



\$2

The Groton Independent

Vol. 140 No. 28 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, March 29, 2023 ♦ Established in 1889



Varsity Basketball Awards were presented to Tate Larson, All-Conference third team; Cade Larson, Pillar Award; Cole Simon, Pillar Award; Jacob Zak, Defensive Player of the Year and All-Conference second team; Ryder Johnson, Most Improved Player; Lane Tietz, Offensive Player of the Year, Most Valuable Player and All-Conference first team; and Braxton Imrie, Andrew Pereboom Scout Team Player. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Individual Awards — Sydney Leight: second team All-NEC and Offensive MVP; Jerica Locke: Defensive MVP; Brooke Gengerke: Tiger Award (team focus, character, role model, integrity, and sportsmanship despite adversity) and B103 Senior All-Star; Aspen Johnson: Hustle and Heart Award (positive and relentless attitude, pushes self and teammates to do their best). (Courtesy Photo)



Junior Varsity Awards were presented to Holden Sippel, Teammate of the Year and Best Attitude; Colby Dunker, Best Effort; Ryder Johnson, Offensive Player of the Year; and Teylor Diegel, Defensive Player of the Year. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



“Culture changing” Seniors: Head coach Matt Locke credited the Senior players’ for their leadership in creating a team culture of “guts, dedication, loyalty, and toughness”. All three seniors were also honored with the Academic All-State Award. Requirements for the Academic All-State Award is minimum of a 3.5 GPA and a minimum of three years of participation in high school basketball. Seniors are Brooke Gengerke, Aspen Johnson, and Gracie Traphagen. (Courtesy Photo)



C Team Awards were presented to Jayden Schwan, Teammate of the Year and Best Attitude; Gage Sippel, Offensive Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year; and Logan Warrington, Best Effort award. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

POPS Concert is Sunday

The Groton Area High School music department will present its annual POPS Concert on Sunday, April 2nd, at 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. in the high school gym. Tickets will not be sold in advance. Admission is \$5.00 at the door.

The concert will feature performances from the award-winning Prismatic Sensations Show Choir, the new High School Drumline, High School Flex Band, as well as many talented soloists/groups. There will be no reserved seating, and seats do fill up quickly, so plan on arriving early to get a great view of the show! The doors will open one hour prior to show time. This concert is one of the highlights of the year for the music department, and you do not want to miss it!

Come on out, have some Coca-Cola and popcorn, and enjoy performances by many of our music department’s students!

If you have card tables that the music department may borrow for the day, please label them with your name and drop them off at the high school or e-mail Mrs. Yeigh at desiree.yeigh@k12.sd.us to arrange pick up.



Letter winners — Back row: Emily Clark, Rylee Dunker, Aspen Johnson, Gracie Traphagen, Faith Traphagen, Jaedyn Penning, Brooklyn Hansen, Sydney Leight. Front row: Liz Flihs, Talli Wright, Brooke Gengerke, Jerica Locke, Laila Roberts, Carly Gilbert, Kennedy Hansen. Not pictured: Mia Crank. (Courtesy Photo)

Everyone needs a butt hurricane

I love gadgetry. I have remotes to run my remote controls. It's not perfect, though. I discovered that my Apple TV remote volume control triggers my new Chinese-made CD player.

And everyone's worried about TikTok.

Yes, they still make CD players. I mean, what was I going to do with all those CDs I bought to replace all those vinyl albums I'm buying again?

My newest turntable was made in England, too hoity-toity to be influenced by remote controls. It's a manual turntable. So, you have to get up every 20 minutes. That's OK. I had to turn off the CD player, anyway.

Did I mention that my garage door opener starts the coffee maker? Things have gotten completely out of hand ever since the Clapper.

Now, the tour continues... Join me in my bedroom, will you? Don't worry. I have "security" cameras. And mirrors. (I worry about shoplifters.)

I better stop kidding around. The way the North Dakota Legislature's new sexual surveillance state is going, cameras will be standard equipment. Man, those cats are uptight. The new rules on the Senate floor require skirts below the knee. And that's just the men.

