



\$2

The Groton Independent

Vol. 140 No. 25 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, March 8, 2023 ♦ Established in 1889

Gearheads make it into the State Quarterfinals, finish 7th

Groton Robotics traveled to Rapid City for the State Vex Robotics Tournament held at Douglas High School in Box Elder competing against 30 teams from 12 towns: Mitchell (4), Harrisburg (4), Groton (4), Menno (2), Sioux Falls (2), Jefferson (1), Canton (2) Brandon (1), Box Elder (5), Vermillion (1), Britton (2), Spearfish (2), Groton Teams included: G-Force 9050A (6th grade- Grant Cleveland & Conner Kroll) Gear Heads 9050B (Seniors-Jack Dinger & Ethan Clark) Gladiators 9050F (Garrett Schultz, De Eh Tha Say, Bradyn Wienk) Galaxy 9050E (Corbin Weismantel, Logan Clocksene, Kianna Sanders, Axel Warrington).

The competition started off with 41 qualifying matches, each team competing 6 times. At the end of the 41 qualifying matches Gear Heads-9050B ranked 7th, Galaxy-9050E 19th, Gladiators-9050F 21st, G-Force-9050A 22nd .

The top 16 teams were chosen for the quarterfinals. Gear Heads ended their season in the quarterfinals with a score of 115 to 68. A tough day for the teams, but all in all the kids always make the best of it, lots of laughs and memories are made at every tournament! Congratulations to all the Groton teams! We look forward to another year and the new game release in April!

Tournament champions were from Harrisburg and Jefferson.

Congratulations to all the teams who participated!

Groton Robotic seniors Jack and Ethan, along with invited guest builder, Garrett Schultz, will be headed down to Council Bluffs, Iowa, Thursday, March 30th to Saturday, April 1st to compete in the CREATE US Open. This was the same tournament the teams competed in last year. Rules and scoring are different, and they can use non-vex parts. For more information check out the vex VRC robotics website, download the VEX via app and follow Groton Tiger Robotics on facebook. Thanks to all who support Groton Robotics!

Submitted by Groton Robotics



Galaxy team members taking a break.



Gear Heads Ethan Clark and Jackson Dinger.



Groton Robotics participating at state

Back(l-r) Corbin Weismantel, Logan Clocksene, Garrett Schultz, Axel Warrington, Ethan Clark front(l-r) De EhThay Say, Kiana Sanders, Grant Cleveland, Bradyn Wienk, Connor Kroll, Jack Dinger.



G-Force-Connor Kroll and Grant Cleveland.

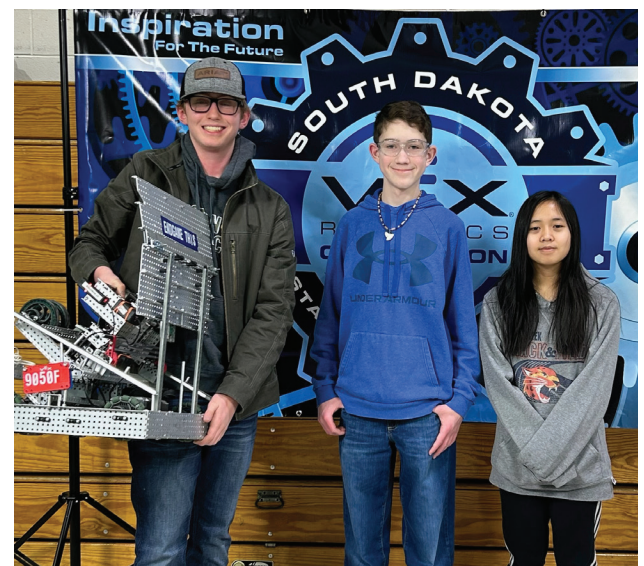
Photos Courtesy of Groton Robotics



Galaxy 9050E (Logan Clocksene, Corbin Weismantel, Axel Warrington, Kianna Sanders).



Gear Head Seniors-Ethan Clark and Jack Dinger.



Gladiators-(Garrett Schultz, Bradyn Wienk and De Eh Thay Say).

"I can't believe they'd do that to people"

Writer's note: This is the 50th anniversary of the AIM takeover at Wounded Knee. At the time, as a teenager, I didn't understand the genesis of the protest. Now, I know more. This column from 2019 reflects that.

India and Gus the Wonder Pug waited in my old Mustang convertible while I surveyed my hat rack, trying to decide which one I would take on our pilgrimage. I finally grabbed my Baltimore Orioles cap.

The sun was high when we stopped at the Sitting Bull and Sakakawea monuments near Mobridge. We stood awhile at an obelisk marking Sakakawea's time on this earth, a legend at 19, dead in 1812 at 25 of a fever during childbirth, about 25 miles from that spot.

A breeze rustled the tall grass, but beyond that, silence. There was a cluster of bee hives in an adjacent field. India and Gus trotted out ahead of me to the great chief's grave on a bluff, overlooking the Missouri far below.

Sitting Bull was 59 when he died on Dec. 15, 1890, shot down along the Grand River during an arrest attempt by authorities who feared that he might further encourage the apocalyptic Ghost Dance movement that was building among the Sioux. Two weeks later, the 7th Cavalry, which had suffered defeat at Little Big Horn in 1876 by Sitting Bill and Crazy Horse, massacred hundreds of men, women and children at Wounded Knee.

There was charred sage at the base of Sitting Bull's statue, dried wildflowers, a broken, slightly weathered cigarette, two plantains, and a handmade redwood cross inscribed with one word: "Faith." Sitting Bull's stone visage gazed east as if waiting for the next sunrise.

We continued south through deep green valleys, inhaling the perfume of cut hay. There was road construction a few miles from Wounded Knee and the smell of hot tar. It was late afternoon when we arrived and lumbered up a washed-out, dusty clay hill best suited for a four wheel drive.

Dozens of faded prayer cloths adorned

the wire fence surrounding the gray monument. Outside the fence were more recent graves, the dirt held in place by weeds and wildflowers. Some plots had military markers decorated with American flags. At one grave, chips of blue paint were all that remained of a name once painted on a large wooden cross. There was something atop the cross, and I moved closer to see. It was a sun-faded Baltimore Orioles cap.

Standing there, my mind recalled the photographs of the killing field, the frozen bodies, one old man's icy hands clawing at the sky.

There was one survivor. Four days after the slaughter, an infant was discovered, protected by her mother's frozen corpse. The baby girl, who was adopted by an army general, became known as Lost Bird. There's no happy ending to her story. Caught between cultures, possibly abused, then abandoned by her adoptive father, she became a curiosity relegated to Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and later, Vaudeville. She died penniless of influenza at 30 in California on Valentines Day, 1920. In 1991, her people brought her home.

Small irises struggled in the unforgiving soil covering the grave. Someone had placed two small teddy bears alongside prayer bundles and painted stones. I left a penny on her headstone.

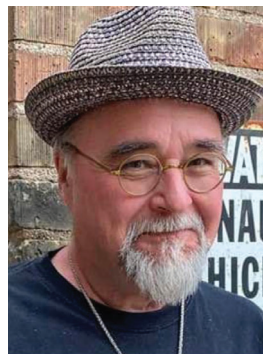
A day later, as we drove homeward into an inky night, I thought about the day Dylan and I went to Standing Rock during the pipeline protests. Thousands of Water Protectors were blocking an oil pipeline poised to cross the Missouri just a mile north of the Standing Rock Reservation.

When we arrived, a march began, so we followed, but no one seemed to know the purpose. We later learned that bulldozers were scraping away what Lakota archeologists deemed a sacred site. A helicopter hovered overhead menacingly in the unmerciful heat.

I fell behind, but Dylan, who'd borrowed a camera from his college communications class, filmed from the front lines as black-shirted security forces turned attack dogs on men, women and children in a scene reminiscent of Birmingham in 1964. Young bareback horsemen whirled protectively back and forth between their people and the security forces, helping drive them into retreat.

I hitched a ride back to my pickup and was waiting when Dylan finally emerged from the milling crowd, older than when he went in. He didn't see me at first—looked right through me before I got his attention. He climbed in wearily and sighed. Staring straight ahead through a bug-spattered windshield, he said, "Dad, I can't believe they'd do that to people." We drove a long while in silence.

© Tony Bender, 2019



That's Life by Tony Bender

Weekly Vikings Recap Minnesota Vikings' Situation at Quarterback

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

News came out from the NFL Combine this week that the Minnesota Vikings might be looking to do one of two options with Kirk Cousins and his current contract. The first option would be to let Kirk Cousins play out the final year of his current contract, which currently has a cap hit of \$36.2 million. That number as of now would account for 16% of the Vikings' 2023 salary cap and make it more likely that the Vikings move on from several other veteran players who they will be unable to afford.

The second option that the Vikings are reportedly considering with Cousins is to give him a long-term extension. This would be Cousins' third extension with the Vikings since signing with them in 2018 and likely the last. An extension would lessen Cousins' 2023 cap hit and give the Vikings the cap space they need to re-sign certain players or perhaps go out and get a player in free agency.

What this news tells us is that the Vikings appear to not be interested in doing another one-year extension like they did last year. They either want to fully commit to Cousins as their quarterback for the next couple of years or they are ready to move on to a new, younger quarterback.

In my opinion, I would let Cousins play out the final year of his contract. For starters, Cousins will be 35 years old by the time the 2023 season begins. Outside of Tom Brady, history shows that a quarterback's arm talent will "fall off a cliff" before you see it coming. Peyton Manning and Dan Marino both did it in their final seasons, and it appears that Russell Wilson might have done it last year. Because the quarterback position lacks the constant collisions like other positions in football, quarterbacks have been able to mask their decline in talent easier than other players. However, once that decline reaches the point of no return, it becomes too hard to ignore. The arm velocity drastically decreases, and the pinpoint accuracy is no longer there.

Although, I am not saying the 2023 season will be Cousins' "fall off a cliff" season, what I am saying is that you just never know when it is going to happen with a quarterback in his mid-30s. The best thing the Vikings could do is let Cousins show that he still has it from an arm talent standpoint in 2023. If he does, then you re-sign him to a contract. Cousins' has made it pretty clear that he wants to remain in Minnesota so I do not see him leaving if he were to become a free agent after the 2023 season. However, if Cousins does hit the fall-off point in 2023, then the Vikings will at least not be tied to him for more seasons after that.

What makes the Cousins' news even more interesting is the fact that the Vikings conducted interviews with quarterback prospects, Anthony Richardson and Will Levis, at the NFL Combine this week. Could the Vikings just simply be doing their due diligence? Perhaps. However, this also could mean that the Vikings are ready to do what so many Vikings fans have been asking them to do for the last 3 years: draft a quarterback in the first round.

