing for 124 yards and passing for 128. Eiseman led the visitors with 102 rushing yards and a touchdown while completing 10 of 23 passes for 128 yards and another score. Knudson caught four passes for 59 yards and a touchdown.

Defensively, Schelle led Groton with nine tackles, followed by Asher Johnson with seven and Branden Fliehs with six. Isaiah Scepaniak, Layne Johnson, TC Schuster and Ryder Schwan each recorded five tackles, while Gunner Hardy added four.

Layne Johnson finished with two blocked punts, Asher Johnson and Tracy each recorded an interception, and Fliehs recovered a fumble.

Groton lost two fumbles and was penalized five times for 38 yards, while Mobridge-Pollock lost one fumble and had 10 penalties for 57 yards.

The victory marked Groton's 20th win in the rivalry, which began in 1985 when Groton defeated Mobridge 27-6. Friday's game was the 36th meeting between the programs and the 856th varsity football game in Groton's history, according to Woods.

Carson said winning the traveling trophy was especially meaningful to his players.

"They're pretty excited about that trophy over there," Carson said. "They're already planning where they're gonna put it and everything, so we better have a place polished up for the next year."

Groton Area concludes its regular season against Aberdeen Roncalli at Dakota Bank Stadium in Aberdeen as the Tigers prepare for the Class 11B playoffs.

# Aberdeen Roncalli claims grand championship at Lake Region Marching Festival

Aberdeen Roncalli captured the grand championship and swept the outstanding performance awards at the Lake Region Marching Festival held Friday, Oct. 9, in Groton.

The annual festival featured 18 marching bands from across northeastern and central South Dakota, including three exhibition performances. The competition began at 10 a.m. with the Groton Area Marching Tigers leading the parade, followed by a full morning of performances that concluded with the Northern State University Marching Wolves.

Aberdeen Roncalli's Marching Cavaliers earned the highest overall score of the competition to claim the grand championship. Roncalli also captured first place in the combined division and received all four outstanding performance awards, including outstanding drum major, color guard, percussion and winds.

Northwestern Area's Marching Wildcats earned first place in the high school division, edging the Warner Marching Monarchs by just one point. Watertown's Marching Arrows finished third.

In the combined division, the Ipswich Tigers Marching Band placed second behind Aberdeen Roncalli.

The Aberdeen Public Schools Combined Eighth Grade Band captured first place in the middle school division, while Milbank Middle School finished second.

Other bands competing in the combined division included Sully Buttes, Leola, Langford Area, Hoven, Wessington Springs and Castlewood. The high school division also featured Frederick Area and Great Plains Lutheran.

Groton Area was represented by both its high school Marching Tigers and middle school band, with both performing in exhibition. Northern State University's Marching Wolves also participated in exhibition, providing an additional performance to conclude the parade.

Judges for the festival were Jackie Stacey, John Patzlaff and Grant Manhart.

Groton Area band director Megan Dockter presented the awards during a ceremony at the Groton Area football field. Before announcing the winners, Dockter thanked the participating bands and the many individuals who helped make the event possible.

"Thank you, bands, for a wonderful day of marching band," Dockter said. "I am so grateful to our administration, to all the teachers, parents, community and volunteers that made today possible. And I'm so grateful to all of you for being here."

The festival brought together student musicians, band directors, families and supporters for a day of musical competition and community celebration, with Aberdeen Roncalli taking home the day's highest honor.



**The Groton Area Tigers won back the traveling Tiger Trophy after Groton Area defeated Mobridge-Pollock on Friday.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Groton Area Middle School Marching Band (above) and the High School Marching Band (below) marched in the Lake Region Marching Festival as exhibition bands.** (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM video)



## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

- 1 Havana's land
- 5 High tennis shot
- 8 Pitt of "Moneyball"
- 12 Spoken
- 13 Shock partner
- 14 Shakespear-ean villain
- 15 Military groups
- 17 Bar fight sou-venir
- 18 Order by classes
- 19 Vehement protest
- 21 High school subj.
- 22 Poi base
- 23 Likely
- 26 Small battery
- 28 Cowboy in "Toy Story"
- 31 Indy winner A.J.
- 33 Away from SSW
- 35 Peevish fit
- 36 Seized vehi-cles
- 38 Business mag
- 40 Punker Vicious
- 41 Shacks
- 43 Cyclades isle
- 45 1912 Olympic legend
- 47 Relatives of loons

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| 52 Spoofs                   | 5 From                   | 29 Nero's 502             |
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| 55 Org. with a style manual | 6 Personal               | 32 Sightseer              |
| 56 Squad                    | 7 Make drunk             | 34 Bafflers               |
| 57 Celeb's aide             | 8 Casual eater-ies       | 37 NASCAR advertiser      |
| 58 Tummy mus-cles           | 9 Masked mammals         | 39 Business abbr.         |
| 59 Young fellows            | 10 Lab gel               | 42 1965 march site        |
|                             | 11 "Finding Nemo" fish   | 44 Capital of South Korea |
|                             | 16 Killer whale          | 45 "I did it!"            |
|                             | 20 Motor City labor org. | 46 Med. plan options      |
|                             | 23 Ghana's cont.         | 48 — fide (genu-ine)      |
|                             | 24 "The Bells" writer    | 49 Oklahoma city          |
|                             | 25 Violent storms        | 50 Bygone jets            |
|                             |                          | 53 Cleric's tunic         |

**DOWN**

- 1 Club in a Manilow song
- 2 Web address-es
- 3 Sheepish remarks

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School
Continued from front

when we need the toilets to flush. We need hot water, and we need cold water. We need more electrical outlets in the rooms and stuff like that."
The district experienced a costly example of its aging infrastructure just before the school year began when a cast iron water line entering the high school from the east broke, sending water shooting out of the ground.
A contractor discovered the pipe was deteriorating so badly that it crumbled in his hands. Replacing approximately eight feet of the line cost the district \$22,000.
"Those things are expensive when they come up," Schwan said during the Columbia meeting. "I know we're talking about a lot of money, but when things like that happen, that's not cheap either."
School Board President Grant Rix said the district faces numerous maintenance projects that would be addressed through the proposed improvements. Among them is replacing the roof on the old gymnasium, a project estimated to cost at least \$350,000. The district has continued patching the roof, but a replacement will eventually be necessary regardless of the bond election's outcome.
"There's just a lot of projects that need to get done that this project will take care of for us," Rix said.
Board member Marty Weismantel pointed to renovations completed at the elementary school about a decade ago as an example of the potential long-term benefits. Since those improvements, he said, the district has experienced fewer maintenance problems and reduced utility costs.
At both meetings, residents asked questions about the proposed construction, financing and potential tax impact.

The Groton Independent
21 N Main, Groton 605/397-NEWS (6397)
Paul Irvin Kosel, Publisher paperpaul@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7460
Tina Kosel, Office Manager office@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7285
Notices: legals@grotonsd.net
News Items: news@grotonsd.net
Deadline to submit items: Noon Monday]
Yearly Subscription Rates are listed below. The Groton Independent (USPS# 230-440) is published weekly with its periodicals postage paid at Groton, SD.
Postmaster: Send address changes to Groton Independent, PO Box 34, Groton, SD 57445
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4 ♦ Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Oct. 14, 2026