Anyway, one of the things I don't cheap out on is my bed. They say you spend a third of your life in bed. More, if you're Charlie Sheen. I just got one of those new-fangled remote controlled puppies that tilts your head, your legs, massages upper and/or lower extremities, has eight USB connections (I'm not kidding), and LED running lights. (Again, not kidding.)

And the remote changes the channel to TikTok.

It's comprised of two single beds with the same features so we can race. It's like a hospital bed without being roused by nurses every two hours to give you sleeping pills. I've slept better between the drummer and the bass player at Dempsey's than I did at St. A's last year.

The bed replaces the one made in North Dakota. Buy local, they said. Best in the

world, they said. It was wonderful. I bought one after sleeping on one at The Donaldson in Fargo before they turned the house restaurant into a hotdog stand. The mattress came with a lifetime guarantee. Technically, that's true. But it's not your lifetime. It's the lifetime of the mattress. Goodbye, Squeaky. It was good while it lasted.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, on to the bathroom.

Some of you will have to stand in the shower to make room. Here's my pride and joy. My new BioBidet 1000. It replaced the old BB600. The one with a lifetime guarantee. The BP600 in the mud room is still going strong, however.

Isn't it ironic that the world's greatest butt technology was invented in the 1600's in France where they have a reputation for only bathing every fortnight? "Bidet" is French for "pony" because I guess you had to straddle the first models. It's basically a French riding saddle with perks.

It's remote controlled. The previous model only had the controls on the ejector seat. For people already too lazy to wash and dry their bunnies, this one allows your butler to operate the controls from the patio. "More steam, Jeeves!"

There are sooo many controls. A "massage" feature. A "feminine" feature. All of it adjustable so you get the proper trajectory. A periscope. Temperature controls for the seat, the water, and the air dryer. What's the air-dry like? Imagine mooning the car wash as you exit. It's a veritable butt hurricane.

There's even an "economy" setting for cheap asses.

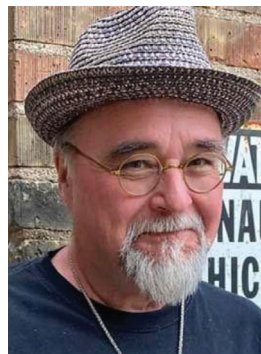
If you don't read French there are some amusing diagrams that would get a librarian arrested in North Dakota. One of the options is "vortex." It should say "enema." because it's like sitting on a firehose. Holy moly! It'll blow your hemorrhoids right out there.

Okay, do you really need a toilet with a four-barrel carb, dual exhaust, a Hurst shifter, and a backup camera? Well, I was sure glad I had it when my "pitching arm" locked up recently. It took a few doses of prednisone to get me right. That's when you need the hotline to the bullpen. Imagine a T-Rex trying to wipe.

And then, not to be indelicate, but no more racing stripes in your Fruit of the Looms. That's the bottom line. (Get it?) Plus, during the great Toilet Paper Shortage of 2020, we were golden.

But is it safe? I mean, 120 volts connected to water? Is that what killed Elvis? True, there are risks, which is why I have the double indemnity bidet clause in my life insurance policy.

© Tony Bender, 2023



That's Life

by Tony Bender

Weekly Vikings Recap - Minnesota Vikings' Free Agency

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

Week two of NFL free agency was a much slower week for the Minnesota Vikings as the team made only two free-agent signings. On Wednesday, the Vikings signed linebacker, Troy Reeder, and wide receiver, Brandon Powell. Both players have a history with the Vikings' head coach, Kevin O'Connell, as they all won a Super Bowl together with the Los Angeles Rams in 2021. Thus, although both Reeder and Powell will likely be depth players for the Vikings this season, they help provide Kevin O'Connell with championship experience and useful familiarity with what it takes to win every day.

Furthermore, the Vikings made every Vikings fan happy with the signing of CJ Ham to a two-year extension this week. Ham, a native of Duluth, Minnesota, has spent his entire seven-year NFL career for the Vikings and become a fan-favorite for his toughness and willingness to do the dirty work at the fullback position. There was some skepticism about whether Ham would return this season as his offensive snap count got cut in half. The main reason for Ham's lack of offensive production was not that his skills are diminishing, but because of the change in the offensive scheme with the hiring of Kevin O'Connell. The NFL, overall, has started to go away from the fullback position as almost one-third of the league does not even have a fullback on their roster. O'Connell might not even want a fullback on the Vikings' roster but has decided to keep Ham around for his leadership and value on special teams. In the future when Ham is gone, I would expect that the Vikings will completely do away with the fullback position while O'Connell is the coach in Minnesota.