The problem is that both Richardson and Levis are likely to be taken in the top ten of the draft. The Vikings, who are picking 23rd overall and only have 5 picks in this year's draft, would have to give up a ton of future draft capital to go get one of these quarterbacks. However, if the Vikings truly think one of these quarterbacks will be a franchise-changing player, there is no limit on what they will do to go get their guy.

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We the People

The South Dakota Humanities Council is making available a weekly column -- "We the People" -- that focuses on the U.S. Constitution. It is written by David Adler, who is president of The Alturas Institute, a non-profit organization created to promote the Constitution, gender equality, and civic education.



By David Adler

Supreme Court in Nebbia: "An Ominous Fork in the Road"

The immense pressures inflicted on the United States by the Great Depression of the 1930s forced the Supreme Court on several occasions to confront the scope of a state's police power to regulate economic activity in the name of the general welfare.

In the landmark case of *Nebbia v. New York* (1934), the Court, in a sharply divided 5-4 decision, saved the American dairy industry when it upheld the state's milk-control law that created a board to establish minimum retail prices.

The dairy industry, like the rest of the agricultural sector, was in crisis. In Wisconsin, dairy farmers had dumped milk in the streets rather than selling it for less than the cost of production. The New York assembly, fearing a similar reaction, which would lead to the collapse of the dairy market and widespread chaos, empowered a board to set reasonable prices--nine cents a quart, as it happened.

The state fined a Rochester grocer, Leon Nebbia, five dollars for undercutting the market when he sold two quarts of milk and a loaf of bread for eighteen cents. The state courts upheld his conviction under the milk-control act, and Nebbia, who said he had intentionally violated the statute as a test of his "liberty" under the 14th Amendment Due Process Clause, appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Court faced what Arthur Krock, the legendary columnist for the *New York Times*, called an "ominous fork in the road." The Justices might strike down the law as a violation of Nebbia's property rights under the 14th Amendment and thus promote the principle of *laissez-faire*, but such a decision would likely destroy the dairy industry as desperate farmers either dumped their milk or sold it for mere pennies. Or the Court could uphold the milk-control statute as a reasonable exercise of the state's police power, perhaps following the precedent in *Munn v. Illinois* (1873), that empowered a state to regulate a business "affected with a public interest," with the aim of saving the industry.

Justice Owen Roberts who had previously embraced the "public interest" test, wrote the opinion for the Court in *Nebbia* and proceeded to obliterate it. Roberts, it has been said, agonized over the prospect of abandoning the "public interest" standard so soon after upholding

it, and paced the floor late into the night, before deciding that it was too restrictive. Roberts's opinion broadened the police power to make it equal to the needs of the general welfare. Roberts stated, "Neither property rights nor contract rights are absolute." The Constitution, moreover, "does not secure to any one liberty to conduct his business in such fashion as to inflict injury upon the public at large."

Nebbia exposed a deep chasm within the Court. The five-man majority, led by Justice Roberts, did not believe the Justices should consider the wisdom of the milk-control act. "With the wisdom of the policy adopted," Roberts wrote, "with the adequacy or the practicability of the law enacted to forward it, the courts are both incompetent and unauthorized to deal." This position reflected the Court's historical tradition, one greatly influenced by Chief Justice John Marshall who, in *McCulloch v. Maryland* (1819), wrote that "the relative wisdom of a measure" is beyond the Court's inquiry.

Justice James McReynolds, who wrote for the four dissenters, disagreed. "I think," he observed, "this Court must have regard to the wisdom of the enactment." That is, the Court, under the 14th Amendment, must act as a super-legislature. In McReynolds' view, *Nebbia* enjoyed a fundamental right to set his own price, a right that could not be curbed by the state's police power. "Facile disregard of the Constitution," he wrote, "will inevitably lead to its destruction."

Justice Roberts transformed the Court's attitude toward the legality of price regulation by eliminating the category of a "business affected with a public interest," upon which price-fixing had been grounded. As Justice Felix Frankfurter observed, "Roberts had written the epitaph on the misconception, which had gained respect through repetition, that legislative price-fixing as such was at least presumptively unconstitutional." In the days since *Nebbia*, price-regulation would be upheld when the Court finds a reasonable relationship between it and the social interests that may be vindicated by the exercise of the police power.

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The following rates are for Classifieds published in both the Groton Daily Independent and the Groton Independent. Cut rate in half if you just want it in the GDI or just the weekly.

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Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League

Team Standings:

Coyotes – 8, Shihtzus – 8,

Chipmunks – 6, Foxes – 6, Jackelopes – 4,

Cheetahs – 4

Men's High Games:

Brad Waage – 187, Lance Frohling – 181,

Randy Stanley – 175

Women's High Games:

Vicki Walter – 188, Darci Spanier – 187,

Dar Larson – 175

Men's High Series:

Brad Waage – 521, Tony Madsen – 487,

Roger Spanier – 474

Women's High Series:

Vicki Walter – 492, Sue Stanley – 462,

Lori Giedt – 453

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Frederick School February 27, 2023 Special Meeting

FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #6-2
 Special Board of Education Meeting
 February 27, 2023
 A special meeting of the Frederick Area Board of Education was called to order on February 27, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. by President Rich Schlosser. Members present were Rich Achen, Jon Ellwein and Eric Sumption. Others present were Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic Director Jeff Kosters, K-8 Principal Jessica Ringgenberg and Business Manager Shauna Severson.

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion 2023-083 Motion by Sumption, second by Achen to approve the agenda as presented. All voted aye, carried.

No one was present for public comment.

No conflict of interest disclosures.

Motion 2023-084 Motion by Sumption, second by Ellwein to approve the 2023-2024 Educational Structure as follows: Elementary: Preschool-Grade 5, Middle School: Grades 6-8, High School: Grades 9-12. All voted aye, carried.

Motion 2023-085 Motion by Sumption, second by Achen to adjourn at 8:22 a.m. All voted aye, carried.

Rich Schlosser, President
 Shauna Severson, Business Manager

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Frederick School Voter Registration Notice

NOTICE OF DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION
 FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 6-2

Voter registration for the 2023 School Board Election to be held on April 11, 2023, will close on March 27, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Failure to register by this date will cause forfeiture of voting rights for this election. If you are in doubt about whether you are registered, check the Voter Information Portal at www.sdsos.gov or call the county auditor at 605-626-7110.

Registration may be completed during regular business hours at the county auditor's office, municipal finance office, secretary of state's office, and those locations which provide

driver's licenses, SNAP, TANF, WIC, military recruitment, and assistance to the disabled as provided by the Department of Human Services. You may contact the county auditor to request a mail-in registration form or access a mail-in form at www.sdsos.gov.

Any voter who needs assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, may contact the county auditor for information and special assistance in voter registration.

Shauna Severson
 Business Manager
 Published March 8 and March 15, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$25.94 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21995

Columbia City Equalization Meeting Notice

City of Columbia
 Equalization Meeting Notice
 PUBLIC NOTICE TO COLUMBIA PROPERTY OWNERS

Notice is hereby given that City Council, sitting as the Local Board of Equalization, will meet at City Hall for the purpose of reviewing, correcting and equalizing the assessment of property on March 22, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Appeals must be submitted

in writing with supporting documentation by 5:00pm Thursday, March 16th in the City Hall drop box or mail appeals to the City of Columbia, 25 N Broadway, PO Box 43, Columbia, SD 57433. Those appealing will be notified of their scheduled time to meet with the Board.

Contact City Hall for more information at 605-396-7099.

Cara Dennert, City of Columbia Finance Officer

Published March 8, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$9.50 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21996

Putney Township Equalization Meeting Notice

Putney Township Equalization Meeting Notice:

The Putney Township Board of Equalization will meet at Mark Thompson's Shop on Monday, March 20th, 2023 at 5:00 pm.

All persons disputing their assessments are requested to notify the clerk prior to the meeting.

Mark Thompson
 Putney Township Clerk
 (0309.0316)

Published March 8 and March 15, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$11.59 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22002

Columbia City 2022 Financial Report

Exhibit 1

STATEMENT OF FUND CASH BALANCES ALL FUNDS December 31, 2022

| | Sales Tax Fund | Ball Park Fund | Enterprise Funds Sewer Fund | Total |
|--|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|General Fund | | | | |
| Cash Assets: | | | | |
| Cash in Checking Accounts..... | 142,166.50 | 87,130.23 | 7,837.76 | 192,294.75 |
| Change and Petty Cash | | | | 429,429.24 |
| Passbook Savings | | | | 0.00 |
| Savings Certificates..... | | | | 0.00 |
| SD FIT | 14,155.02 | | | 14,155.02 |
| 101 FUND CASH BALANCES..... | 156,321.52 | 87,130.23 | 7,837.76 | 192,294.75 |
| Municipal funds are deposited or invested with the following depositories: | | | | |
| | | | Dacotah Bank | 429,429.24 |
| | | | SD FIT Account | 14,155.02 |
| | | | TOTAL | 443,584.26 |