If approved, the bond would result in a tax levy of \$1.10 per \$1,000 of taxable property valuation within the Groton Area School District. District officials have made an online calculator available to help property owners estimate their individual tax impact.
Columbia residents also asked about the bond's interest rate and what would happen if a smaller neighboring school district closed and became part of Groton Area, including whether those residents would then share in the bond payments.
During the Bristol meeting, questions included classroom sizes, open enrollment, construction logistics and what would happen if the bond failed.
Schwan emphasized that rejecting the proposal would not eliminate the district's existing facility problems.
"I don't think we have another 10 years to wait like we did last time when the issue failed. I just don't think it's there," he said. "If the issue isn't passed, it doesn't make the problems in the facility go away. They're still there, and they're still going to have to be addressed."
Another concern raised in Bristol was whether residents throughout the geographically large district were receiving adequate information about the proposal.
The Groton Area School District extends into portions of five counties, and Linda Witt, who lives southwest of Bristol, questioned whether people in outlying areas were aware of the election.
Witt said she first learned about the proposal when she received a postcard mailed by the district to registered voters.
"Do you think that the people as far away as Lily and all the corners (of the district) have been really informed, you know, before the card came?" Witt asked.
Other attendees echoed her concern, emphasizing the importance of reaching all eligible voters before Election Day.
Residents at both meetings also spoke about the condition of the school and the importance of providing an appropriate learning environment.
"We know the school needs it," Columbia resident Julie Zastrow said. "It needed it when I went there."
"And it hasn't gotten any better," Weismantel added.
Groton resident Deb McKiver reflected on her own family's history in the older portion of the school.
"I grew up in the old part. I mean, I went there and my mom did," McKiver said. "Is it sad? Yes, but we need a new facility. We don't want our kids in icky buildings."
Becky Hubsch, Webster Area School District business manager and former Groton Area School District business manager, spoke about the importance of supporting public education throughout the region.
"We're all pretty blessed on the public education that we have in this area," Hubsch said. "We can go North, we can go East, we can go West. We have phenomenal places to send our kids to school."
"We might not send our kids to Groton, but we support it because it's all education," she added. "Our kids deserve a good place to be educated, right?"
The bond issue requires approval from at least 60 percent of voters to pass.
Registered voters may cast ballots early at Groton Area High School from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, with extended hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 2. On Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3, polls at the school will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
The district's final informational meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 21, 7 p.m., at Groton Area High School, giving residents another opportunity to learn about the project and ask questions before voting.
Additional information about the proposed improvements, financing and estimated property tax impact is available at https://bit.ly/GASD-BondInfo

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UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF BOARD OF EDUCATION  
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6  
REGULAR MEETING  
October 13, 2026

President Rix called the meeting to order at 7:05 a.m. in the GHS Library Conference Room. Members present: Fliehs, Harder, Lerseth-Fliehs (7:06), Rix, Strom, Weber, and Weismantel. Absent: None. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principal Edwards, Principal B. Schwan, and Business Manager Neiber.

Motion by Fliehs, second by Weismantel, to approve the proposed agenda. Motion carried.

Pursuant to SDCL 23-3, there was no potential conflict disclosure reported.

Motion by Fliehs, second by Harder to approve consent agenda items September 14, 2026, board minutes, October 7, 2026, special school board minutes, September 2026 financial reports, bills, lunch report, transportation report, and authorize business manager to pay district bills up to \$75,000 in advance, using the custodial advance payment account to be approved by the board for reimbursement at the following regular board meeting. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND: Instruction \$307,850.76, Benefits \$89,910.28; A & B Business Solutions-Managed Print Agreement-981.25, Advance Auto Parts-Bus Barn Supplies-92.79, Allied Climate Professionals-AC Repair-8,629.62, Amazon Capital Services-HS/Business Office Supply-338.00, American Heart Saver Shop CPR-Coursework-585.00, Anderson Garage Doors & More-Shop Door Repairs-240.00, City Of Groton-Utility-17,138.96, Cole Papers, Inc.-Janitor Supply-549.78, Core Educational Cooperative-English Class-6,110.00, Custodial Fund Advance Payment-September 2026 Payback-15,667.99, Dacotah Bank-Greyhound Fraud Reversal-(561.84), Dahme Construction-Emergency Water Repair HS-22,000.00, Dependable Sanitation, Inc.-Garbage Services-1,627.00, Dunker, Natasha-Sports Help-40.00, Edwards, Shelby-Sports Help-35.00, Erickson, Rebecca-Sports Help-350.00, Farmers Union Co-Op-Def-103.38, Fliehs, Adrienne-Sports Help-40.00, Frost, Chris-Sports Help-105.00, Gerlach, Kyle-Sports Help-105.00, Grieve, Lynette-Sports Help-390.00, Groton Chiropractic Clinic-Dot Physical-125.00, Groton Daily Independent-Legal Printing-179.78, Groton Dairy Queen-Sotm Gift Cards-64.00, Guthmiller, Joel-State Golf Coach Meals-72.00, Harlow's Bus Sales-Bus Parts-466.92, Headsets.Com-Headset Battery Office-35.00, Hill, Jason-Sports Help-40.00, Hillyard, Inc-Janitor Supply-2,823.81, Imrie, Mike-Sports Help-270.00, Johnson, Melanie-Sports Help-320.00, Kjellsen, Greg-Sports Help-70.00, Lakeview Golf Course-Golf Practice Round-281.19, Library Store Inc, The-Library Bar Code Labels-109.30, Local Purchases-Diesel-175.12, Locke Electric, Inc.-Electric Work-3,979.34, Locke, Matt-Sports Help-100.00, Lori's Pharmacy-KDG/Nurse Supply-31.95, Mcleod's Printing & Office Supply-Deposit Slips-245.04, Medco Supply Company-Athletic Supply-53.41, Mid-American Research Chemical-Glass Cleaner-264.25, Midstates Group-Bond Flyers-862.50, Mike's Heating & Cooling Inc-Maint Repairs-2,229.08, MJ's Sinclair Inc-Gas/Diesel-7,202.65, MRG Hauff-Basketball-215.68, MTI Enterprises Inc-2026 Musical Contract-1,230.00, Nippon Sanso Matheson Inc-IA Supplies-55.98, North Central Special Ed Coop-Assessment-6,250.00, Northwestern Energy-Utility-899.66, Porch, Nicole-Sports Help-190.00, Prorate Services-DOT Testing-75.00, Raap, Denise-Sports Help-40.00, S & S Lumber Co.-IA Supplies-72.63, Sanford Health-Athletic Training Hours-1,655.50, Scholastic Inc-Scholastic News Add'l Copies-71.39, School Specialty-Railroad Board-98.22, Schwan, Brett-Sports Help-310.00, Schwan, Joseph-Inservice Breakfast-173.29, Sewer Duck-Football Field Service-890.00, Sheyenne Transport-Bus #5 Repairs-2,844.50, Smith Autobody-2014 Chevy Van Repair-407.81, South Dakota State

| GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 06-6 FINANCIAL REPORTS |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| September 1, 2026 .....                            | \$2,429,702.45 | \$1,495,414.49 | \$576,194.35 | \$66,677.05 | \$73,273.78 | \$16,941.45 | \$228,359.87 |
| RECEIPTS                                           |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| Local Sources .....                                | \$91,652.46    | \$18,159.94    | \$9,553.53   | \$18,044.07 | \$3,860.91  |             | \$83,860.24  |
| County Sources .....                               | \$5,663.02     |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| State Sources                                      |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| State Aid .....                                    | \$49,979.00    |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| Wind Farm                                          |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| Mentor Teacher Program                             |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| State Apportionment                                |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| State Reimbursements                               |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| Bank Franchise                                     |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| Federal Sources .....                              | \$29,648.00    |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| Sale of Assets                                     |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| Due from Govt/Others                               |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| TOTAL MONTHLY RECEIPTS .....                       |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| Funds Available .....                              |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| Monthly Disbursements .....                        |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| MJE'S .....                                        |                |                |              |             |             |             |              |
| September 30, 2026 .....                           | \$2,114,502.24 | \$1,406,703.89 | \$523,690.45 | \$55,031.23 | \$73,363.74 | \$16,778.49 | \$256,629.79 |

|                         | GENERAL FUND | SPECIAL EDUCATION | FOOD SERVICE | OST        | DRIVER'S EDUCATION |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|------------|--------------------|
| Payroll                 |              |                   |              |            |                    |
| Instruction .....       | \$307,850.76 | \$36,506.28       | \$8,503.66   | \$3,079.24 | \$                 |
| Employee Benefits ..... | \$89,910.28  | \$11,202.42       | \$2,139.46   | \$360.73   | \$                 |
| Total .....             | \$397,761.04 | \$47,708.70       | \$10,643.12  | \$3,439.97 | \$                 |

University-All State Choir Prep Day-20.00, Sperry, Alexandra-Sports Help-35.00, Stanley, Randy-Sports Help-40.00, Stanley, Sue-Sports Help-40.00, Swartz, Kristen-Sports Help-500.00, Taylor Music-Reeds-1,130.00, Tracy, Carla-Sports Help-140.00, Trevipay-Elem/HS Supply-680.20, Vex Robotics-Robotics Registrations-1,019.74, Wanner, Andrew-Sports Help-105.00, Warner School District 6-5-HAS-BO Dues-75.00, Weismantel, Martin-Sports Help-35.00, Zoellner, Kristi-Sports Help-350.00 Fund Total: 114,216.87