In completely unrelated news, the rumors are starting to swirl that the Vikings might look to take a quarterback in the first round of the NFL draft this year. The reason for these rumors seems to stem from the fact the Vikings decided to not give Kirk Cousins an extension this offseason and it appears that the 2023 season might be Cousins' last in Minnesota. This means that the Vikings have two options at quarterback, they can either draft one in 2023 and let him develop in their system for a year before taking over in 2024; or, the Vikings could take a quarterback in 2024 and have that person start right away. Given the risk that comes with the second option, it seems like the Vikings might be looking to draft a quarterback in this year's draft.

Although mock drafts usually do not mean anything this far out from the draft, it was interesting that multiple mock drafts came out this week with the Vikings taking a quarterback in the first round, something that had not been predicted in mock drafts up to that point.

One mock draft had the Vikings taking Tennessee quarterback, Hendon Hooker, a talented quarterback who unfortunately tore his ACL this past season. Hooker makes a lot of sense for the Vikings as they would likely not need to trade up to get him in the top half of the first round. Also, there would be no need for Hooker to quickly come back from his injury. Instead, he would be able to fully recover from his injury while sitting behind Cousins for the entire season.

However, the quarterback who seems to be the favorite for the Vikings to take is Kentucky quarterback, Will Levis. Levis is a strong-armed, athletic quarterback with an impressive frame. The issue with Levis is his accuracy and poor footwork, two of the most important qualities of a quarterback. Nevertheless, it appears that the Vikings might be very interested in Levis. Both Kwesi Adofo-Mensah and Kevin O'Connell were down at Kentucky for Levis's pro day and it has been reported that O'Connell is a big fan of Levis. If the Vikings decide that Levis is their guy, they are going to have to move up into the top 10 of the draft this year to get him. This could be a fun NFL draft for Vikings fans.

Groton Chiropractic Clinic

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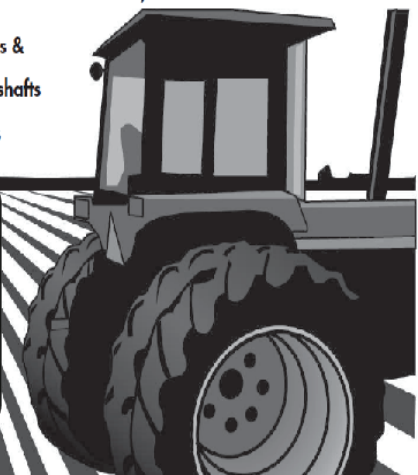
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We the People

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

"Vulnerable to Indictment, Trump's Cases Subject to the Law"

Former President Donald Trump has said he expects to be indicted by a Manhattan grand jury any day now. Although widely anticipated, there is no certainty that he will be indicted by grand jurors in New York or, for that matter, by citizens serving on grand juries in Washington or Atlanta, led by prosecutors examining, respectively, his potential obstruction of justice of a federal investigation involving the "Mar-a-Lago Papers" or his effort to overturn the results of the 2020 election in Georgia.

Trump's supporters in Congress and those scattered across the country decry the investigations as "witch hunts" and acts of "political persecution." Many others, however, rightly support them as critical to the defense of the rule of law.

Whether Trump is indicted in any of these cases should turn on a simple question: Is there probable cause to believe that he committed the crimes for which he is charged? There are no grounds, in history or law, to suggest that a former president should be held to a standard different than that applied to all other citizens. In fact, there are no legal or historical grounds to suggest special standards for a sitting president.

In the Constitutional Convention, no delegate argued for a presidential privilege, which is hardly surprising given the drafters' commitment to eliminating all vestiges of monarchical prerogatives. The royal prerogative, James Wilson observed, was irrelevant to the creation of a republican form of government. Wilson, second in importance to James Madison as an architect of the Constitution, summed up the views of his colleagues when he told the Pennsylvania Ratification Convention that "not a single privilege is annexed to his [a president's] character."