Exhibit 2

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND CASH BALANCES ALL FUNDS

| | | | | |
|--|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Receipts (Source): | | | | |
| 311 Property Taxes | 58,929.09 | | | 58,929.09 |
| 313 Sales Tax | | 57,144.26 | | 57,144.26 |
| 311-319 Other Taxes | 1,377.29 | | | 1,377.29 |
| 320 Licenses and Permits | 1,140.00 | | | 1,140.00 |
| 331 Federal Grants | | | | 0.00 |
| 335.1 Bank Franchise Tax..... | 1,538.75 | | | 1,538.75 |
| 335.2 Prorate License Fees..... | 1,222.74 | | | 1,222.74 |
| 335.3 Liquor Tax Reversion | 6,393.57 | | | 6,393.57 |
| 335.4 Motor Vehicle Licenses (5%)..... | 7,630.08 | | | 7,630.08 |
| 335.6 Fire Insurance Premium Reversion..... | | | | 0.00 |
| 335.8 Local Government Highway and Bridge Fund..... | 22,693.30 | | | 22,693.30 |
| 338.1 County Road Tax (25%)..... | 99.53 | | | 99.53 |
| 338.2 County Highway and Bridge Reserve Tax (25%) | | | | 0.00 |
| 338.3 County Wheel Tax | 354.14 | | | 354.14 |
| 331-339 Other Intergovernmental Revenue..... | 1,248.98 | | | 1,248.98 |
| 341-349 Charges for Goods and Services | | | | 0.00 |
| 351-359 Fines and Forfeits | | | | 0.00 |
| 361 Investment Earnings | 409.94 | | 261.75 | 671.69 |
| 362 Rentals..... | | | | 0.00 |
| 363-369 Other Revenues..... | 5,493.00 | 1,668.75 | | 7,161.75 |
| ENTERPRISE FUNDS | | | | |
| 330 Operating Grants..... | | | | 0.00 |
| 371 Surcharge as Security of Debt | | | | 0.00 |
| 372-389 Enterprise Operating Revenue (380) | | | 23,809.00 | 23,809.00 |
| 380.05 Lottery Revenues..... | | | | 0.00 |
| Total Receipts..... | 108,530.41 | 57,144.26 | 1,668.75 | 24,070.75 |
| Disbursements (Function): | | | | |
| -419 General Government | 64,862.46 | 13,608.00 | | 78,470.46 |
| 421 Police | | | | 0.00 |
| 422 Fire | 2,723.01 | | | 2,723.01 |
| 423-429 Other Public Safety | | | | 0.00 |
| 431 Highways and Streets..... | 12,793.19 | | | 12,793.19 |
| 432 Sanitation | 14,936.25 | | | 14,936.25 |
| 437 Cemeteries | | | | 0.00 |
| 433-439 Other Public Works | | | | 0.00 |
| 441-449 Health and Welfare | 1,248.98 | | | 1,248.98 |
| 451-459 Culture-Recreation..... | 862.90 | | | 862.90 |
| 461-469 Conservation and Development | | | | 0.00 |
| 470 Debt Service | | | | 0.00 |
| 480 Intergovernmental Expenditures..... | | | | 0.00 |
| 490-493 Miscellaneous..... | | | | 0.00 |
| ENTERPRISE FUNDS | | | | |
| 410 Personal Services | | | | 0.00 |
| 420 Other Expenses..... | | | 649.00 | 649.00 |
| 426 Supplies and Materials | | | | 0.00 |
| Total Disbursements | 97,426.79 | 13,608.00 | 0.00 | 649.00 |
| 391.01 Transfers In | | | | 0.00 |
| 511 Transfers Out | | | | 0.00 |
| 391.03 Sale of Municipal Property | | | | 0.00 |
| 391.04 Compensation for Loss or Damage to Capital Assets | | | | 0.00 |
| 391.2 Money Received From Borrowing..... | | | | 0.00 |
| 391.07 Capital Contributions (Grants) | | | | 0.00 |
| 430 Capital Assets | | | | 0.00 |
| 441 Debt Service-Principal..... | | | | 0.00 |
| 442 Debt Service-Interest | | | | 0.00 |
| Subtotal of Receipts, Disbursements and Transfers..... | 11,103.62 | 43,536.26 | 1,668.75 | 23,421.75 |
| Fund Cash Balance, January 1, 2022..... | 131,062.88 | 43,593.97 | 6,169.01 | 168,873.00 |
| Adjustments: | | | | |
| SD FIT Account | 14,155.02 | | | 14,155.02 |
| Restated Fund Cash Balance, January 1, 2022 | 145,217.90 | 43,593.97 | 6,169.01 | 168,873.00 |
| FUND CASH BALANCE, December 31, 2022 | 156,321.52 | 87,130.23 | 7,837.76 | 192,294.75 |
| Do amounts equal Exhibit 1 Fund Cash Balance? | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN LONG-TERM DEBT

| | Total |
|--|------------|
| Enterprise Revenue | |
| Bonds | |
| Debt Payable, January 1, 2022 | 232,776.01 |
| Add New Issues: Less Debt Retired..... | 6,133.86 |
| DEBT PAYABLE, December 31, 2022 | 226,642.15 |
| (23700) | (23102) |

Note: Amounts reported do not include interest.

Published March 8, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$243.97 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21993

Brown County Feb. 28, 2023 Meeting Minutes

FEBRUARY 28, 2023 – GENERAL MEETING

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

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None

BID AWARD – OVERLAY PROJECT (Co. Rd. 5): Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent met with the Commission to go over the Bid Tab Sheet for Overlay Project on Co. Rd. 5. Dirk recommended they go with Lien Transportation. Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to award bid, submitted by Lien Transportation for the Overlay Project on Co. Rd. 5 @ \$3,098,937.22. Rejecting bids submitted by Jensen Rock & Sand @ \$3,504,444.37; Duinick Inc. @ \$3,251,082.93; Bituminous Paving Inc. @ \$3,188,742.30. Complete tabulation sheet on file in the Auditor's Office (available for public inspection Mon. – Fri./8a - 5p). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BID AWARD - RENTAL EQUIPMENT: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Gage to award all bids on Rental Equipment based on location and availability, as per tabulation sheet on file in the Auditor's Office (available for public inspection Mon. – Fri./8a - 5p). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BID – GRAVEL: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Dennert to award all bids on Gravel based on location and availability, as per tabulation sheet on file in the Auditor's Office (available for public inspection Mon. – Fri./8a - 5p). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LOAD LIMITS: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent reminded everyone that load limits will go into effect this Friday, March 3rd.

DACOTAH PRAIRIE MUSEUM (DPM) ANNUAL REPORT: Patricia Kendall, DPM Director met with the Brown County Commissioners to give them an Annual Report. Patricia shared that 2022 was a great year, they updated the Lamont Gallery, remodeled the gift shop and the registration desk came from Carnegie Library. The average daily attendance is 53.3. They are open fewer days but more hours, example is now open on Saturday mornings. She shared that the school programs have increased by 25%, they have done 407 classroom visits. Upcoming events/exhibits include the Day of Champions in April, Thomas & Friends will be here this summer – they are working on updating the Children's Exhibit and Railroad Exhibit. The Foundation created a Scholarship for any Brown County Students that attend a College/University or Vocational School in South Dakota. Patricia also shared that she has a goal to build a Barn at Centennial Village for Collection Storage and will include a Visitor Center, Restrooms, Kitchenette and classroom space for their summer programs in the next 3-5 years.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the General Meeting minutes of February 21, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims/payroll: Claims: Professional Fees: Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce \$824.00; Birmingham & Cwach Law Offices, PLLC \$456.05; CenturyLink \$229.55; North-eastern Mental Health Center \$150.00; Tyler Technologies Inc \$1,040.00; US Bank \$1,494.47. Publishing: Groton Daily Independent \$222.41; McQuillen Creative Group, Inc \$826.00. Repairs & Maintenance: At Your Service Heating & Cooling \$771.58; Boyer Trucks \$15.66; Century Business Products \$79.93; Haar Plumbing & Heating Inc \$26,706.02; Heartland Heating and Cooling, LLC \$6.58; Honeywell International Inc \$6,654.29; Hub City Roofing \$220.00; Motorola Solutions, Inc \$3,702.63; Olson's Pest Technicians \$595.00; Pumps

Tire Service, Inc \$686.80; Sewer Duck Inc \$1,075.00; Share Corp \$64.48; Steven Lust Automotive \$90.25; US Bank \$1,430.04. Supplies: Aberdeen Chrysler Center \$318.74; AED Market \$1,750.00; Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$61.79; Boyer Trucks \$16.02; Heartland Heating and Cooling, LLC \$322.50; Marco Inc \$58.86; Menards \$31.76; Midstates Group \$47.75; Pheasantland Industries \$161.82; Plumbing & Heating Wholesale, Inc \$9.61; Share Corp \$436.74; Sioux Equipment \$1,859.91; US Bank \$18,121.06. Travel & Conference: Chris Hemen \$120.00; Dean Zumbaum \$48.00; Jerry Lehrkamp \$120.00; John Florey \$48.00; Joshua Ulmer \$48.00; Mike Rohrbach \$120.00; TEAM Consulting LLC \$150.00; US Bank \$703.00. Utilities: Dependable Sanitation Inc 165.00; Ecolab Pest Elimination \$105.45; Midcontinent Communications \$138.23; Montana Dakota Utilities Co \$43.48; Northwest-ern Energy & Communications \$14,140.41; US Bank \$5,036.66.

Payroll: Commission \$4,615.41; Auditor \$11,183.74; Treasurer \$16,567.00; SA \$30,685.05; Maintenance \$15,200.85; Assessor \$16,796.81; ROD \$9,932.80; VSO \$4,254.09; GIS \$2,643.52; IT \$6,085.86; HR \$5,001.68; Sheriff \$52,065.45; Jail \$60,978.11; Ct. Security \$6,578.90; JDC/HD \$29,873.80; Welfare \$2,336.49; Museum \$11,014.94; Parks/Fairgrounds \$4,907.15; Fair \$4,107.20; 4-H \$786.80; W&P \$2,610.13; P&Z \$7,232.60; Highway \$44,844.18; Dispatch \$30,941.64; EM \$4,933.61; \$24/7 \$1,516.10; Landfill \$13,278.94; FICA \$23,857.29; Medicare \$5,579.59; Discovery_HSA \$1,297.59; Health Insurance_Wellmark BCBS \$118,139.17; Dental Insurance_Delta \$7,738.78; Life Insurance_Dearborn \$1,023.74; Retirement_SDRS \$49,843.21. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Erica Coughlin: Wrong Information provided, should have been Savanna Simon and not Caid Verzani. Transfer of Savanna Simon from Brown County Jail Detention Officer to JDC Detention Officer; effective February 19, 2023. Acknowledge last day of employment for John Weig, Brown County Fairgrounds worker; effective January 20, 2023. Approve reclassification of Richard Burns as Brown County Fairgrounds seasonal help to part-time help; maximum of 1250 hours; \$15.50/hour; effective February 20, 2022. Holidays = Adding 8/10/12 hours holiday at regular pay. (Holiday hours depend on regularly scheduled shifts) All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ADJUSTMENT OF BROWN COUNTY HWY #12W AND 133rd STREET (with no directional letters):

Commissioner Gage offered the following Resolution: **RESOLUTION #05-23**

WHEREAS, it is deemed in the best interest of the people of Brown County that changes be made in the Brown County Highway System, Master Street Address Guide (MSAG), and

WHEREAS, the recommendation has been made to extend 133rd Street (with no directional letters) from Foot Creek location to US Hwy #281 bypass, to better serve the general public and address the public safety concerns, and

WHEREAS, 133rd Street will be in conjunction with the Brown County Hwy. #12W from the Brown County/Edmunds County border line to US Hwy #281 bypass, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Brown County Board of Commission extend 133rd Street (with no directional letters) from Foot Creek location to US Hwy #281 bypass and update all maps accordingly.

CONTINUATION OF 133rd STREET – in the SE ¼ of Section 15-T123N-R64W including KABR Outlot 1, except Lots H2 and H3, except that portion of the SE ¼ lying south of the railroad right-of-way, described as Lien Outlot A, Lien Outlot B and Lot 2 Keeley Land Subdivision, and that portion used for right-of-way of US Hwy #12, and except right-of-way in Book 110, Page 412 lying north of 66' wide from Railroad right-of-way, and Lots H1, H2, H3 used for County Highway, except the right-of-way of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railway, all in Brown County South Dakota.

The proposed legal descrip-

tion on a current plat submitted to the February 28, 2023, Planning Commission meeting at 7:00pm is Lots 1-3, "Delbert and Caroline Lowe First Addition" in the SE ¼ of Section 15-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota.

Dated this 28th day of February 2023.