CAPITAL OUTLAY: A & B Business Solutions-Redemption of Principal-753.65, Allied Climate Professionals-Control Upgrades-32,370.47, Co Op Architecture-Master Planning-7,000.00, Colliers Securities-Disclosure Fee-300.00, Custodial Fund Advance Payment-September 2026 Payback-12,899.09, Follett Content Solutions-Elem Library Books-1,555.85, Generation Genius-Elem Online Subscription-175.00, Groton Daily Independent-GDI Renewal-60.00, Magicore-1st Grade-2.40, Mcgraw-Hill School Education Holdings-3rd Grade Textbooks-270.74, Miller, Aubray-Cheer Skirt Reimb-49.89, MRG Hauff-Basketball/Soccer Equip-3,749.65, Taylor Music-Band Equipment-142.67 Fund Total: 59,329.41

SPECIAL EDUCATION: Instruction \$36,506.28, Benefits \$11,202.42; Avera St. Luke's-Pt/Ot/Speech-17,949.76, Duerre, Chantel-Parent Mileage-197.60, North Central Special Ed Coop/EC/Psych/Speech-38,830.62 Fund Total: 56,977.98

FOOD SERVICE: Instruction \$8,503.66, Benefits \$2,139.46; Ace Refrigeration-Dishwasher Repair-227.97, Amazon Capital Services-FS Supplies-17.54, Bernard Food Industries-Food-902.26, Custodial Fund Advance Payment-September 2026 Payback-994.11, East Side Jersey Dairy-MS/HS Milk-1,100.24, Hagen, Theresa-Lunch Refund-187.80, Hillyard-FS Supplies-371.49, Performance Foodservice-Food-6,659.37, US Foods-Food-5,216.88 Fund Total: 15,677.66

ENTERPRISE: OST Instruction \$3,079.24, Benefits \$360.73; ProCare Software-OST Software-1,068.00 Fund Total: 1,068.00

Members of the public are allowed five minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. With no public comments, the board continued with the agenda.

Program overview presentations were provided by Aaron Helvig on Technology, Brenda Madsen on Library/Media services, and Maria Carlson on the HS Dual Credit program.

The following items were discussed in administrative reports: J. Schwan: District-wide enrollment for Fall 2026 is currently 551 students. The PRF data submission has been completed, and the onsite confirms that the district has met both teacher compensation and minimum cash balance. Chain link fence repairs are happening at the elementary playground and football field, and the stage curtains have been shipped. Parking lot repairs will be happening. Veterans Day program will be held on November 11th at 1:00 PM in the GHS. Update provided on virtual education. Upcoming board meetings October 13 at 7:00PM at the Bristol Community Center, October 21 at 7:00 PM in the Groton Area High School Computer Lab, and Tuesday November 10 in the GHS Library Conference Room.

B. Schwan: Enrollment has remained relatively steady, Anne

Zoellner, Mary Johnson, and Shelby Edwards attended a two-day Literacy Pilot training in Aberdeen that focused on critical content and student engagement. Dr. Schutter and Hermanson will visit next month to work with staff on student engagement. Nearly 100 percent attendance was achieved at the fall parent-teacher conferences. Playground cameras also remain a topic of discussion, and wood-chip areas need to be improved.

S. Edwards: Attended the Literacy Conference, Conferences were well attended and went smoothly. The Lake Region Marching Band Festival was a success with no issues reported, thanks to the hard work of Ms. Dockter and all involved. Bobbi Kilber from Title III met with staff to talk about our EL students, and curriculum reviews are underway in Math, Personal Finance, Human Services, Health, and Health Science.

M. Neiber: The 2026 fiscal year audit has been completed. Cahill Bauer and Associates are currently preparing the draft audit report for review. Absentee voting is currently underway, and voter participation has been limited to date.

Approval of Kindergarten Volunteers: No action was taken. After discussion, the board agreed to refer the matter to committee for further consideration.

Motion by Fliehs, second by Weismantel, to adjourn at 8:19 am. Motion carried.

The next regular school board meeting will be on Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 7:00 a.m. in the GHS Library Conference Room.

Additional Note: The Board has scheduled three Bond Election Public Information Meetings for community members. Meetings will be held October 7, 2026, at 7 PM at the Columbia American Legion, October 13, 2026, at 7 PM Bristol Community Center, and October 21st, 2026, at 7 PM at the Groton Area High School.

Madisyn Neiber, Business Manager

Grant Rix, President  
Published October 14, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$150.19 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublic-notices.com](http://www.sdpublic-notices.com). 27327



UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF BOARD OF EDUCATION  
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6  
SPECIAL MEETING  
October 7, 2026

President Rix called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m. at the Bristol Community Center. Members present: Fliehs, Harder, Lerseth-Fliehs, Rix, Strom, Weber, and Weismantel. Absent: None. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principal Edwards, and Business Manager Neiber.

Motion by Weismantel, second by Fliehs, to approve the proposed agenda.

Pursuant to SDCL 23-3, there was no potential conflict disclosure reported.

Members of the public are allowed five minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. With no public members requesting to speak, the board proceeded with their agenda items.

Public discussion was had regarding the Middle/High School Building Project and Bond Issue. Superintendent Schwan provided

an information presentation on the building project proposal while a question and answer session was held for community members.

Motion by Fliehs, second by Lerseth-Fliehs, to adjourn at 8:00 pm. Motion carried.

Madisyn Neiber, Business Manager

Grant Rix, President  
The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.

Published October 14, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$14.59 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublic-notices.com](http://www.sdpublic-notices.com).



City of Columbia Council Meeting – October 7, 2026

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

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

Community: Cole Kampa, Janet Wright

Mayor Mohr called the meeting to order. Dana called for a motion to approve the agenda. Scott Meints made a motion to approve the agenda. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried. Dana called for any conflict of interest on agenda items. There were no conflicts. Minutes were handed out from the September 23rd meeting. Trevor Meints made a motion to approve the minutes. Scott Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

Warrant Vouchers Jeremy Dosch– Council wages -296.46; Jeremy Dosch– Sept. wages -1473.11; Cara Dennert – Sept. wages– 1317.60; Dana Mohr– Council wages -362.34; Trevor Meints– Council wages -214.11; Sam Hoppock– Council wages -296.46; Scott Meints– Council wages -255.29; Brian Ermer – Sept. new park mowing – 5833.33; SD Unemployment Insurance – 49.69; GDI News – publications – 216.27; Runnings – shop supplies – 42.15; John Deere Financial- shop supplies – 58.49; Grand Slam Computers – office maintenance – 242.00; Midwest Pump & Tank – gas tank service – 398.88

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

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE: - - email – Brown County Mitigation Plan– Scott explained that the county was due for an update on the Mitigation Plan. It is up for public comment for 30 days. (It can be found on the county website.) It basically addresses federal aid for disasters etc. After 30 days, the city will need to accept the plan for approval.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- wastewater project – Jeremy Dosch made a motion awarding the wastewater lagoon and wastewater line project to the apparent low bidder, B&B Contracting, pending approval of the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried. The signed notice of the bid award along with the minutes will be sent to the Stockwell engineers and Ted Dickey at NECOG. There will be a meeting in the future to meet with the construction company.

Nuisances – Trevor said that Code Enforcement will be in town next week.

Streets – Jeremy has been continuing to work on filling potholes. A gravel order is in – will be here next week.

Parks – Two weeks from now, the parks will be winterized. Lagoon/Sewer- no further report

Rubble Site – no report  
NEW BUSINESS - New park mowing 2027 contract was discussed. It will be looked into further and addressed next month. Janet Wright was present to ask some questions about the possibility of putting a store front in her newly acquired building (the old firehall.) She had a few other questions about sales tax and a shipping container. She was advised to check with the Department of Revenue and Brown County Planning and Zoning. It will be great to have another business in town! Cole Kampa was present to discuss the retired baseball scoreboard. It has been in cold storage. Andover is in need of a new scoreboard. Scott Meints made a motion to move the old scoreboard to surplus with zero value and donate it to the Andover baseball program. Jeremy Dosch seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Cara noticed that she overpaid in the 3rd quarter taxes. The city will be receiving funds back.