Doubts about presidential vulnerability to indictment are swept away by Article I, Section 3, Clause 6, which addresses the authority of the Senate to try all impeachments and provides that "the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to law." That provision was inserted in the Constitution to avoid claims that a president, having been convicted by the Senate in an impeachment trial, is therefore immune from criminal prosecution by virtue of the protection against double jeopardy. The Senate trial is focused on the issue of removal from office and potential prohibition of further service on behalf of the United States. Failure by the Senate to impeach a president has no bearing on decisions made

by criminal justice officials.

The Convention's rejection of presidential immunity from criminal indictment is confirmed by the fact that there is no language in the Constitution that affords it. The framers certainly knew how to confer immunity when they wanted to do it. The only provision for immunity from prosecution is that which is granted to Congress in Article I, section 6: "The Senators and Representatives. . . shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same." Since the framers knew how to, and did, spell out immunity, the logical inference is that no immunity exists where none is mentioned.

Since a sitting president is not immune from indictment there is no reason to exalt the treatment of a former president. And, even if—speaking purely hypothetically—a sitting president were immune from indictment by virtue of the structure of the office and the attendant duties and responsibilities of the executive, those factors certainly do not apply to an ex-president.

Americans are divided on the desirability, wisdom and merits of indicting a former president. The question of a grand jury indictment of former President Trump should turn on the same evidentiary standards applied to other citizens. As Wilson told his colleagues in Pennsylvania, there is "not a single privilege annexed" to the character of a president and, by inference, an ex-president.

In their creation of the presidency, the framers sought to cut all connections to the Royal Prerogative of the English kingship. They institutionalized and constitutionally confined the executive power, which King James I declared was inherent in the king by virtue of his royalty and not his office. The American system was designed in part to overcome the personalization of executive power and the principle that the king was above the law. In their replacement of personal rule with the rule of law, the framers rejected the historical admiration of the executive and the claims of personal authority that at least since the Middle Ages, in one form or another, had conceived of executive rights as innate, which is they were derived not from the office but, we could say, from the blood and bone of the man.

At the time of the Philadelphia Convention, executive power across the world was personal, not juridical. For their part, the framers tried to transform personal rule into a matter of law and to subordinate the executive to constitutional commands and prescriptions. In a word, they were intent on establishing the rule of law, which meant the president was subject to the same laws, in the same manner, as all other citizens. That principle applies to former presidents as well.

Groton School March 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6
REGULAR MEETING
March 13, 2023

President Gengerke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the GHS Library Conference Room. Members present: Flihs, Gengerke, Pharis, Rix, Smith, and Weismantel. Absent: Harder. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principals B. Schwan and Sombke and Business Manager Weber.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

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

Moved by Smith, second Flihs to approve consent agenda items as presented: District minutes of February 13, 2023, bills, financial reports, custodial accounts, investments, lunch report, and transportation report. Motion carried.

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

GENERAL FUND: Net Salary - 213,422.46; FIT - 19,119.45; Medicare - 8,048.64; FICA - 34,415.54; American Funds - 508.00; SDRS - 34,548.52; HSA - 100.00; Waddell & Reed - 440.00; Horace Mann - 907.61; Thrivent - 250.00; AFLAC - 2,523.83; Delta Dental - 3,890.95; SD Supplemental Retirement - 2,915.43; Division of Child Support - 967.93; US Dept of Treasury - 252.04; Wellmark - 60,325.53; Standard Life - 772.71; Avesis Vision - 269.84; Wage Works - 1,041.64; Aberdeen Awards - awards, 581.00; Amazon - supplies, 249.56; Avera - fee, 956.10; Best Western Kelly Inn - lodging, 273.98; Boston Fern - supplies,