Seconded by Commissioner Wiese. Roll call vote: Commissioners Dennert-aye, Fjeldheim-aye, Wiese-aye, Gage-aye, Sutton-absent. Resolution adopted.

LEASE AGREEMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize the Vice-Chairman sign the following lease agreement: Hub City Radio for lease of Holm Expo Building on March 25-26, 2023 for Big Boy Toy Show. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

2022 OPERATIONAL REPORT/AIR EMISSION: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to authorize and approve Vice-Chairman sign the 2022 Operational Report for Air Emission at the Brown County Landfill. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ABATEMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the following abatements for tax year 2023: Lamont Enterprises, Parcel #18105, \$723.20 – Parcel #30640, \$10.04 – Parcel #30641, \$10.34; Stiles & Byron LLC, Parcel #29059, \$15.95; Park Village, Parcel #28834, \$20.55. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Auditor Heupel informed the Commissioners that the Lake Region Meeting to be held on March 16th in Webster at the Day County Courthouse. Commissioner Gage reminded everyone the Planning & Zoning meeting that was postponed due to weather last week will be held tonight (Feb. 28th) at 7pm. Commissioner Wiese shared that Saturday is the final Cracker Barrel Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to adjourn the Brown County Commission meeting at 9:39 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor
Published March 8, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$97.13 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21987

Brown County Boys & Girls Club Malt Beverage

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR SPECIAL MALT BEVERAGE LICENSE

Notice is hereby given according to SDCL 35-2, a Public Hearing on the following Malt Beverage License Application is set for the 21st day of March, 2023, in the Chambers of the Brown County Commissioners, in the Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota, at which time any interested persons wishing to register complaint on their approval may appear: Boys & Girls Club of Aberdeen Area, Aberdeen, SD – Holm Expo Building, SW ¼ of Sec 1-T123N Brown County, SD. Special License effective March 31 – April 1, 2023.

ATTEST: __Lynn Heupel
Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published March 8, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$9.81 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21988

Brown County Borg Rezoning Notice

NOTICE

Application has been made by Adam & Ashley Borg to the Brown County Board of Commissioners for a change of zoning. Hearing to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota on March 21, 2023 for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring these parcels into compliance: "Quigg's Outlot 1" in the NW1/4 of Section 12-T123N-R61W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13149 406th Avenue, Groton Twp.).

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to Second Revision Brown County Ordinances

pertaining to rezoning the described property. At conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 241.

ATTEST: __Lynn Heupel
Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published March 8, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$12.57 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21989

Brown County Lowe Rezoning Notice

NOTICE

Application has been made by Colleen Callum for owners Delbert & Caroline Lowe to the Brown County Board of Commissioners for a change of zoning. Hearing to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota on March 21, 2023 for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring these parcels into compliance:

Proposed Lot 1, "Delbert and Caroline Lowe First Addition" in the SE1/4 of Section 15-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (2568 Brown Co 12W, Aberdeen Twp.). The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to Second Revision Brown County Ordinances pertaining to rezoning the described property. At conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 242.

ATTEST: __Lynn Heupel
Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published March 8, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$13.18 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21990

Frederick School Notice of Audit Findings

Notice of Audit of the Fiscal Affairs of Frederick Area School District No. 6-2

Notice is hereby given that the records and books of account of Frederick Area School District No. 6-2 of Brown County, South Dakota, have been audited by Eide Bailly LLP for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, and that a detailed report thereon is filed with the governing board, the Business Manager, and the Department of Legislative Audit, 427 South Chapelle, Pierre, South Dakota, for public inspection.

The following findings and recommendations referred to in the report are hereby published in compliance with the provisions of SDCL 4-11-12:

Current Audit Findings and Recommendations
Finding 2022-001 - Lack of Segregation of Duties

Criteria: A good system of internal controls contemplates an adequate segregation of duties so that no one individual handles a transaction from its inception to its completion.

Condition: Frederick Area School District No. 6-2 has a limited number of office personnel and, accordingly, does not have adequate internal accounting controls in revenue, expenditures, and payroll functions due to a lack of segregation of duties. The School District also did not have adequate review process over journal entries posted at the end of the year including year-end close entries.

Cause: The School District has an insufficient number of staff members to adequately separate duties and experienced turnover in the Business Manager position at year-end.

Effect: This condition increases the risk that fraud or errors might occur and not be detected in the financial reporting process.

Recommendation: Although it is recognized that the number of office staff may not be large enough to permit an adequate segregation of duties in all respects, it is important that management and those charged with governance be aware of this condition. We recommend that the School Board exercise adequate oversight of the accounting function including the review of all journal entries posted during the year.

Views of Responsible Officials: Management agrees with the finding.

Finding 2022-002 - Preparation of Financial Statements and Footnotes and Material Proposed

Adjustments to the Financial Statements

Criteria: An organization's internal control structure should provide for the recording of all necessary material adjustments and the preparation of financial statements and footnotes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Condition: Frederick Area School District No. 6-2 does not have an internal control system designed to provide for the preparation of the financial statements being audited, including required footnotes and disclosures and all necessary material audit adjustments, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Material audit adjustments were required for accounts payable, receivables due from the state, unearned revenue, and the pension areas.

Cause: The School District does not have adequate staff trained to prepare the financial statements and footnotes including adjustments to material account balances.

Effect: This condition may affect the School District's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements.

Recommendation: This circumstance is not unusual in an organization of this size. It is the responsibility of management and those charged with governance to make the decision whether to accept the degree of risk associated with this condition because of cost or other considerations.

Views of Responsible Officials: Management agrees with the finding.

Published March 1 and 8, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$73.95 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21996

Columbia City March 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes

City of Columbia Council Meeting – March 2, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Cara Dennert, Corey Mitchell, Cole Kampa, Trevor Meints, Meghan Butler

Community – Rod Tobin

Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. He called for a motion to approve the agenda. Trevor Meints made a motion to approve the posted agenda. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried. Corey Mitchell called for any conflict of interest on agenda items. Corey Mitchell stated that he will recuse himself in discussion and voting on vacating of roads. Minutes were passed out from the February 1st meeting. Cole Kampa made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

Warrant Vouchers: SDML – 40.00; Web Water – 47.44; Northwestern Energy – 941.58; JVT – 206.82; JGE – 81.76; GDI News – 53.26; Runnings – 133.20; JGE – 11,647.57; Cara Dennert – 1235.25; Jeremy Dosch – 419.99; Trevor Meints – 172.98; Corey Mitchell – 350.83; Cole Kampa – 323.53; Menards – 46.45

Meghan Butler made a motion to accept the vouches as corrected. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE e-mails from Lara Cunningham (Dept. of Rev), Brown Co. Assessor Office, DANR – Surface Water Discharge Permit Renewal App.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none

Nuisances - Our lawyer, Rod Tobin was present and updated us on some things that he is working with on in regards to city ordinances. He also advised us on the legalities of some city lot transfers.

Streets – Corey presented the proposal of vacating Townsend Ave right of way between block 7 & 8 and Townsend Ave right of way between Block 1 & 2. Trevor Meints made a motion to approve the vacation of said streets. Meghan Butler seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

Parks - no report

Lagoon/sewer - Corey is working on renewal application for surface water discharge permit.

Rubble Site – none

NEW BUSINESS - Equalization meeting is set for March 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Cara presented the annual report. She will send the paper the information to be published. She also presented bank balances. Meghan Butler made a motion to accept the financial reports as given. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

February 28, 2023 balances: SF - \$ 151,808.29; SF Money Market –\$ 50,067.15; GF - \$ 180,133.73; GF Money Market - \$ 50,067.15; FIT - \$14,248.44
Cash on hand - \$450

Cole Kampa made a motion to adjourn. Meghan Butler seconded the motion. All were in favor – meeting adjourned.

Next City Council Meeting – Equalization Meeting - March 22, 2023 7:00 p.m.

City Council will hold a special meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Next Regular City Council Meeting – April 5, 2023 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

Published March 8, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$31.73 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21991

Columbia City Notice to Vacate Right-of-Ways

Notice is hereby given that a Petition requesting that (2) two right-of-way areas be vacated in the City of Columbia, Brown County, South Dakota, pursuant to SDCL: 31-3-6, as hereinafter specifically described has been received by the City Council of the City of Columbia; that the Petition may be examined by contacting the Mayor of the City of Columbia at this address: Corey Mitchell, 211 South James Street, Columbia, SD 57433 (605) 290-6239 that the specific description of the properties being requested to be vacated are:

The Townsend Avenue right-of-way between Block 7 and Block 8, Original Plat of Columbia, Brown County, South Dakota, running east and west from South James Street to South Lake Boulevard.

That said public right-of-way being approximately 66 feet wide and 140 feet in length.

The Townsend Avenue right-of-way between Block 1 and Block 2, Original Plat of Columbia, Brown County, South Dakota, running east and west from South Lake Boulevard west to the east property line of the W 1/2 of the SE 1/4 and the unplatted portions of the E 1/2 of Section 29-T125N-R62W, except railroad and except land deeded, of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota.

That said public right-of-way being approximately 66 feet wide and 140 feet in length.

Therefore, notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Columbia will hold a public hearing to consider the vacation of the above described right of ways; that such meeting will be held on Wednesday, the 22nd day of March, 2023, at 6:30 o'clock P.M., at City Office.

That any person interested in the proposed action may be present at said date and time and present their information, opinions, and/or arguments relative to the proposed action. Any person(s) unable to attend this meeting may deliver their written opinion for consideration by the City Council of the City of Columbia. Such testimony should be delivered prior to the date and time of the scheduled hearing by mailing or delivering the opinion to: Corey Mitchell, Mayor of the City of Columbia, Brown County, City of Columbia, Brown County, SD

/s/ Corey Mitchell
Mayor: Corey Mitchell

Published March 8 and March 15, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$44.15 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21992

A subscription to the Groton Independent makes a great gift!