September 30, 2026 balances: SF - \$ 151,612.29; SF Money Market –\$ 154,325.99;

GF - \$ 211,955.69; GF Money Market - \$ 51,782.52; CD Money Market - \$ 42,052.60

FIT - \$ 16,586.40; Cash on hand - \$0

Sam Hoppock made a motion to accept the financial report as given. Scott Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor - motion carried.

Mayor Mohr adjourned the meeting.

Next City Council Meeting - Wednesday, November 4, 2026 - 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

Published October 14, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$42.35 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublic-notices.com](http://www.sdpublic-notices.com). 27329



Town of Westport General Meeting

The Town of Westport met on October 5, 2026 at 7:00 p.m., with Mitch Wilson, Shane Storm, Troy Tschappat, and Deb Schlosser present.

The following bills were presented:

City General: NW Energy-utilities (\$318.11), Groton Independent-September meeting minutes, budget ordinance, water and sewer rates (\$65.40), Elan Financial Services -sprayer tank (\$289.88), US Treasury-3rd Quarter taxes (\$1398.43), SD Unemployment Insurance Division-unemployment (\$28.89)

Sewer: NW Energy-Lift Station utilities (\$44.98), Dakota Pump & Control-Lift Station repairs (\$1800.00)

Water: Public Health Laboratory-September testing (\$20.00), WEB-water (\$2096.13), Water Maintenance District-August testing (\$714.29), Water Maintenance District-September testing (\$714.29)

Sewer Surcharge: DANR-lift station payment (\$9310.01)

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

The following deposits were presented:

City General: State of SD (\$3280.03), Brown County Collections (\$221.83), Interest (\$48.07)

Sewer: Resident Payments (\$2737.18)

Water: Resident Payments (\$4105.77)

Public Concerns: none

Old Business: None

New Business: Looking for someone to do snow removal for the 2026-27 season. Ads will be placed on Facebook as well as Aberdeen Insider.

Meeting dismissed at 7:12 p.m.

Deb Schlosser, Finance Officer  
Published October 14, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$17.17 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublic-notices.com](http://www.sdpublic-notices.com). 27330



605/397-2311

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OCTOBER 6, 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 and Sutton. Commissioner Wiese was absent. Commissioner Dinger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Todd Campbell shared with the Commission his experiences with a Data Center that went up near his previous home. He informed them of 5 phases of the process and that the meter doesn't pick up all sounds. Todd experienced nightmares, had to change filters monthly instead of every six months due to all the dust it created and when he sold his house he took a 25% loss due to the Data Center.

Vicky Wilson asked if they had a plan for the diversion of traffic when 6th Ave. is closed due to Bridge being replaced. She shared the Beef Plant Road is a mess after it rains.

**RICHMOND DAM UPDATE:** Chairman Sutton shared the following information he received from Scott Meints, Emergency Management Director: SFC Civil Constructors has completed driving sheet piling on the upstream cofferdam; They will be driving a secondary row of sheet piling to assist in the construction of the North Approach Wall. This work has begun; SFC will construct the test step chute pour. This is done to ensure the actual construction of the spillway goes smoothly, and everyone involved knows what is expected of them. This pour will take place on October 13, 2026; SFC is maintaining lake elevation of 1349'; Foothills Contracting built a downstream coffer dam and has started dewatering the stilling basin area; Foothills Contracting continues excavation of the spillway. Once that has been completed, they will remove the rest of the concrete from the old spillway and Bauer Foundations has completed the Seepage Cutoff Wall.

**DISCUSS TASK FORCE FOR DATA CENTERS:** Ron Wager, Aberdeen City Attorney and Dave McNeil, Aberdeen City Manager met with the Commission because a citizen brought up the idea of creating a Task Force for Data Centers, they feel the Task Force would be a good idea as long as it doesn't slow down the process and nothing is getting accomplished. They feel public input is good for any Data Centers that are proposed in the County. The City of Aberdeen has adopted a moratorium for building permits for Data Center and looks like the City Council will be extending that moratorium. Ron also shared that the City of Aberdeen has a desire to come back with a proposal to enter into a joint jurisdiction agreement again as well. Currently, they have three goals: support a task force; understand what it's supposed to be doing and create a joint jurisdiction again. Dave McNeil asked if the Commission would be interested in also creating a Task Force for the Unhoused/Homeless Situation in Aberdeen, as well. Chairman Sutton stated that they would be open to working together and creating Task Forces for both the Data Centers and Homeless.

Liza Ronayne made a comment about the Task Force, that due to the controversy with Data Center, they want mandatory Environmental Studies because it affects human and animal health, purge system with waste so these are critical things that should be community centered and have residents involved in the Task Force. She questioned if the Commission see the joint jurisdiction changing, Chairman Sutton said they heard rumors about the City Council was wanting to do a joint jurisdiction again, but all the people we have heard from like the way it is now. If we were to consider it, we would want to address the reasons that the joint jurisdiction was disbanded. Natasha Wells asked about Brown County's permitting for Industrial and if any

Environmental Studies are done. Scott Bader, Planning & Zoning Director, says it depends on type of business and the Conditional Use Permits. Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent, stated it may also depend on where the funding is coming from because may have a requirement as well.

**RFP FOR SOUND, LIGHTING AND STAGE EQUIPMENT FOR GRANDSTAND ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE 2027-2031 BROWN COUNTY FAIR:** Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager met with the Commission to get approval to publish notice requesting proposals to provide the Sound, Lights and Stage Equipment for the Brown County Fair. The six (6) days of entertainment includes the Dacotah Stampede Rodeo on Monday and Tuesday and concerts on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. These services would be good for a 5-year contact for the years of 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 and 2031. Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Dennert to approve publishing the RFP for Sound, Lighting and Stage Equipment for Grandstand Entertainment for the 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 and 2031 Brown County Fair. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**RFP FOR GRANDSTAND BIG SCREENS WITH OPTIONAL TIMING SERVICE FOR 2027-2031 BROWN COUNTY FAIR:** Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager met with the Commission to get approval to publish notice requesting proposals to provide Screens, Cameras, Video Packaging and Technicians with Optional Add-On for Two-Day Rodeo Timing Services for the Brown County Fair. The six (6) days of entertainment includes the Dacotah Stampede Rodeo on Monday and Tuesday and concerts on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. These services would be good for a 5-year contact for the years of 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 and 2031. Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to approve publishing the RFP for Grandstand Big Screen with optional Timing Service for the 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 and 2031 Brown County Fair. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**RFP FOR SANITATION SERVICES FOR 2027-2029 BROWN COUNTY FAIR:** Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager met with the Commission to get approval to publish notice requesting proposals for the upcoming Brown County Fairs. These services would be for the next three years: August 16-22, 2027; August 14-20, 2028 and August 13-19, 2029. Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve publishing the RFP for Sanitation Services for the 2027, 2028 and 2029 Brown County Fair. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**RFP FOR ELECTRICIAN SERVICES FOR 2027-2029 BROWN COUNTY FAIR:** Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager met with the Commission to get approval to publish notice requesting proposals for the Electrical Services including labor and services for the upcoming Brown County Fairs. These services would be good for the next three years: August 16-22, 2027; August 14-20, 2028 and August 13-19, 2029. Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to approve publishing the RFP for Electrician Services for the 2027, 2028 and 2029 Brown County Fair. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**AMEND HAY CUTTING LEASE FOR LAND AT FAIRGROUNDS:** Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager asked the Commission to amend the lease agreement for Donald Griesse due to the roads being put into the Primitive Area and taking away about 1.5 acres off the total hay cutting land; will go from 38 acres to 36.5 acres. Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to lower the lease by 1.5 acres, so Donald Griesse will be billed for 36.5 acres instead of 38 acres going forward. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**APPLICATION FOR OCCUPANCIES:** Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to approve the following application submitted by Northern Valley Communications (NVC) for occupancy of Brown County 14 in Section 34/34, Township 124, Range 63, Brown County, South Dakota to provide fiber optic line

for NVC Communications to the Moccasin Creek Maintenance Shop. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the following application submitted by East River Electric Power Coop. for occupancy of Brown County 20 & 21, Township 122N to install 155 kV Electrical Transmission Lines. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Dennert to approve the following application submitted by Northern Electric for occupancy of Brown County 14, Township 127N, Range 63W to install primary electrical services. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to approve the following application submitted by Basin Construction for occupancy of Brown County 16, Section 5, Township 122N, Range 62W to install drain tiles. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATE:** Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent, informed the Commission that Sand Lake Bridge is still on track for November 1st deadline. The Erickson culvert is completed. Dirk shared that he plans on including an upgrade to the Beef Plant Road in his 5-year plan; hearing will be next Tuesday. Road 14 will still be completed at the end of October; they are currently paving on 10. Staff are continuing mowing and patching. They still have striping to do on a few roads as well. Commissioner Dennert shared that he got a call about Hwy 5 by Hecla; Dirk said that it will be milled up and turned to gravel. Depending on the temperature, they will put a blotter on it yet this year.