MONTHLY DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 06-6									
For the reporting period beginning July 1, 2022, and ending February 28, 2023									
Description	General Fund	Assigned Gen Funds	Capital Outlay	Special Education	Bond Redemption	Enterprise Fund	Custodial Fund	Total for District	
1. Beginning Balance	1,482,652.00	143,322.65	1,689,959.61	337,034.96	0.00	148,760.78	153,432.69	3,955,162.69	
a. checking	1,482,652.00	143,322.65	1,689,959.61	337,034.96	0.00	148,760.78	153,432.69	3,955,162.69	
b. petty cash	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2. Transfers in									
3. Revenue to date	2,824,620.86	16,556.30	871,311.40	423,427.90	250.71	239,066.18	644,396.01	5,019,629.36	
4. Total accounted for	4,307,272.86	159,878.95	2,561,271.01	760,462.86	250.71	387,826.96	797,828.70	8,974,792.05	
5. Transfers out									
6. Expenditures to date	3,209,578.92	11,756.98	1,695,874.80	467,297.44	0.00	201,689.89	714,616.64	6,300,814.67	
a. encumbrances	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
b. disbursements	3,209,578.92	11,756.98	1,695,874.80	467,297.44	0.00	201,689.89	714,616.64	6,300,814.67	
7. Ending Balance	1,097,693.94	148,121.97	865,396.21	293,165.42	250.71	186,137.07	83,212.06	2,673,977.38	
a. checking	1,097,693.94	148,121.97	865,396.21	293,165.42	250.71	186,137.07	83,212.06	2,673,977.38	
b. petty cash	(0.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(0.00)	
February Receipts	172,622.41	698.00	30,428.68	14,728.25	0.00	31,033.43	115,704.57	365,215.34	
February Expenses	504,733.56	2,639.51	219,609.37	76,489.96	0.00	34,217.43	63,627.77	901,317.60	
Custodial Checking	83,212.06								
District Checking	2,590,765.32								
USDA Supply Chain Defer	0.00								
Total all Funds	2,673,977.38								

42.00; Capital One - supplies, 54.78; City of Groton - utilities, 11,916.05; Shane & Laura Clark - lodging, 198.58; Comfort Suites - lodging, 701.68; Custodial Fund - advanced pays, 26,353.54; Dacotah Bank - fee, 56.50; Dance Sophisticates - supplies, 4,494.00; Dependable Sanitation - fee, 1,238.00; Diamond Dry Cleaning - fee, 8.00; EMC Insurance - insurance, 381.00; Farm Tire Service - tires, 1,050.00; Groton Area Booster/PAC - supplies, 12.00; Groton Chiropractic - physical, 100.00; Groton Daily Independent - legal, 115.34; Harlowe's Bus Sales - parts, 1,078.24; Hill-Mid-America - balls, 81.95; Hill-yard - supplies, 3,259.43; House of Glass - repairs, 292.86; JW Pepper - music, 24.00; Jostens - fee, 2,111.80; Locke Electric - repairs, 3,446.00; MARC - supplies, 2,213.69; Midstates Group - shirts, 828.25; MJ's Sinclair - fuel, 11,555.67; North Central Special Ed - fee, 5,500.00; Northside Implement - repairs, 561.25; Northwestern Energy - utilities, 10,582.20; Petty Cash, Kristi Peterson - supplies, 15.00; Prorate Services - fee, 220.12; S&S Lumber - supplies, 1,257.49; SD Dept of Public Safety - fee, 160.00; Taylor Music - repairs, 30.00; TIE -

fee, 192.50; Time Management Services - fee, 210.20; Training Room - supplies, 887.98; Wage-works - fee, 92.00; Michael Weber - fee, 16.00. Total General Fund - \$478,118.86.

CAPITAL OUTLAY: A&B Business - print fee, 1,687.99; Amazon - camera, 99.00; Custodial Fund - advanced pays, 17,760.11; John Deere Financial - broom, 1,856.93; Laerdal Medical Corp - nursing simulator, 59,256.44; Sweetwater - keyboard, 968.83; SydDaver Education - Units w/ subscription, 125,019.56. Total Capital Outlay - \$206,648.86.