Groton City Ord. 766 Summer Salary

Ordinance No. 766,
An Ordinance entitled "2023
Summer Salary Ordinance", an
Ordinance Amending Ordinance
No. 759.,

BE IT ORDAINED by the City
of Groton, South Dakota, that
Ordinance No. 766 reads as
follows:

Section I: Schedule of Salaries.
The salaries and time of
payment of employees shall be
as follows:

Public Works Laborer, \$16.00,
Hourly, Biweekly,
Cemetery Caretaker, \$16.00,
Hourly, Biweekly,
Swimming Pool Manager,
\$16.00, Hourly, Biweekly,
Swimming Pool Lifeguard,
\$10.80, Hourly, Biweekly, Plus
\$.25 per year of service

WSI Lifeguards during Swim-
ming Lessons, Regular salary +
\$1, Hourly, Biweekly,
WSI Assist Lifeguard during
Swimming Lessons, Regular
salary + \$.50, Hourly, Biweekly,
Concessions Manager, \$50,
Daily, Biweekly, Plus 50% net
profit, , End of Season,

Baseball Coordinator,
\$4,000.00, Yearly, Monthly, Plus
\$77.32 per year of service
Softball Coordinator,
\$1,500.00, Yearly, Monthly, Plus
\$25.77 per year of service

Legion Baseball Coach,
\$4,000.00, Yearly, Monthly,
Jr Legion Baseball Coach,
\$3,000.00, Yearly, Monthly, Plus
\$51.55 per year of service

Jr Teener Baseball Coach (if
1), \$2,000.00, Yearly, Monthly,
Plus \$51.55 per year of service

Jr Teener Baseball Coach (if
2), \$1,500.00, Yearly, Monthly,
Plus \$38.66 per year of service

U12 Day Baseball Coach,
\$1,250.00, Yearly, Monthly, Plus
\$32.21 per year of service

U8/U10 Day Baseball Coach,
\$1,250.00, Yearly, Monthly, Plus
\$32.21 per year of service

Girls Softball Coach (U8, U10,
U12, U14), \$1,000.00, Yearly,
Monthly, Plus \$20.62 per year
of service

Baseball Groundskeeper,
\$10.80, Hourly, Biweekly, Plus
\$.25 per year of service

Baseball Gatekeeper, \$10.80,
Hourly, Biweekly, Plus \$.25 per
year of service

Section II: Requirements.
Final payment of wages will be
paid after completion of all duties
of all seasonal employees.

Passed First Reading:
1/17/2023

Scott Hanlon, Mayor, Passed
Second Reading: 3/7/2023
Published: 3/8/2023
Effective: 3/20/2023

Douglas Heinrich, Finance
Officer
Published March 8, 2023, at
the total approximate cost of
\$25.75 and may be viewed free
of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22009

Groton City Ord. 767 Electric Rates

ORDINANCE NO. 767
An Ordinance entitled
"Amending Rates for Groton
Municipal Electric Customers" to
be effective April 1, 2023.

BE IT ORDAINED by the City
of Groton, South Dakota that
Ordinance No. 8-1-4 be amended to
read as follows:

8-1-4 Rates.
Rates for the use of utilities
furnished by the City shall be
established by Ordinance by the
Groton City Council.

Section 7. Electricity:
The schedule of rates govern-
ing consumers of electricity in
the City of Groton which follows
is to be used for billing on a
monthly basis throughout each
year. Each electric service is
figured independently from any
other electric service at each
customer's location.

Schedule A - Load Manage-
ment Participating Electric Resi-
dential Rate

- Base Bill - \$25/month
- All kwh at \$.107/kwh

Schedule B - Interruptible
Power (Dual Heat & Heat Storage
Units) Participating Electric
Residential Rate

- Heat Meter - All kwh at
\$.055/kwh
- Minimum charge- \$10.00/
month- November-April

Schedule C - Geothermal/
Heat Pump (with Minimum 10
KW Resistance Backup) Electric
Heat Rate

- Heat Meter - All kwh at
\$.085/kwh
- Minimum charge- \$10.00/
month- November-April

Schedule D - Load Manage-
ment Participating Single Phase
General Services Electric Rate

- Base Bill - \$35/month
- All kwh at \$.107/kwh
- Any demand over 25KW will
be charged \$14/KW (highest
15-minute demand established
in current month) and all kwh
will be at \$.085/kwh

Schedule E - Load Manage-
ment Participating Three Phase
General Services Electric Rate

- Base Bill - \$70/month
- All kwh at \$.107/kwh
- Any demand over 25KW will
be charged \$14/KW (highest
15-minute demand established
in current month) and all kwh
will be at \$.085/kwh

Schedule F - Interruptible
Power General Service Electric
Rates

- Base Bill: \$35/month for
single phase service
- Base Bill: \$70/month for
three phase service
- All kwh at \$.055/kwh

Schedule G - General Service
Capacity Charge Rate

- Minimum Bill - \$2
- All KVA at \$.11/KVA

Schedule H - Load Manage-
ment Nonparticipating Electric
Customer Rate

- 150% of their Participating
Rate Class Schedule

Schedule I - Load Manage-
ment Controlled Electric Hot
Water Heaters

- \$2.00/month credit

Schedule J - Load Manage-
ment Controlled Electric Air
Conditioner (Not on Interruptible
(Dual Heat) Power Rate

- \$7/month credit on June,
July, & August billings

Schedule K - Security Lights

- \$10/month per unmetered
light
- \$3/month per metered light
- \$20/month for 400-watt
directional light
- Disconnection or Reconnec-
tion Fee - \$50

Schedule L - Heat Storage
Unit Payback

- Minimum Bill \$25
- All kwh on HSU meters at
\$.01/kwh

Passed First Reading:
1/17/2023

Passed Second Reading:
3/7/2023

Published: 03/08/2023
Effective: 4/1/2023

Attest:
Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Douglas J. Heinrich, Finance
Officer

Published March 8, 2023, at
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Groton City March 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2023,

The Groton City Council met
on the above date at 7:00 p.m.
at 120 N Main Street for their
first monthly meeting with the
following members present:
Bahr, Wells, Babcock, Wambach,
Cutler, and Mayor Hanlon presid-
ing. Also present were: Finance
Officer Douglas Heinrich, Todd
Gay, Kami Lipp, Tricia Keith,
Doug Hamilton and Elizabeth
Varin.

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

Department reports were
reviewed.

Todd Gay exited the meeting.
The minutes from the previous
meeting were approved on a mo-
tion by Cutler and seconded by
Wambach. All members present
voted aye.

Moved by Bahr and seconded
by Wells to authorize the follow-
ing bills for payment. All mem-
bers present voted aye.

Payroll, \$50,632.85, Employee
salaries; Executive, \$556.15,
; Administrative, \$8,855.72,
; Public Safety, \$16,796.13, ;
Public Works, \$23,446.42, ;
Culture & Recreation, \$978.43,
; Jacqueline Wagner, \$300.00,
Utility deposit refund; SD State
Treasurer, \$11,471.96, Sales &
Excise Tax - January 2023; Daco-
tah Bank, \$2,815.08, Withhold-
ing/SS/Medicare; Dacotah Bank,
\$50.00, HSA Contributions; Stacy
Mayou, \$144.17, Employee sav-
ings; Dacotah Bank, \$5,483.10,
Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dako-
taland FCU, \$730.00, Employee
savings; Dacotah Bank, \$622.90,
HSA Contributions; Kellie Locke,
\$60.00, Med Flex; WEB Water,
\$17,827.09, Water services - Jan-
uary 2023; Glenn Bitz, \$150.00,
City Hall window cleaning; MJ's
Sinclair, \$1,387.93, Fuel purchas-
es, propane; SD Gov't Human
Resource Assoc., \$50.00, 2023
Membership Dues; SD Gov't
Finance Officer Assoc., \$100.00,
2023 Membership Dues; NW En-
ergy, \$64.28, Natural Gas Service
- Water Tower; Wolfcom Enter-
prises, \$134.28, Bodycam charg-
ing port; Altex Capital Services,
\$10,032.55, Garbage hauling;
Heartland Energy, \$69,404.04,
Power services - January 2023;
WAPA, \$28,675.17, Power serv-
ices - January 2023; Grand
Slam Computers, \$109.00, Nor-
dic Backup; MMUA, \$360.00,
Emergency Preparedness &
Restoration Conference Fee;
RDO Equipment Co., \$27.98,
Thermostat for loader; SD Sup-
plemental Retirement, \$340.00,
Supplemental retirement; Dou-
glas Heinrich, \$244.14, Med Flex;
Colonial Life, \$69.40, Employee
Insurance; Allied Benefit Sys-
tems, \$9,795.06, Employee
Insurance; Guardian Insurance,
\$38.49, Employee Insurance;
Aflac, \$336.62, Employee Insur-
ance; Verizon Wireless, \$40.01,
Wireless router; Dacotah Bank,
\$3,162.13, Withholding/SS/
Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$50.00,
HSA Contributions; Employer's
Mutual Insurance, \$69.40, Em-
ployee Insurance; US Bank,
\$21,275.30, DW #5 Loan Pay-
ment; Dacotah Bank, \$5,375.83,
Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dako-
taland FCU, \$730.00, Employee
savings; Dacotah Bank, \$622.90,
HSA Contributions; Justin Cleve-
land, \$899.76, Med Flex; City of
Groton, \$50.00, Utility deposit

applied to bill; USPS, \$282.30,
Utility billing postage; IMEG
Corp., \$145.00, Engineering
fees; Groton Daily Independent,
\$342.36, Publishing fees; Ara-
mark, \$50.47, Rug rent; NCOG,
\$5,000.00, Water improvement
funding admin fees; Geffdog De-
signs, \$150.36, Cardigan, polos,
and jacket w/ embroidered city
logo - Finance Office; Landon
Johnson, \$40.00, Employee
Cell Phone Reimbursement -
Jan/Feb 2023; Brandon Abeln,
\$40.00, Employee Cell Phone
Reimbursement - Jan/Feb 2023;
April Abeln, \$40.00, Employee
Cell Phone Reimbursement - Jan/
Feb 2023; Kellie Locke, \$40.00,
Employee Cell Phone Reimburse-
ment - Jan/Feb 2023; Douglas
Heinrich, \$40.00, Employee Cell
Phone Reimbursement - Jan/
Feb 2023; Paul Kosel, \$40.00,
Employee Cell Phone Reimburse-
ment - Jan/Feb 2023; ULINE,
\$663.82, Two-Tier Chair Dolly;
Share Corporation, \$237.78,
Sweeping compound; SD De-
partment of Health, \$30.00, Wa-
ter testing; J's Superior Cleaning,
\$240.00, Commercial Cleaning
Services - February 2023; As-
sociated Supply Company, Inc.,
\$37.07, Water testing chemicals;
Menards, \$380.71, Supplies
for PD bathroom ; Colonial
Research, \$401.44, Grease for
sweeper; SD Supplemental Re-
tirement, \$240.00, Supplemental
Retirement; Runnings, \$53.98,
Chain for chainsaw, tow strap;
JGE, \$502.73, Harnesses; Farm-
ers Union Co-op Association,
\$1,453.92, #1 dyed diesel ;
NW Energy, \$13.11, Natural
Gas Service - PD; Dakota Doors
Inc., \$190.76, Mounted antenna
- north door at City Shop; S&S
Lumber Company, \$730.20, Saw
blades, grinding wheels, gloves,
extension tube, trap, tailpiece,
putty, screws, silicone, nails,
shims, tow rope, door handles,
ice melt, extension cord, battery
terminal, utility knife, vanity
frame, bolts, brush, masking
tape; AutoZone, Inc., \$144.99,
Starter; Dollar General, \$51.60,
Soap, batteries, tissues, paper
plates, coffee, creamer, wiper
fluid; A&B Business Solutions,
\$341.40, Printer lease; SD Re-
tirement System, \$9,676.08,
Employee Retirement; WEB Wa-
ter, \$17,377.44, Water services
- February 2023; Drew John-
son, \$1,340.00, Legal services
- February 2023; SD Municipal
Electric Association, \$150.00,
SDMEA Conference registration
fee; Darrel's Sinclair, \$1,028.11,
(4) new tires on 2012 Ford, fuel
filter; Equipment Blades, Inc.,
\$1,175.25, Grader cutting edges;
TeamLab, \$6,813.50, Sewer
chemicals; Groton Ford, LLC,
\$152.70, Repair to '05 Tahoe
side window; Ken's Fair Foods,
\$260.77, Cocoa mix, garbage
bags, cups, spoons, fuel, bottled
water; MJ's Sinclair, \$1,377.40,
Fuel and tire repair; Dacotah
Bank Visa, \$1,319.78, Desk
scanner, planner, O2 sensor, light
bulbs, storage cabinet, flower
arrangement, tow rope, PD uni-
form purchases, postage, water
sample, fuel, garden hose spray
nozzles; Moved by Wambach and
seconded by Cutler to approve
the February finance report. All
members present voted aye.