**TRANSFER CHEVY SUBURBAN FROM HIGHWAY TO MUSEUM:** Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to approve transferring 2008 Chevy Suburban from Highway Department to the Museum to replace their van. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE #334 – SECOND READING/POSSIBLE ADOPTION:** Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to adopt Ordinance #334. Applicant County Line Developers to rezone from Residential District (R-1) to Highway Commercial District (HC) to bring this parcel into compliance for its future use. Description of property: Lot 2 "Ronnie's Way Addition" in the NW ¼ of Section 17-T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (2620 8th Ave. NE; Aberdeen Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE #335 – SECOND READING/POSSIBLE ADOPTION:** Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to adopt Ordinance #335 to amend Title 4 Zoning Ordinances of Chapter 4.01 – Definitions; Chapter 4.06-Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P); Chapter 4.22 – Administrative Procedure and Enforcement-Permits. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. (Full copy of Ordinance is available in the Auditor's Office during normal business hours).

**ORDINANCE #336 – SECOND READING/POSSIBLE ADOPTION:** Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to adopt Ordinance #336 to amend portions of the Brown County Comprehensive Plan 2020-2040, Chapter 2 – Land Use. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. (Full copy of Ordinance is available in the Auditor's Office during normal business hours).

**LANDFILL CELL #5 CONSTRUCTION – PAYMENT #5:** Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Payment #5 for the Landfill Cell #5 Construction to Midland Contracting, Inc. for \$467,314.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**RESIGNATION FROM MARKCUS SELZLER DBA: CENTENNIAL VILLAGE:** Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to acknowledge and accept the 30-day Notice of Contract Resignation from Markus Selzler, Board President of Centennial Village to terminate contract with Brown County, effective October 30, 2026. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Chairman Sutton stated to Thank Marcus and his family for all they've done over the last 15 years at Centennial Village.

**MINUTES:** Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to approve the General Meeting Minutes of September 29, 2026. All members present voting aye.

Motion carried.

**CLAIMS/PAYROLL:** Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the following claims/payroll. Claims: Insurance: SD Assoc of County Commissioners \$16,552.00. Professional Fees: Helms & Associates \$39,581.70; Kennedy Pier Loftus & Reynold, LLP \$183.00; Krisit Brandt \$44.10; Kuck Law Office \$5,875.35; Lenling Law Office, Prof. LLC \$488.00; Liberty Tire Recycling, LLC \$7,363.93; Pauer Sound, LLC \$262.98; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine \$290.00; SD Dept of Transportation \$1,474.15; SDHSC \$600.00; SDSU Extension 4-H Programs \$50.00; Taliaferro Law Firm, PC \$3,184.20; Tammy Stolle Court Reporting \$53.35. Publishing: Alpha Media-Water-town \$4,300.00; Groton Daily Independent \$212.86; McQuillen Creative Group, Inc \$216.60. Rentals: Advantage Self Storage \$276.00; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$66.11; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$517.13. Repairs & Maintenance: Auto Value Aberdeen \$222.81; Burdette Security & Technologies, LLC \$95.00; Dakota Fluid Power, Inc \$791.66; Diesel Machinery, Inc \$8,000.00; EcoLab Pest Elimination Division \$138.07; Fulcrum Biometrics \$600.00; Graham Tire Inc \$910.96; Haar Plumbing & Heating \$483.34; HF Jacobs & Son Const. Inc \$315.00; House of Glass \$621.39; Lang's Audio, TV & Appliance \$380.00; Lawson Products, Inc \$192.53; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$200.30; Olson's Pest Technicians \$455.00; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$876.89; Pomp's Tire Service, Inc \$612.00; Prahm Construction, Inc \$472,261.92; Precision Kiosk Technologies \$3,000.00; Safety Service, Inc \$82.50; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$5,699.77; Valvoline Inc. \$169.68; Wallys Skid-steer Service \$867.00. Supplies & Materials: Advance Auto Parts \$28.69; Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$82.40; Auto Value Aberdeen \$457.96; Cartney Bearing \$359.58; Central Network Retail Group LLC \$96.55; Christina M. Flack \$800.00; Cole Paper Inc \$594.16; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$455.39; Dakota Electronics LLC \$2,979.16; Dakota Fluid Power, Inc \$4,462.96; Diesel Machinery, Inc \$152.49; Fastenal Company \$402.75; Geffdog Designs \$694.50; Great Western Tire \$90.00; Hub City Equipment \$78.57; Interstate Battery System of South Dakota \$914.70; Intoximeters \$1,050.00; J.D. Power \$662.00; Jebro Inc \$92,004.90; Kuck Law Office \$400.25; L.G. Everest, Inc \$4,141.82; Lawson Products, Inc \$2,728.74; Lewis Family Drug LLC \$75.54; Menards \$212.78; Midstates Group \$54.80; Performance Oil \$482.34; Pomp's Tire Service, Inc \$1,118.84; RaceWest-East \$249.00; Runnings \$164.53; Safety Service, Inc \$438.93; Share Corporation \$1,480.80; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$3,450.71; Tri-State Water \$90.10; US Foods \$9,792.59; Valvoline Inc. \$326.97. Travel & Conference: Drew Dennert \$458.35; Duane Sutton \$520.13; John Andersen \$66.00; Lenling Law Office, Prof. LLC 80.00. Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$188.54; CenturyLink \$296.42; Northwestern Energy \$22,097.37; T-Mobile USA Inc \$613.00; Town of Frederick \$77.00. Improvements: Midland Contracting Inc \$467,314.00.

**Payroll:** Commission \$5,165.81; Elections \$5,310.43; Auditor \$9,603.21; Treasurer \$19,800.48; SA \$38,018.17; Public Defender \$14,449.33; Maintenance \$21,386.51; Assessor \$17,506.93; Register of Deeds \$12,586.04; VSO \$5,259.85; GIS \$3,110.76; IT \$10,616.94; HR \$5,755.54; Sheriff \$57,256.59; Jail \$79,216.66; Coroner (Voucher) \$1,950.00; Court Security \$7,871.50; JDC \$32,896.39; Support of Poor \$1,124.71; Museum \$14,333.00; Parks/Fairgrounds \$10,138.67; Fair Board \$4,858.37; 4-H \$881.59; Weed \$8,126.59; Planning & Zoning \$8,608.09; Highway \$55,710.98; Dispatch \$40,111.77; Emergency \$5,938.98; 24/7 Sobriety \$2,832.48; Landfill \$16,825.22; Meal Benefits \$133.00; Tips \$539.00; SDRS Pay-out \$9,919.49; Retirement Award \$150.00; FICA \$30,086.52; Medicare \$7,036.34; HSA \$2,463.36. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

- o Employment ending for Joel Randall, Brown County Building Service Worker, FT; effective October 1, 2026. Request to fill.
- o Employment ending for Blake Martin, Brown County Jail Detention Officer, FT; effective October 15, 2026. Request to fill.
- o Hiring of Cynthia Mitchell as Brown County Jail Records Technician, PT; starting wage \$21.50/hr. – effective October 5, 2026.
- o Hiring of Hannah Miller as Brown County Sheriff's Office Records Technician, FT; starting wage \$20.46/hr. – effective October 19, 2026.
- o Transfer of Jason Hasty from Chief Deputy Public Defender to Interim Chief Public Defender, wage adjustment during interim period \$5,097.34/pay period – effective October 11, 2026.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**TRAVEL REQUESTS:** Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the following Travel Requests: Jerry Lehrkamp, Weed & Pest to take F550 to have Benco sprayer installed; Josh Lee, Sheriff's Office to attend Advanced Instructor Development Training and Statewide Narcotic Detector Dog Training (K9); Adelaide Mouna, State's Attorney Office to attend Annual Community Response to Child Abuse Conference. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**LANDFILL TONNAGE REPORT:** Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to acknowledge the Landfill Tonnage Report for September 2026. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to go into Executive Session per SDCL 1-25-2 for Personnel and Legal. All member 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 10:36 A.M. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published October 14, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$175.98 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com). 27331



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR BROWN COUNTY FAIR SCREENS, CAMERAS, VIDEO PACKAGING, TECHNICIANS FOR THE GRANDSTAND ENTERTAINMENT WITH OPTIONAL ADD-ON FOR TWO-DAY RODEO TIMING SERVICES FOR THE YEARS OF 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 AND 2031**

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be opened for consideration at 8:45 A.M. on Tuesday, October 27, 2026 in the Brown County Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD to provide Screens, Cameras, Video Packaging and Technicians with Optional Add-On for Two-Day Rodeo Timing Services for the Brown County Fair. The six (6) days of entertainment includes the Dacotah Stampede Rodeo on Monday and Tuesday and concerts on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. These services would be good for a 5-year contact for the years of 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 and 2031.