SPECIAL ED: Net Salary - 37,493.13; FIT - 2,653.88; Medicare - 1,358.70; FICA - 5,809.72; SDRS - 5,223.26; Waddell & Reed - 100.00; AFLAC - 776.21; Delta Dental - 693.56; SD Supplemental Retirement - 100.00; Wellmark - 8,103.00; Standard Life - 227.16; Avesis Vision - 78.10; Avera St Luke's - services, 10,086.40; Custodial Fund - advanced pays, 685.44; North Central Special Ed - services, 34,975.05; Judy/Gene Williamson - mileage, 728.28. Total Special Ed - \$109,091.89.

ENTERPRISE: Food Service Net Salary - 7,727.47; FIT - 504.07; Medicare - 273.72;

FICA - 1,170.32; SDRS - 969.16; AFLAC - 281.02; Wellmark - 1,604.00; Standard Life - 3.84; Avesis Vision - 19.63; BIMBO Bakery - food, 80.00; Cintas - services, 92.19; Custodial Fund - advanced pays, 4,469.80; CWD - food, 2,089.89; East Side Jersey Dairy - milk, 845.58; Performance Foodservice - food, 4,959.31; SD DOE - food, 228.72; US Foods - food, 2,623.68. Total Food Service - \$27,942.40. OST Net Salary - 2,668.38; FIT - 169.73; Medicare - 94.48; FICA - 403.70; SDRS - 295.28; AFLAC - 163.93; Wellmark - 705.00; Standard Life - 23.28. Total OST - \$4,523.78. Total Enterprise Funds - \$32,466.18.

CUSTODIAL FUND: Total - \$64,368.65.

RECEIPTS: Local Sources, Taxes - 77,168.27; Other Local Sources - 150,331.23; County Sources - 3,711.25; State Sources - 123,180.76; Federal Sources - 10,823.83; Total Receipts - \$365,215.34.

The board considered amendments to the 2022-23 school calendar regarding make-up snow days. Moved by Smith, second Weismantel to add days to the end of the existing calendar with May 25th as the last student contact day and May 26th as the last teacher contact day. Motion carried.

The following topics were addressed in administrative reports: legislative session update, ASBPT annual meeting, USDA supply chain assistance, local beef in school lunch project, 1968 gym, restroom, locker room, and stage project update, HVAC project update, health science lab renovation update, summer strength program, staffing vacancies, SASD Leadership Academy, OST update, playground slide status, track and field day, extended school year for special education students, summer school/Connect 4Ed, administrative intern, National Honor Society information, Smarter Balance Assessments/ Spring Testing, 2023-24 requisitions, dual credit parent and guardian meeting, clay target league funds transferred, and school board election update.

Weber reported that two candidates submitted nominating petitions for the two vacant school board positions, incumbent candidate Grant Rix and candidate-elect Heather Lerseth-Flihs. Since Rix and Lerseth-Flihs are unopposed, they are awarded 3-year terms starting July 2023. There will be no election held on April 11, 2023.

Moved by Weismantel, second Flihs to approve resignation from Jordan Kjellsen, MS Math Teacher/JH Track Coach at the end of the 2022-23 school year. Motion carried.

Moved by Rix, second Pharis to approve resignation of Amanda Tarpein, part-time cook, effective immediately. Motion carried.

The board took a short recess at 8:01 pm and returned at 8:06 pm.

Moved by Weismantel, second Rix to go into executive session at 8:07 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) for personnel issues and SDCL 1-25-2(4) for negotiations. Motion carried.

Gengerke declared the board out of executive session at 9:37 pm.

Moved by Rix, second Flihs to adjourn. Motion carried.

M. J. Weber, Business Manager

Deborah Gengerke, President

The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.

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Groton City Street Resurfacing Bid Notice

INVITATION TO BID
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Groton City Council of the City of Groton, South Dakota, will open bids for the 2023 resurfacing of City Streets April 4, 2023 at 7:00pm (local time) at City Hall, 120 N Main Street, Groton, SD. Received sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The work on this project includes the following:
• Approximately 62,000 square yards of bituminous seal coat.

All work areas are located within the City limits of Groton, SD.

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following locations:

City Hall, 120 N Main Street, Groton, SD 57445

The approximate quantities mentioned above are subject to increase or decrease. Questions or requests for further information should be directed to the City Finance Office, 605-397-8422, PO Box 587, Groton, SD 57445.