The second reading of Ordinance
No. 766 - 2023 Summer
Salary Ordinance was approved
on a motion by Babcock and
seconded by Cutler. All members
present voted aye.

Discussion took place regard-
ing the current soda contract
with Coca-Cola.

The updated swimming pool
rates were approved on a motion
by Babcock and seconded by

Wambach. All members present
voted aye. The updated rates are
as follows: Swimming Lessons
- \$50 per two-week session; Pri-
vate Lessons - \$125 per 5-lesson
session; Water Aerobics - \$50
per summer; Lap Swim - \$50 per
summer; Water Aerobics & Lap
Swim (combo) - \$75 per summer.

The baseball concessions
project and LWCF grant oppor-
tunity were discussed. Further
discussion will take place at next
meeting.

Moved by Bahr and seconded
by Cutler to approve the Com-
munity Center surplus items. All
members present voted aye. The
surplus items are as follows: (1)
table dolly, (3) wooden tables,
(4) chair dollies, and (1) rubber
couch.

The SDML District 6 Annual
Meeting will be held in Hecla, SD
on March 21, 2023, at 6:00pm.

Moved by Cutler and seconded
by Wambach to reschedule the
council meeting on March 21,
2023, to March 22, 2023, at
7:00pm. The equalization meet-
ing will follow regular council
meeting. All members present
voted aye.

Discussion took place regard-
ing economic development. An
economic development meeting
will be held at City Hall on March
24, 2023, at 9:00am with the
South Dakota Governor's Office
of Economic Development.

Elizabeth Varin exited the
meeting.

Moved by Wells and seconded
by Wambach to adjourn into ex-
ecutive session for personnel and
legal matters 1-25-2 (1) & (3)
at 8:41pm. All members present
voted aye. Council reconvened
into regular session at 9:45pm.

Elizabeth Varin reentered the
meeting.

Moved by Cutler and seconded
by Wells to hire the following
season employees: Brian Gra-
vatt - Cemetery Maintenance;
Aaron Severson - Public Works;
Kami Lipp and Tricia Keith -
Swimming Pool Co-Managers;
Karla Pasteur, Cody Swanson,
Tanae Lipp, Trista Keith, and
Allyssa Locke - Part-Time As-
sistant Managers; Kelli Hanson,
Aspen Johnson, Emma Schinkel,
Gracie Traphagen, Lydia Meier,
Carly Guthmiller, Emma Kutter,
Gretchen Dinger, Cadence Feist,
Faith Traphagen, Laila Roberts,
Jerica Locke, Anna Fjeldheim,
Jaden Schwan, Talli Wright,
and Easten Ekern - Lifeguards;
Matt Locke - Baseball Coordina-
tor; Spencer Locke - Jr. Teener
Coach; Susan Fjeldheim - U12
Softball Coach; Sydney Kurtz -
U8 Softball Coach; Tate Larson
and Ryan Groeblichhoff - Base-
ball Groundskeepers; Ashlynn
Warrington, Leah Jones, and Liby
Althoff - Baseball Gatekeepers.

All swimming pool employees are
hired pending interviews and life-
guard certifications. All members
present voted aye.

Moved by Wells and seconded
by Bahr to adjourn the meeting
at 9:48pm. All members present
voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Douglas Heinrich, Finance
Officer

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Henry Township Equalization Meeting Notice

Henry Township Equalization
Meeting Notice:

Notice is hereby given that
the governing body section will
serve as review board of Henry
Township, Brown County. They
will be meeting at 7 pm. on Mon-
day, March 20, 2023, at Doug
Abeln Seed Company Office for
the purpose of reviewing and
correcting of the assessment set
of the tax districts for the year
2023. All persons considering
disputing their assessments are
requested to notify the clerk of
the board in writing no later than
March 17, 2023. Hearings are by
appointment only.

/s/ Darlene Sass
Henry Township Clerk
13120 403rd Ave.
Groton, SD 57445

Published March 8 and 15,
2023, at the total approximate
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Newspapers in two states battle over right to publish notices

Most states require newspapers to have paying subscribers to publish notices but at least a few grant that authority to free-distribution papers as well. Those requirements don't change very often which is why it's so unusual to have two states considering legislation this year that would allow free papers to publish notices.

The newspapers supporting the measures in both states were founded by entrepreneurs in communities where the paid-circulation newspapers have experienced multiple rounds of layoffs and cutbacks in recent years. Taking the other side of the debate are the states' press associations, both of which oppose the bills.

The legislation in South Dakota was backed by Joe Sneve and Jonathan Ellis, who started The Dakota Scout last fall. The former reporters for Gannett's Sioux Falls-based Argus Leader describe their new paper as an "independent and locally owned political newspaper focusing on state and local politics in the state Capitol and Sioux Falls." According to Sneve, the paper has a weekly print run of 5,000 copies distributed in 200 locations throughout the Sioux Falls areas, including coffee shops, retail outlets and Hy-Vee grocery stores.

The original measure supported by the startup expanded the definition of "legal newspaper" to incorporate publications with at least 200 paid online subscribers and "an associated (weekly) print edition" with a minimum circulation of 500 copies. Newspapers meeting those criteria would qualify to publish notices "regardless of whether the print edition is made available to the public for a paid subscription or for free."

During a Feb. 1 committee hearing, the South Dakota Newspaper Association (SDNA) argued the bill undermines key principles in the law defining legal newspapers, including authenticated circulation, local presence and demonstrated publishing viability. The committee voted to kill the legislation by a 4-3 margin.

Following that setback, The Dakota Scout's founders formed an independent press association, hired a lobbyist, and moved the fight to new terrain by houghousing a zombie bill and replacing its original content with new language amending the definition of legal newspapers. Like their previous measure, the houghoused bill allowed free-distribution papers to publish notices but it increased the earlier bill's minimums to 500 paid online subscribers and 750 print copies. It also required the paper to be locally owned, work out of a local office, and provide governing bodies with a circulation audit upon request.

That second bill was turned back on Feb. 21 on a 5-4 committee vote. "Much of the discussion in favor of the bill was aimed at criticism of the Sioux Falls Argus Leader, Aberdeen American News and Watertown Public Opinion," reported the Mitchell Republic. "The three newspapers are all owned by Gannett, a national chain of newspapers. Gannett's South Dakota publications have sharply cut their staffs and news gathering capabilities."

The Dakota Scout's Sneve tells Public Notice Monthly that he and co-founder Ellis started the paper to fill the need for robust local reporting that had grown more acute as the Argus Leader cut staff and resources. "When we launched, we had local officials approach us about getting the legal," he says.

Sneve emphasizes that The Dakota Scout supports the preservation of laws requiring newspaper notice. "We have bent over backwards to protect print — we're newspaper people," he says. "We believe there should always be a printed record of notices so they're not subject to revision. Philosophically, we believe notices should be published in print by a third-party independent from the government."

Sneve says the press association he and Ellis started now includes eight news organizations — three publish free-distribution print editions (one hasn't launched yet) and five are online-only. The group eventually plans to work on issues on which they are aligned with SDNA like open records and open meetings. According to Sneve, a third bill defeated by SDNA last month that would have repealed the one-year publishing requirement for legal newspapers was pursued by another member of the new association.

With only one week left in South Dakota's legislative session, the state law designating which papers qualify to publish notices appears to be settled for now. But SDNA Executive Director David Bordewyk says his organization "left this session with a gentleman's promise to legislators and others to work on this issue in the interim and propose a legislative solution next year."

"We recognize the trends and changes occurring in our state's news media ecosystem and we are committed to making sure our state's laws defining a legal newspaper properly reflect those trends," says Bordewyk.

The bill in New Jersey that would allow free-distribution papers to publish notices was also initiated by an entrepreneur who started a paper to fill a hole in local news coverage. Doug Melegari launched the weekly Pine Barrens Tribune in 2016, in a rural area of South Jersey. He tells us the Tribune circulates 7,000 copies in grocery stores, convenience stores, restaurants and other retail outlets, mostly in boroughs and townships in the central and southeastern regions of Burlington County.

Melegari says most notices in the county — which covers a large swath of the state abutting both Trenton and Philadelphia, and includes over 40 separate municipalities — are published by Gannett's Burlington County Times. He claims the paper no longer circulates widely in his region and its coverage of the area has diminished as its editorial resources have dwindled.

"We're usually the only newspaper that covers local council meetings," he says.

Alden Global Capital also owned a paid-circulation newspaper called the Central Record that once had a significant presence in Burlington County. After a long decline it seems to have been quietly shuttered, although Alden still appears to be running some notices for municipalities in Burlington County on its AllAroundPhilly Marketplace website.

The bill Melegari is backing was reported favorably out of a committee at a Feb. 9 hearing. Although the proposal is designed to allow free-distribution papers to publish notices, in its current form it wouldn't do that since it retains the periodical-permit requirement in New Jersey's public notice statute. With few exceptions, the U.S. Postal Service issues postal permits only to paid-circulation papers. (Melegari says the bill's sponsor is aware of the problem.)

According to a report of the hearing in Melegari's paper, some of the same concerns that arose in South Dakota were on the minds of the state senators who voted 4-0 in favor of the bill.

The committee chairman argued "the weeklies of my area are vital to the communities of the area because local news is no longer covered by our local newspaper." He blamed "the corporatization of media (which) has actually shrunk the coverage of what is happening" in local communities.

"You want to protect the First Amendment?" asked another committee member. "Then have greater competition, because what has happened now is all of the little guys have been eaten up by the big guys and we have one editor deciding what news gets printed in the paper. ... I think this bill is important to make sure we protect the First Amendment, in addition to making sure a greater number of people are informed."