Specifications and Addendums can be obtained at no charge on the Brown County Bids website at <https://www.brown.sd.us/brown-county-bids>

Final proposals must be sealed and sent to the address below by Tuesday, October 27, 2026 at 8:45 A.M. to:

Brown County Auditor's Office  
Attn: Bid for Screens, Cameras, Video, Etc.  
25 Market St., Ste. 1.  
Aberdeen, SD 57401

The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals that they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County, and to waive informalities or irregularities therein. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise and State Sales Tax.

**PERFORMANCE BOND:** Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that

the proposal has been accepted and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County and furnish a performance bond in an amount equal to the contract price. A formal agreement will be provided for the selected contractor after the meeting.

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published October 14 and 21, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$41.78 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com). 27332



**ORDINANCE #336**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2-LAND USE AS AMENDED IN BROWN COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2020-2040**

Notice is hereby given that Ordinance #336; to consider amending Chapter 2-Land Use, which in turn amends page numbers in the Table of Contents and Appendix A was duly adopted by the Board of Brown County Commissioners on the 6th day of October 2026 and will become effective on the 3rd day of November 2026.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Chapter 2-Land Use is hereby amended as follows:

Chapter 2 – Land Use Guidelines:

10. Establish buffer areas to ensure residential areas are separated from incompatible land uses; use buffers to separate all incompatible land uses, and to serve as framework for County-wide open space systems.

11. In addition, religious farming communities present unique challenges to the zoning ordinance. These communities rely on agricultural activities as the primary economic driver, and thus the use is compatible with most agricultural uses. In many cases religious farming communities include Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO's) as a component of the agricultural operation. The county has adopted policies and regulations specifically regulating CAFO's, therefore application for CAFO's at the location of a religious farming community are to be separate from the application to operate a religious farming community.

Based upon constraints in providing adequate services (emergency and public utility) to the high densities of rural populations and stress on rural roads, the County has an interest in regulating the density of development in the unincorporated areas of the county. However, religious farming communities are characterized by numerous farm owners, workers, their families, and some that provide ancillary services to live on site. The number of dwellings required on the same legal description directly conflicts with the density requirements of the unincorporated areas of the County.

It is important to note that the County does not discourage religious farming communities. At the same time, the county has adopted regulations for high density development not associated with agricultural activities. A case-by-case review of applications for religious farming communities will reveal whether those rules for higher density residential development apply in the case of each individual application for a religious framing community.

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 amend the Comprehensive Plan 2020-2040 to reflect this Ordinance.

Passed and adopted this 6th day October 2026.

Duane Sutton, Brown County Commission Chairman

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Notice of Hearing: September 2, 2026

First Reading: September 22, 2026

Second Reading/Adoption: October 6, 2026

Published: October 14, 2026

Effective Date: November 3, 2026

Published October 14, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$36.56 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com). 27333



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR BROWN COUNTY FAIR SOUND, LIGHTING AND STAGE EQUIPMENT FOR THE GRAND-STAND ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE YEARS OF 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 AND 2031

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be opened for consideration at 8:45 A.M. on Tuesday, October 27, 2026 in the Brown County Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD to provide the Sound, Lights and Stage Equipment for the Brown County Fair. The six (6) days of entertainment includes the Dacotah Stampede Rodeo on Monday and Tuesday and concerts on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. These services would be good for a 5-year contact for the years of 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 and 2031.

Specifications and Addendums can be obtained at no charge on the Brown County Bids website at <https://www.brown.sd.us/brown-county-bids>

Final proposals must be sealed and sent to the address below by Tuesday, October 27, 2026 at 8:45 A.M. to:

Brown County Auditor's Office  
Attn: Bid for Sound, Lighting & Stage Equipment  
25 Market St., Ste. 1.  
Aberdeen, SD 57401

The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals that they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County, and to waive informalities or irregularities therein. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise and State Sales Tax.

**PERFORMANCE BOND:**

Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that the proposal has been accepted and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County and furnish a performance bond in an amount equal to the contract price. A formal agreement will be provided for the selected contractor after the meeting.

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published October 14 and 21, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$38.92 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com). 27334



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR BROWN COUNTY FAIR SANITATION CREW

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be opened for consideration at 8:45 A.M. on Tuesday, October 27, 2026 in the Brown County Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD for an Individuals or Companies to supply the labor force to operate the Fair Sanitation Crew for the upcoming Brown County Fairs. These services would be for the next three years: August 16-22, 2027; August 14-20, 2028 and August 13-19, 2029.

Specifications can be obtained at no charge on the Brown County Bids website at <https://www.brown.sd.us/brown-county-bids>

Final proposals must be sealed and sent to the address below by Tuesday, October 27, 2026 at 8:45 A.M. to:

Brown County Auditor's Office  
Attn: Bid for Sanitation Services  
25 Market St., Ste. 1.  
Aberdeen, SD 57401

The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals that they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County, and to waive informalities or irregularities therein. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise and State Sales Tax.

**PERFORMANCE BOND:**

Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that the proposal has been accepted and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County and furnish a performance bond in an amount equal to the contract price. A formal agreement will be

provided for the selected contractor after the meeting.

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published October 14 and 21, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$34.34 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com). 27335



ORDINANCE #334  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES AS AMENDED

TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that Ordinance #334, An Ordinance Amending Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended to rezone the following described property filed by petitioner County Line Developers was duly adopted by the Board of Brown County Commissioners on the 6th day of October 2026 and will become effective on the 3rd day of November 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 Residential District (R-1) to Highway Commercial District (HC) to bring this parcel into compliance for its future use.

Description of property: Lot 2 "Ronnie's Way Addition" in the NW ¼ of Section 17-T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (2620 8th Ave. NE; Aberdeen 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 6th day of October 2026.

Duane Sutton, Brown County Commission Chairman

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Notice of Hearing: September 2, 2026

First Reading: September 22, 2026

Second Reading/Adoption: October 6, 2026

Published: October 14, 2026

Effective Date: November 3, 2026

Published October 14, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$20.98 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com). 27336



ORDINANCE #335  
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 4 ZONING ORDINANCES OF CHAPTER 4.01 – DEFINITIONS; CHAPTER 4.06 – AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION DISTRICT (AG-P); CHAPTER 4.22 – ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE AND ENFORCEMENT – PERMITS

Notice is hereby given that Ordinance #335; to consider amending portions of Title 4-Zoning Ordinances as follows was duly adopted by the Board of Brown County Commissioners on the 6th day of October 2026 and will become effective on the 3rd day of November 2026.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend portion of Title 4 Zoning is hereby amended as follows:

Chapter 4.01 – Definitions: Religious Farming Community. A corporation formed primarily for religious purposes whose principle income is derived from agriculture and/or a farm which may or may not be hold in collective ownership, in which multiple families reside on-site and use or conduct activities upon the property which are participated in, shared, or used in common by the members of the group residing thereon.