The City reserves the right to refuse any or all bids, to waive any informalities in the bidding and to award the contract in the best interests of the City of Groton, SD.

March 8, 2023
Published March 22 and 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$25.38 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22054

Stratford Town Notice of Vacancy

CITY OF STRATFORD TRUSTEE VACANCY NOTICE

The following office will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term of office of the elective officer:

TRUSTEE (THREE-YEAR TERM)

Circulation of nominating petitions

Please notify Suzanne Moen if you are interested. Petitions will be made available at the Community Center on APRIL 10th.

First day to begin petition circulation is APRIL 11, 2023. Deadline is MAY 12, 2023 at 5:00 PM.

Submitted by:
Suzanne Moen Finance Officer
Published March 22 and 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$16.46 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22056

Brown County Chemical Dealer Bid Notice

NOTICE TO CHEMICAL DEALERS

Sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners, Brown County Courthouse Annex at Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401 until 8:45 A.M. on Tuesday, April 04, 2023, at said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read, and considered for furnishing of chemical for the Brown County Weed and Pest Board for 2023.

Proposal Guaranty: No deposit or bond will be required at time of bid opening.

Contract: Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that his proposal has been accepted and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County in accordance with the bid as accepted. Successful bidder shall furnish proper certificates of insurance as required by Brown County. Contract for the chemicals shall be firm and will be in effect for a period of eight months from April 1 to November 30, 2023.

Sealed envelopes containing bids shall be addressed to Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street, Ste 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401, and be marked "Chemical Bid for Brown County Weed and Pest Board" and to be opened at 8:45 A.M. on April 04, 2023.

The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County. Brown County is exempt from Federal Excise Tax and State Sales Tax. Specifications are on file and may be obtained at no charge at the office of the Brown County Auditor and the Brown County Weed and Pest Office.

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor
Published March 22 and 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$34.77 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22055

Groton City Firemen Fun Night Special Event License

Notice of Hearing upon Application for a Special Event Alcoholic Beverage License

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Groton City Council on the 4th day of April, 2023 at 7:00pm at the Groton City Hall, 120 N Main Street, Groton, South Dakota will meet in regular session to consider a special event alcoholic beverage license for Fireman's Fun Night at Groton Fire Hall, 305 E Railroad Ave, in the City of Groton, South Dakota on April 22, 2023.

Any person interested in the approval or rejection of any such application may appear and be heard.

Dated at Groton, South Dakota this 27th day of March, 2023.

Douglas Heinrich, Groton City Finance Officer

Published March 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$9.50 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22073

Groton City March 22, 2023 Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2023
The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00 p.m. at 120 N Main Street for their second monthly meeting with the following members present: Bahr, Nehls, Wells, Babcock, Wambach, Cutler, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Drew Johnson, Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich, Benjamin Smith, and Elizabeth Varin.

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

Groton Police Officer, Benjamin Smith, was administered the Oath of Office from Mayor Scott Hanlon.

Benjamin Smith exited the meeting.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Nehls to approve authorization to bid the 2023 street resurfacing project. All members present voted aye.

One quote for gravel was received from Krueger Brothers Gravel and Dirt for \$19.85 per yard. Moved by Wells and seconded by Bahr to accept the gravel quote from Krueger Brothers Gravel and Dirt at \$19.85 per yard. All members present voted aye.