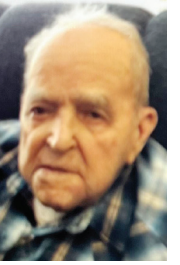
According to the report in the Pine Barrens Tribune, the attorney representing the New Jersey Press Association at the hearing argued that public notice should remain exclusively in paid-circulation newspapers because readers tend to devote more time and attention to publications they pay for than to those they can get for free.

Opponents of the bill and members of the committee also raised concerns about the potential for TMC shoppers and "diner placemats" to qualify to publish notices. That suggests they were unaware that the mandate in New Jersey law requiring legal newspapers to contain at least 35 percent news content would prevent that from transpiring. (Most states that have a news content provision excluding shoppers set it at 25 percent.)

Although the focus at the Feb. 9 hearing was on print circulation, it's worth noting that the Burlington County Times appears to publish all of its notices on its website and makes them easy to read. The Times also includes a prominent homepage index link to the notices that helps to ensure its readers know they are there and can easily find them. The same can be said for the Argus Leader in Sioux Falls, also a Gannett property.



Happy 100th Birthday!
John (Bud) Knecht



**Open House for
John (Bud) Knecht's
100th Birthday**

**Sunday, March 19, 2023
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Aberdeen Senior Center
Anderson Park 1303 7th Ave SE,
Aberdeen
No Gifts Please!**

Groton's Ag Business Management team takes first at Redfield CDE

The Redfield Career Development Event was held March 3. The Ag Business Management team placed first. Here are the results from the event with over 900 FFA members competing in the different Career Development Events.

Ag Business Management – 1st Place

Kaleb Antonsen – 5th
Cole Bisbee – 8th
Caleb Hanten – 10th
Ethan Gengerke – 21st

Milk Quality & Evaluation – 3rd Place

Layne Hanson – 4th
Logan Ringgenberg – 10th
Hannah Monson – 12th
Colby Dunker – 24th

Livestock Evaluation – 5th Place Team

Blake Pauli – 5th
Porter Johnson – 18th
Lexi Osterman – 35th
Jayla Jones – 44th
Turner Thompson – 57th
Emma Schinkel – 71st

Vet Science – 9th Place Team

Ashlyn Sperry – 23rd
Faith Flihs – 24th
Cadence Feist – 42nd
Ava Wienk – 48th

Agronomy – 11th Place Team

Payton Mitchell – 18th
Kellen Antonsen – 38th
Ashley Johnson – 44th
Logan Warrington – 59th

Natural Resources

Karter Moody – 28th
Austin Aberle – 87th

Remaining Schedule:

March 9 - Wilmot
March 14 - Northwestern
March 28 - Miller
March 31 - Little I
April 6 - Groton

April 16-18 -
State Convention

43rd Annual Meeting



**BDM RURAL WATER
SYSTEM, INC.**

**Monday, March 27, 2023
6:00 p.m.**

**BDM Office Building,
705 7th St., Britton, SD.**

As nominating petitions for the incumbent Directors for Districts Two and Five were the only ones received, no elections will be held.

- Financial and operations reports will be available.
- Drawings for prizes.
- Only BDM members are eligible for prizes.
- Supper will be served following the meeting.

If anyone has any questions, please call the BDM Office at 605-448-5417.

GHS Boys' Basketball

Tigers hold off Milbank to advance to the SoDak16

Groton Area made seven of eight free throws in the fourth quarter and the Bulldogs had four fourth-quarter turnovers as the Tigers advanced to the SoDak 16 with a 48-39 win over Milbank.

The game was played Friday in Groton. Milbank jumped out to a 5-0 lead before the Tigers went on a 12-point run to take a 12-5 lead. Groton Area led, 16-9, after the first quarter.

Milbank rallied in the second quarter and after a three-minute scoring drought by both teams, Milbank tied the game at 18 with 2:56 left in the half. The Tigers kept the lead and had a 21-18 lead in the closing seconds of the half. Groton attempted to take time off the clock and go for the last second shot; however, the shot was missed, Milbank got the rebound and on a three-quarter shot attempt, Jaxson Wildung was fouled at the buzzer and went to the free throw line to attempt three free throws. He made two of the three shots and Groton's lead was at one at half time, 21-20.

Milbank reclaimed the lead right away in the third quarter. The lead changed hands four times and the game was tied once during the quarter. Milbank had a 29-28 lead. Milbank committed a foul with 35 seconds left in the quarter and the Tigers had the ball. Groton ran the offence and drew the defense to the left side. Jacob Zak passed the ball to Tate Larson under the basket and the defense collapsed in on him. Larson passed it out to an unguarded Cole Simon and he made a three-point shot at the buzzer and the Tigers reclaimed the lead, 31-29.

Free throws started to take play a big role down the stretch and the Tiger defense started to wear down the Bulldogs. Milbank was within three, 37-34, with five minutes left in the game. Groton Area had a 44-39 lead after Ryder Johnson made one of two free throws. Milbank brought the ball upcourt. Simon was guarding Justus Osborn and right at mid court, Simon got his hand on the ball during Osborn's dribble, prying the ball loose and it rolled out of bounce. It was Groton ball with 34 seconds left and that sealed the fate of the game. Milbank was forced to foul, but the Tigers were four for four from the line in the closing seconds and got the Region 1A second round win.

Tate Larson led the Tigers with 13 points, seven rebounds, three assists and one steal. Cole Simon had 13 points and three rebounds. Jacob Zak had nine points and three rebounds. Lane Tietz had eight points, four rebounds, six assists and three steals. Ryder Johnson had five points, two rebounds and one assist.

Groton Area made 15 of 24 two-pointers for 63 percent, two of 14 three-pointers for 14 percent, 12 of 15 free throws for 80 percent off of Milbank's 13 team fouls and 10 assists. Groton Area had seven turnovers, two of which were steals. Milbank had 16 turnovers four of which were steals. Rebounds were even with each team having around 22 rebounds.

Jaxson Wildung and Joe Schulte led the Bulldogs with 12 points apiece while Garrett Mertens had eight, Yohana Ajwanga four and Justus Osborn three.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Bahr Spray Foam, Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Ag Partners, Groton American Legion, Groton Ford, Harry Implement, John Sieh Agency, Locke Electric, Lori's Pharmacy, Love to Travel, Milbrandt Enterprises, Inc., S & S Lumber & Hardware Hank, Spanier Harvesting & Trucking, Weber Landscaping, Weismantel Insurance Agency.

- Paul Kosel



Everyone got excited after Cole Simon pried the ball loose (photo below) and it rolled out of bounce, last touched by the Bulldogs, as Groton got the ball back with 34 seconds left in the game. (Photos lifted from GDILIVE.COM)



Tate Larson was double teamed under the basket, but that did not stop him from scoring 13 points for the Tigers.

(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Jacob Zak gets a little moving room as Tate Larson sets the screen. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



At the start of the game, Coach Brian Dolan presented Lane Tietz with a special basketball after Tietz scored his 1,000th point at the first round of the Region 1A game against Webster Area.

(Photos by Paul Kosel)



Coach Brian Dolan presents the SoDak16 Basketball to his team. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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Sioux Valley fends off Groton Area in the SoDak16

It was the final game for the four seniors - Tate and Cade Larson, Cole Simon and Tyson Parrow, as Sioux Valley defeated Groton Area in the SoDak 16 game played Tuesday at the Watertown Civic Center, 73-56. Coach Brian Dolan had all four seniors playing in the closing part of the game.

The Tigers put up a good battle against the 20-2 Cossacks. Sioux Valley scored the first seven points of the game, but Groton came back took a 15-14 lead with 2:21 left in the first quarter. Sioux Valley reclaimed the lead at 16-15 and Groton Area tied the game at 18 and 20 before the Cossacks took a 22-20 lead after the first quarter. Groton shot 67 percent in the first quarter and Sioux Valley shot 77 percent.

Sioux Valley's height did its job on the offensive boards. Sioux Valley opened up a 12-point lead late in the second quarter, but Groton closed to within eight at halftime, 43-35. Groton Area made 45 percent of its field goals and Sioux Valley made 67 percent in the second quarter.

The Tigers went stone cold in the third quarter, making just 14 percent of its shots while Sioux Valley maintained its 60 percent shooting. Even with that as Sioux Valley opened up a 16 points lead, 51-35, Groton Area battled back to within eight and trailed by 12 at the end of the third quarter, 55-43. Sioux Valley would go on to win and advance to the State A Basketball Tournament.

Cole Simon led the Tigers with 18 points, four rebounds, three assists and three steals. Jacob Zak had 15 points, four rebounds, one assist and four steals. Lane Tietz had 12 points, three rebounds, three assists and two steals. Ryder Johnson had eight points, three rebounds and three assists. Taylor Diegel had one point, one rebound and one assist. Cade Larson and Logan Ringgenberg each had one rebound.

Groton Area made nine of 24 in two-pointers for 38 percent, 10 of 30 three-pointers for 33 percent (Zak 3, Simon 3, Tietz 2, Johnson 2), the Tigers made eight of 13 free throws for 62 percent, had 19 rebounds, eight turnovers, 14 assists, nine steals and 11 team fouls.

Oliver Vincent and Alex Squires led the Cossacks with 21 points apiece while Hudsyn Ruesink had 19, Maxwell Engebretson five, Boden Schiller four and Maverick Nelson three. Sioux Valley made 29 of 46 field goals for 63 percent 10 of 11 free throws for 91 percent, had 11 turnovers and 15 team fouls.

Groton Area finishes its season with a 16-6 record. Sioux Valley goes to 21-2.

- Paul Kosel

Rate increases, summer plans approved by Groton City Council

by Elizabeth Varin

Electric rates and swimming costs are set to go up for the city of Groton.

The City Council approved an electrical rate increase and a swimming pool charges at its regular meeting Tuesday, March 7.

Residential rates are set to increase April 1, according to the ordinance the council approved with a unanimous vote. While base bill totals and minimum charges remained the same for each schedule of electric service, the rate per kilowatt hour increased.

Load management participating electric residential rates will increase from \$0.097 per kilowatt hour to \$0.107 per kilowatt hour. Interruptible power, including dual heat and heat storage units, will increase from \$0.05 per kilowatt hour to \$0.055 per kilowatt hour.

The rate increases include a half-cent per kilowatt hour or a one-cent per kilowatt hour increase.

With only one question from the public about the minimum charges, the council approved the increase.

The council also approved an increase in some swimming-related charges for this summer.

Swimming pool co-managers Kami Lipp and Tricia Keith asked the council to increase swimming lesson and private lesson charges in order to pay the swimming instructors more and incentivize them to work in Groton.

Without some incentives like this "tip" for the swim instructors, it will become harder to get enough lifeguards to want to work at the swimming pool in Groton, Keith said.

This is a services on top of their job of lifeguarding, Lipp added.