Chapter 4.06 – Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P)

4.0604 Conditional Uses  
After notice and appropriate safeguards, the Zoning Board of

Adjustment (BOA) may permit the following as special exceptions/conditional uses in the Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P)

14. Kennels and veterinary operations

15. Farm-related bulk commodities

16. Farm-related agriculture business, agriculture processing and institutional farms,

including religious farming communities

17. Wildlife propagation and game management

Chapter 4.22 – Administrative Procedure and Enforcement – Permits

4.2201 Administrative Standards: An administrative official who shall be known as Brown County Planning/Zoning Director, who shall be designated by the Board of County Commissioners, shall administer and enforce Title 4, Zoning Ordinances. The Director may be provided with the assistance of such other persons as the Board of County Commissioners may direct. Whenever it is necessary or desirable to make any administrative decision, then, unless other standards are provided in these Zoning Ordinances, the decision shall be made so that the result will not be contrary to the purpose of these Zoning Ordinances or injurious to the surrounding neighborhood.

If the Director shall find that any of the provisions of this Title are being violated, he/she shall notify the person responsible for such violations, indicating the nature of the violation and ordering the action necessary to correct it. He/she may issue a STOP WORK ORDER for discontinuance of illegal use of land, buildings, or structures; removal of illegal buildings or structural changes; discontinuance of any illegal work being done; or shall take any other action authorized by this Title to ensure compliance with or to prevent violation of its provisions.

The Brown County Planning and Zoning Director shall administer and enforce the provisions of Title 4 Zoning Ordinance and shall administer the policies established by the Board of County Commissioners. His/her work shall be performed in cooperation with and under the direction of the Planning/Zoning Commission with the Zoning Commission acting as the Zoning Board of Adjustment (BOA) SDCL 11-2-2; SDCL 11-2-49. He/she shall have no power to vary or waive the Zoning Ordinance requirements. The Planning/Zoning Director shall:

1. Official Zoning Map: Maintain and keep current the Official Zoning Map; keeping records of amendments thereto of the Official Zoning Map; post map in the Board of Commission Chambers with all up-to-date changes noted on the map with addresses and dates.

2. Records: Maintain the records of Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission including Zoning Board of Adjustment (BOA).

3. Data: Collect data and information; be present or represented and prepared to answer technical questions at hearings or meetings of the Planning/Zoning Commission.

4. Liaison: Act as liaison between the Planning/Zoning Commission members.

5. Publication: Prepare and publish all public advertisement and notices for hearings of the Planning/Zoning Commission relative to Planning and Zoning activities and coordinate publication with the County Auditor for Board of County Commissioners meetings.

6. Permits: Issue All Permits for Planning and Zoning Department; make and maintain records thereof.

7. Use Permits: Issue, renew and maintain records thereof for all Use Permits.

8. Inspections: Conduct site inspections for minimum Setback distances from property lines or right-of-way lines; of buildings, structures, and land as necessary to ensure compliance with the various provisions of Title 4 Zoning.

9. Violations: Notify in writing to the person responsible for any violation of the provisions of these Zoning Ordinances, indicating the nature of the violation and ordering the action that will be necessary to correct it. May issue a STOP WORK ORDER on-site for discontinuance of illegal work being done.

10. Provide public information relative to all matters arising out of this Ordinance.

4.2202 – Permits Required: No building or structure, that meets

any one of the above criteria, shall be erected, partially erected, moved, added to or structurally altered or used without an approved permit therefore issued by the Zoning Department. No Permit shall be issued by the Zoning Department except in conformity with the provisions of Title 4 Zoning, unless he/she received a written order of approval from the County Planning/Zoning Commission in the form of an administrative review, special exception, conditional use, or variance as provided for by Title 4 Zoning.

Permits are required in the following instances:

1. For any new building/structure, alterations, concrete, or some improvements on any existing building/structure regardless of cost. "Exempted Improvements" from requiring a Permit in Brown County are any window improvements of the same size and style without any structural changes needed; doors of the same size and style without any structural changes needed; exterior non-structural building siding, fascia boards, soffits, gutter drains, downspouts, and extensions; painting interior or exterior of a building; replacing interior flooring, rural farming fences. Typical shingling or installing sheet steel on a roof both require Permits. Any mobile home, manufactured home or trailer house brought into the county jurisdictional area will require a permit from the Zoning Office. This home will be treated as any other residential structure for zoning laws such as setbacks, zoning district regulations and floodplain regulations. Zoning regulations are separate from Treasurer's Office moving permits for a mobile home, manufactured home or trailer house.

2. It shall be unlawful to commence excavation for construction of any building or any accessory building without a permit. A permit is also required for any filling, grading, dredging or lagoons which are related to site preparation for future construction.

3. Definition of Structure for this section: Anything constructed or erected with a fixed location on the ground, or anchored having a fixed location on the ground; among other things, structures for this section include concrete, buildings, decks, walls, porches, sheds, garages, pole buildings, steel buildings, concrete buildings, dwellings, combination residential and agricultural buildings, combination residential and commercial buildings, grain bins, hopper bins, bin systems (appurtenances and accessories for movement of grain such as conveyors, legs, scales, towers, that are all part of a bin system), large gas or liquid storage tank, permanent livestock shelters, trailer houses, mobile homes or manufactured homes, modular homes, site-built homes, pre-built homes, communication towers, wind towers, wind systems, solar systems, sign support structures or frames, billboard structures and signs, and yard fences as described in the fence ordinance.

4. Definition of Permit for this section - authorization to perform a process as in:

A. Permit, Zoning – Authorization for construction in the unincorporated areas meeting all Zoning District's criteria, regulations, setbacks.

B. Permit, Building – Authorization to construct a structure in any incorporated towns, unincorporated towns or rural subdivisions in Brown County jurisdictional areas meeting all Zoning District's criteria, regulations, setbacks.

C. Permit, Use – Authorization to use a property for a specific use.

D. Permit, Sign – Authorization to install a new sign/structure or modify an existing sign face.

E. Permit, Demolition - Authorization to tear down and remove an existing structure.

F. Permit, Move - Authorization to move a structure to another location for zoning purposes. The Treasurer's Office also requires their own Moving Permit for their own registration processes.

G. Permit, Approach – Authorization to construct an approved access approach.

H. Permit, Grading or Excavation - Authorization to change contour of the land.

I. Permit, Septic – Authorization by the State Health Department to build, modify or install a septic system.

J. Permit, Electrical – Authorization by the State for all electrical work.

K. Permit, Plumbing - Authorization by the State for any new plumbing or modifications of existing plumbing systems.

L. Permit, Flood Plain Development (FPDP) - Authorization for construction, development, or alterations in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) established in the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM or e-FIRM).

4.2203 Application for Permit  
1. Application for permits shall be made to the Zoning Officer upon forms approved by the Board of County Commissioners. These forms shall be filled in by the owner, or authorized agent. All applications for permits shall be accompanied by a site plan drawn to scale, showing the actual dimensions and shape of the lot to be built upon; the exact sizes and locations on a lot of the buildings already existing, if any; and the location and dimensions of the proposed building(s) or alteration. The applicant shall also state the existing and intended use of all such buildings, and the location of existing or proposed water and sewer facilities. In the case of a change of use, the applicant shall, in writing, state the intended change.

2. The application shall include such other information as lawfully may be required by the Zoning Officer, including legal description, existing or proposed buildings or alterations; existing or proposed uses of the building and land; the number of families, housekeeping units, or rental units the building is designed to accommodate; conditions existing on the lot; existing or proposed water, sewer, electrical facilities; and such other matters as may be necessary to determine conformity with, and provide for the enforcement of, this ordinance. All plans and data accompanying the permit shall be final and conclusive. Deviations shall be deemed a violation of this Ordinance, and punishable as provided in 4.28 Violations and shall require a new permit.

3. One copy of the application shall be returned to the applicant by the Zoning Department after he/she shall have marked such copy either as approved or denied and attested to same by his/her signature on such copy. If a building permit is refused, the Planning and Zoning Director shall state the reasons for such refusal in writing. The original and one copy of the application, similarly marked, shall be retained by the Planning and Zoning Director. The issuance of any Permit shall, in no case, be construed as waiving any provisions of Title 4 Zoning.