The council approved increasing swim lesson rates from \$30 per two-week session to \$50 per session. Private lesson rates will also increase from \$75 for five 30-minute lessons to \$125 for those five lessons.

Private swim lessons can cost between \$120 and \$200, so even with the increase, the city will be below other prices, Keith said.

"If my kids need private lessons, I don't think it's out of the question," said Councilwoman Karyn Babcock.

Councilman Brian Bahr added that while he hates to increase prices like this, it seems everything is increasing, like water rates and wages.

Water aerobic and lap swim rates will also increase from \$35 for the summer to \$50 for the summer. A combined water aerobic and lap swim pass will now cost \$75 for the summer.

While the snow started to fall in town, the council continued discussion of summer items, including setting salaries for summer employees and, after about an hour of executive session, hiring more than 30 people for swimming pool, baseball and public works

positions. They are Brian Gravatt - Cemetery Maintenance; Aaron Severson - Public Works; Kami Lipp and Tricia Keith - Swimming Pool Co-Managers; Karla Pasteur, Cody Swanson, Tanae Lipp, Trista Keith, and Allyssa Locke - Part-Time Assistant Managers; Kelli Hanson, Aspen Johnson, Emma Schinkel, Gracie Traphagen, Lydia Meier, Carly Guthmiller, Emma Kutter, Gretchen Dinger, Cadence Feist, Faith Traphagen, Laila Roberts, Jerica Locke, Anna Fjeldheim, Jaden Schwan, Talli Wright, and Easten Ekern - Lifeguards; Matt Locke - Baseball Coordinator; Spencer Locke - Jr. Teener Coach; Susan Fjeldheim - U12 Softball Coach; Sydney Kurtz - U8 Softball Coach; Tate Larson and Ryan Groeblichhoff - Baseball Groundskeepers; Ashlynn Warrington, Leah Jones, and Liby Althoff - Baseball Gatekeepers. All swimming pool employees are hired pending interviews and lifeguard certifications.

Groton Baseball/Softball Foundation Treasurer Doug Hamilton gave the council an update on plans to build a new concession stand at the baseball complex.

The facility would include larger bathrooms, a new drinking fountain/water bottle filling station, a utility room and a concession stand area with built-in coolers, Hamilton said. While initial cost estimates were \$150,000 to \$160,000, it may come in closer to \$200,000.

Completed plans for the building may be available at the end of the month, Hamilton said. The foundation is working with the city to apply for a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant from the federal Department of the Interior.

Before a grant application can be submitted, there needs to be a firm price on the building, Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich said. The grant application is due April 28.

Doug Hamilton added his ideal construction start date would be as soon as the last game is done this summer. The foundation hopes to have the new concession stand before the city hosts the state junior legion tournament in 2024.

The council continued discussion about plans for the old building at the baseball field, including looking into costs of moving the old concession stand to a vacant lot owned by the city. It could then be used by a non-profit, like the new Common Cents Thrift Store or The Pantry, said Mayor Scott Hanlon.

The council also discussed the city's soda contract. Currently the city has a contract with Coca-Cola Bottling Company High Country to provide bottled drinks to the baseball field concession stand and the swimming pool.

Council members expressed concerns about the cost of drinks as compared to buying in bulk from a retail store.

The contract, signed in April 2020, requires the city to buy at least 100 more cases before it can renegotiate or terminate the agreement, said City Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich.

"We can't back out of it right now anyway," he said.

After discussing the contract with the Coca-Cola sales representative, Heinrich said the city can take advantage of a few more perks that are not currently being utilized.

There are provisions in the contract with Coca-Cola Bottling Company High Country wherein the supplier will provide \$250 in marketing and/or media value per year. What that means, Heinrich said, is the bottling company may provide funding for banners or other signage at the baseball fields during big tournament event. The bottling company will also provide five-gallon PowerAde jugs with powdered PowerAde for the city during the summer.

There are also some additional benefits of utilizing a supplier, like the bottling company provides the coolers at the baseball field concession stand and the swimming pool. They also maintain them if there are any repairs that are needed.

Coca-Cola Bottling Company High Country also provides a rebate of \$4 per 24-bottle case sold, Heinrich said. In 2022, that totaled \$802 back to the city.

Councilwoman Karyn Babcock asked the council whether it would be worth it to just buy those 100 cases to get out of the contract. Retail store have lower prices per case and the option of buying generic product for a bigger discount.

However, she added, that would add issues with getting the beverages to Groton and purchasing coolers for the baseball field and swimming pool.

Councilman Brian Bahr proposed the city wait it out for another year and, once the contract is fulfilled, the city can get quotes for a contract going forward.

The City Council's next meeting, originally scheduled for March 21, will be moved to March 22 so city staff and council members can attend the South Dakota Municipal League District 6 Annual Meeting in Hecla.

Council members were invited to meet with staff from the South Dakota Governor's Office of Economic Development who will be visiting the city March 24. Only three council members and the mayor can attend the meeting. If more council members attend, the City Council will have to hold a special meeting as there would be a quorum.

The council approved declaring a table dolly, three wooden tables, four chair dollies and a wood and rubber couch as surplus. City staff will work to sell the items.

West Hanson Equalization Meeting Notice

WEST HANSON TOWNSHIP EQUALIZATION MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the West Hanson Township Board, acting as the West Hanson Township Board of Equalization, will meet on Monday, March 20, 2023 at 7:00pm at the home of Charles Dirks, 40305 138th St., Groton, SD. Persons wishing to appear regarding their assessment should notify the clerk by Thursday, March 16, 2023.

Jennifer L. Dirks
Clerk, West Hanson Township
40305 138th St.
Groton, SD 57445
605-397-7867 605-397-2762
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Dear EarthTalk: Is it really bad for the planet to upgrade my phone every two years?

— A.J., Darien, CT

Smartphones have certainly become ubiquitous, with some 85 percent of Americans and 67 percent of adults worldwide possessing one. Manufacturers sell almost 1.5 billion of them per year. And every year these manufacturers come out with upgraded models to lure customers into trading in their old models to get the latest technology at their fingertips. According to the Consumer Electronic Association the average lifespan of a smartphone is 4.7 years, but the average American user replaces their smartphone within three years. This can be, in part, attributed to planned obsolescence by manufacturers. As new smartphones are manufactured, new software updates accompany them; these updates can lead to older phones becoming unusable if they do not have the capacity to accommodate the new software.

Regarding pollution created by the industry, 95 percent of emissions come from the production phase. A culture that requires constant replacements results in ongoing growth of manufacturing emissions. In addition, continuously replacing phones creates e-waste in the form of the phones themselves. In 2019, 50 million tons of waste came from smartphones which constitute about 10 percent of e-waste globally.

One way to combat e-waste is to recycle. However, according to the World Economic Forum, only about 20 percent of global e-waste is recycled. The Basel Action Network used radio tracking to verify where shipments of e-waste were sent. They found that nearly 40 percent of e-waste from the United States was exported illegally to developing nations where it was unsafely processed or even burned in the open air.

There are steps manufacturers can take to alleviate the environmental burden, one being to introduce “repairable” phones. Currently manufacturers hamper smartphone repair with very high repair prices and restricting third parties from having access to the needed parts. Europe is leading the charge on embracing a circular economy surrounding smartphones that encourages repairs, refurbishments and upgrades instead of replacement. Various European countries have instituted programs to address the problem. France maintains a publicly accessible phone repairability index to help consumers there make smart choices about their smartphone purchases. Meanwhile, Sweden and Austria



Keeping a smartphone for more than two years could yield dividends for the environment. Credit: Pexels.com

both offer financial incentives for device repairs to encourage fixing instead of junking old smartphones and other electronics.

Whether or not such programs exist in your neck of the woods, you can be part of the solution by simply waiting longer to upgrade your phone, which will help reduce the demand on production while lowering your environmental footprint. While it may not seem like much at first glance, keeping your phone for an extra year can reduce your lifetime device usage by 25 percent. When it is finally time to get a new phone, an eco-conscious consumer can turn to companies like Fairphone and SHIFT that offer easily changeable parts and support software upgrades throughout the phone’s lifespan.

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

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Check Ken's Chalkboard on Page 6 for Details!

Ken's Super Fair Foods is honored to announce a new NIL partnership with local athletes, featuring Larrie Rogers and Augustus "Gus" Reade of NSU. Ken's is a proud supporter of NSU Athletics, and will be highlighting athletes in this sponsorship with more upcoming promotional events.

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Net Price **\$2.99** Each

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6 Count
\$1.99

Deli
Heat & Serve Panera Macaroni & Cheese Bowls
16 Oz.
\$6.99 Each

"Fearing Death Can Cause Suffering"

When in life does one come to confront the tough truth that each of us will eventually die? In my years as an internist caring for young and old alike, some people understand this early, and some people never

get it. In denying death, we intensify our fear of it. Usually, however, it is sometime during their 50s that people first look into the eyes of death. Put it off as we may, the hard certainty is that we are all aging and one day an end will come. Shakespeare described advanced age in his play *As You Like It*, Act II, Scene VII (All the world's a stage):

"... Last scene of all, That ends this strange eventful history, Is second childishness and mere oblivion, Sans (without) teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything."

Shakespeare's description of advanced age during the 1600s is rather bleak and scary. I think, with modern medicine and the support of a loving family, we could do better. I clearly believe that advanced age and facing our own death should not fill us with dread. The following is a more hopeful version to end Shakespeare's excerpt:

"... He did not have to end his life alone; If over time he'd shared his caring, raised

the worth of others, fed the love he'd sown. His death would find him kindly prized and praised, While kin sang festive songs of joy, amazed."

Fear comes from the oldest reptilian part of our brain. Fear helps us run from attackers but can also make us run from making important choices about our health. Fear can even bring us to push forward with treatment that may cause significant suffering, even when we are very old and even when treatment is futile and it's time to quit.

Fear of dying can prevent us from making plans about end-of-life care and, most importantly, prevent us from talking to our families about those wishes. How do we want to be cared for if we should lose mental capacity from a stroke or dementia? Do we wish to have a feeding tube, resuscitation, antibiotics when there is no quality of life left, when one doesn't recognize family and when the only option will be residing in a bed somewhere "sans everything."

I would rather die and be:

"... kindly prized and praised, While kin sing festive songs of joy, amazed."

Richard P. Holm, MD wrote this essay in February 2020. He passed away in March of 2020 after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He was founder of The Prairie Doc® and author of "Life's Final Season, A Guide for Aging and Dying with Grace" available on Amazon. Dr. Holm's legacy lives on through his Prairie Doc® organization. For free and easy access to the entire Prairie Doc® library, visit www.prairiedoc.org and follow Prairie Doc® on Facebook, featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show streaming on Facebook and broadcast on SDPB most Thursdays at 7 p.m. Central.



Based on Science, Built on Trust



the late Richard P. Holm, MD