4.2204 Expiration of Building Permit: If the work described in any permit has not begun within one hundred and eighty (180) days from the date of Permit issuance thereof, said Permit shall expire; it shall be canceled by the Planning and Zoning Director, and written notice thereof shall give to the persons affected, together with notice that further work as described in the canceled permit shall not proceed unless and until a renewed building permit has been obtained. Construction must be completed within two (2) years of issuance date of Permit. There will be no additional cost to extend completion time if renewed before expiration, unless substantial changes have been made to the original Permit. If construction has not been completed within the two (2) year period and a Permit becomes expired, there shall be a new plan review; a new Permit and additional permit fees will be required for the remaining work.

4.2205 Construction and Use to be as provided in Applications and Permits: Permits are issued based on applications approved by the Planning/Zoning Director authorizing only the use, arrangement, and construction set forth in such approved application and no other use, arrangement, or construction. Use, arrangement, or construction at variance without authorization, shall be deemed a violation of this Title 4, and punishable as provided by Ch 4.28.

4.2206 – Permitting Fees: All Permits shall be obtained by

application of the owner, agent or contractor and shall give an estimate of the valuation of total construction project or repairs, from start to finish and initial Permit Fees shall be based on such estimate; provided that if at the completion of said construction project or repair, the estimated cost as given in the application appears inadequate to the Planning/Zoning Director, he/she may demand bills or receipts to substantiate such valuation and additional fees may be assessed accordingly. It is the owner and contractor's responsibility to obtain a permit prior to construction on property, owned or leased.

4.2207 Posting Permit: All Permits issued by the Planning and Zoning Director must be placed in a conspicuous location on the construction site for the duration of the construction or work described.

Removing 4.2208 Approach Access Permit and Criteria

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 Ordinances for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.

Passed and adopted this 6th day October 2026.

Duane Sutton, Brown County Commission Chairman

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Notice of Hearing: September 2, 2026

First Reading: September 22, 2026

Second Reading/Adoption: October 6, 2026

Published: October 14, 2026

Effective Date: November 3, 2026

Published October 14, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$159.92 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com). 27337



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR ELECTRICAL SERVICES FOR THE BROWN COUNTY FAIR

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be opened for consideration at 8:45 A.M. on Tuesday, October 27, 2026 in the Brown County Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD for the Electrical Needs including labor and services for the upcoming Brown County Fairs. These services would be good for the next three years: August 16-22, 2027; August 14-20, 2028 and August 13-19, 2029.

Specifications can be obtained at no charge on the Brown County Bids website at <https://www.brown.sd.us/brown-county-bids>

Final proposals must be sealed and sent to the address below by Tuesday, October 27, 2026 at 8:45 A.M. to:

Brown County Auditor's Office  
Attn: Bid for Electrical Services  
25 Market St., Ste. 1.  
Aberdeen, SD 57401

The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals that they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County, and to waive informalities or irregularities therein. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise and State Sales Tax.

**PERFORMANCE BOND:**

Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that the proposal has been accepted and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County and furnish a performance bond in an amount equal to the contract price. A formal agreement will be provided for the selected contractor after the meeting.

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published October 14 and 21, 2026 at the total approximate cost of \$33.19 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com). 27338

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Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

the Vikings also had to deal with a hostile announcing crew (Drew Brees was on the mic and the first-ballot Hall of Fame QB was also honored at halftime). All in all, not ideal conditions for the good guys wearing purple and gold.

If you listened to the national media this week, all you heard was how the Vikings’ offense seemed to be allergic to the end zone, and the beginning of the game did little to change the narrative. The Vikings had two great drives to open the game (9 plays for 51 yards and 11 plays for 63 yards), but all they got for their efforts was a field goal and a fumble. A Saints touchdown in the second quarter gave them a 7-3 lead, and ultimately a 7-6 lead heading into halftime.

The first half was rough, but the second half was another story. The Vikings’ defense was dominant, and for the first time in weeks, the offense came alive. Justin Jefferson caught a beautiful touchdown, despite being triple covered, to give Minnesota the lead. Aaron Jones rumbled into the end zone to extend the lead in the fourth quarter. And the Vikings sailed back home on top of the world.

Kyler Murray is finally starting to look comfortable in this offense, despite the Vikings being down 40% of the starting offensive line (Christian Darrisaw – concussion, Donovan Jackson – season-ending IR), Jordan Addison, and T.J. Hockenson, who went down early after hitting his head in the first quarter. Murray completed 80% of his passes, had 280 total yards, one touchdown, and zero turnovers. I believe Murray will continue to improve as the season goes on, but even if he doesn’t, the QB I saw play today is good enough to take this team deep into the playoffs (as long as the defense and special teams continue to dominate the way they have been early this season).

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The Minnesota Vikings defeated the New Orleans Saints 23-13 on Sunday to remain undefeated. At 5-0, and with a two-game lead in the NFC North, the Vikings enter their bye week with high spirits.

It wasn't easy for the Vikings in the Big Easy. The Caesars Superdome is always a tough place to play – not only is the crowd loud and boisterous, but

Despite blitzing 127% of the time (this stat is unofficial, don't quote me on it), the Vikings only had one sack Sunday. That didn't matter, however, as the Saints were held to just 87 net passing yards (Tyler Shough was averaging over 300 passing yards per game through Week 4). Instead, the Vikings relied on turnovers to dominate this game, with a fumble recovery on special teams (Jake Golday made an amazing play) and two interceptions by Byron Murphy Jr.

Speaking of Byron Murphy Jr., he gets my game ball. It's hard to stand out on a defense like Minnesota's, because they work so well as a cohesive unit. But Murphy had himself a day, with two interceptions, two pass deflections, and a tackle for loss.

Looking ahead, the Vikings have their bye week coming up. It's an early bye week, which teams usually dislike, but this one is coming at a good time for Minnesota. Christian Darrisaw, Jordan Addison, Jordan Mason, and T.J. Hockenson all have a chance to get healthy and return to the lineup, which should have the team in relatively good health. And the team will need it, because their next five games are: Colts, Lions, Bills, Packers, 49ers.

Skol!

“The more things change”

Almost every workday, a few of us doctors congregate in the hospital cafeteria for lunch. Often we are joined by a medical student or two, doing their rural rotations. Our conversations may span a variety of topics, but when the students are with us, we particularly relish discussing the changes we've seen over our careers.

Recently, inspired by the student going into orthopedics, our trip down memory lane involved hip and knee replacements. As a student myself, I was enthusiastic to do my orthopedic rotation. I'd made a detailed model of a hip prosthesis in one of my undergraduate courses, analyzing stresses and failure points, and I was eager to see how those ideas played out in the operating room. One look at the instruments laid out on that sterile field, and I got a cold dose of reality. They looked like things that should be used on airplanes, not the delicate human body!

As a student in the 1990s, I learned that hip replacements reliably lasted about 10 years. When my orthopedic residents learned that Heisman trophy winner Bo Jackson had a hip replacement at 30, and gone back to professional sports, they seemed aghast (to be fair, none of us knew any details). Not only was he young, but the impact of his athleticism would put significant stresses on that prosthesis, all but guaranteeing it would fail sooner rather than later. Redoing a joint replacement was, and still is, a tricky proposition.

In those days, getting a hip or knee replacement involved long stays in the hospital, and possibly a discharge to the nursing home for on-going rehabilitation. You might not even get out of bed for a day or two! It was common to need transfusions. It was common to develop blood clots. Pain could be significant. Major muscles and tendons were cut, so recovery was slow. Still, most people ultimately told me they were glad they'd had it done.

Today, thanks to advances in surgical techniques and pain control options, patients are likely to go home with their new knee or hip the same day it is put in. Make no mistake, recovering from the procedure is still a lot of work! And recovering at home presents some logistical challenges not present in the hospital. Will you need to climb stairs to get to the bedroom or the bathroom or the kitchen? How will you bathe? How will you get to physical therapy? Who will help you get that ice machine filled, set up, and then emptied? Recovery still takes longer than most people expect, and that new joint still isn't perfect. Nevertheless, most people still tell me it was worth it

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Dr. Debra Johnston s a Family Medical Physician at Avera Medical Clinic in Brookings, SD. She serves as a volunteer host for the Prairie Doc® team, which is currently celebrating its 25th season of providing health education based on science and built on trust. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and TikTok to stay connected. Our programming includes the medical Q&A show On Call with the Prairie Doc® (most Thursdays at 7pm on SDPB, YouTube, and Facebook), along with two podcasts and a weekly radio program (Sundays at 6am and 1pm on SDPB).

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

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