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

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

Payroll, \$25,349.81, Employee salaries; Administrative, \$4,427.86; Public Safety, \$8,545.82; Public Works, \$12,376.13; SD State Treasurer, \$10,156.77, Sales/Excise Tax - February 2023; SD Municipal League, \$64.00, District 6 Annual Meeting Registration Fees; City of Groton, \$163.19, Utility deposit applied to bill; Joanne May, \$86.81, Utility deposit refund; Kellie Locke, \$40.00, Med flex; Dacotah Bank, \$2,907.76, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$50.00, HSA contributions; Dakotaland FCU, \$730.00, Employee savings; Dacotah Bank, \$5,667.51, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$622.90, HSA contributions; Greg's Repair, \$1,224.47, Turbocharger repair - '17 Ford Police Interceptor; RDO Equipment Co., \$381.98, Duramax cutting edges; WAPA, \$26,474.45, Power services - February 2023; Heartland Energy, \$68,113.14, Power services - February 2023; Riteway, \$869.12, Utility bill template sheets; Farmers Union Co-op Assoc., \$1,830.00, #2 Dyed Diesel; NW Energy, \$72.21, Natural gas service - Water tower; Groton Daily Independent, \$168.03, Publishing fees; Altec Capital Services, LLC, \$2,189.93, Digger truck lease; Metering & Technology Solutions, \$1,096.23, Water meters and registers; Aramark, \$50.47, Rug rent; Cole Papers, Inc., \$81.02, Garbage bags; Patios Plus, \$918.84, Storm sewer repair & flagpole base at City Hall; Heartland Waste Management, \$10,064.45, Garbage hauling - February 2023; Annette Kroger, \$63.90, 52 books for library; James Valley Telecommunications, \$772.48, Phone & internet services; Vermeer High Plains, \$34,935.00, Vacuum trailer; Runnings, \$35.96, Oil absorbent; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$240.00, Supplemental retirement; SD Department of Health, \$30.00, Water testing; SDML Workers' Comp Fund, \$1,251.00, 2022 payroll audit; Greg's Repair, \$76.66, Oil change - Brown County Sheriff Ford Interceptor; Menards, \$27.96, Oil absorbent; Locators & Supplies, Inc., \$676.28, Reflective fiberglass rods; Verizon

Wireless, \$40.01, Wireless router - rubble site

Moved by Wambach and seconded by Wells to approve the February finance report. All members present voted aye.

The baseball concessions were discussed. A written quote from Milbank House Movers was provided for the relocation of the old building at the ballfield. Further discussion will take place at the next monthly council meeting on April 4, 2023.

Economic development was discussed. An economic development meeting with SD GOED will be held on March 24, 2023, at 9:00am.

Elizabeth Varin exited the meeting.

Moved by Bahr and seconded by Wells to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal matters 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 7:29pm. All members present voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 7:53pm.

Elizabeth Varin reentered the meeting.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Wells to hire the following season employees: Hannah Sandness, Carly Gilbert, and Mia Crank - Lifeguards; Rebecca Padfield - Baseball Concessions. All swimming pool employees are hired pending interviews and lifeguard certifications. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Cutler to allow Justin Cleveland to attend the 2023 SOR Conference in Deadwood on April 27-28, 2023. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Wambach and seconded by Wells to adjourn the meeting at 7:56pm. All members present voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer

Published March 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$47.19 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22072

Frederick City March 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes

City of Frederick
March 6, 2023 Minutes

Frederick's town board meeting was held Wednesday, March 6, 2023 in the Frederick Community Center beginning at 7:00 PM. Attending the meeting were Chairman Scott Campbell, Board members Jeff Kusters and Troy Millard, Finance Officer Jennifer Morlock, Assistant Finance Officer Mariah Heine by phone, Utility Manager Rich Bakeberg, and Hugh Dahme of Dahme Construction.

Chairman Campbell opened the meeting and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the February meeting were read and approved with a motion by Millard/Kusters; motion carried. The financial statements were reviewed and accepted with a motion by Millard/Campbell; motion carried. The March accounts payable were approved with a motion by Millard/Kusters; motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

MDU electric BP/Wtr/Mun Bldg/SP/Sts/Swr/EBL \$1,447.31; Ashley Gunther wage EBL \$36.94; Brown County Sheriff's Office deputy svcs Gen'l \$2,083.34; Century Bus Products printer Gen'l \$86.01; DANR dues Wtr \$250; Dependable Sanitation Grbg \$1,657; EFPTS taxes Gen'l/FO/CC/EBL/Sts/Wtr/Swr/Cnty \$828.68; FDC Gen'l \$1200; Farmers Union Oil Muni Bldg/EBL \$1,122.51; Farmers Union Oil propane EBL \$781.87; USDA-RD loan Swr \$3,763; Econ, Dev \$1,200; GDI minutes Gen'l \$25.39; J. Morlock wage FO \$1,373.77; JVT Gen'l/Wtr/EBL/FO \$297.88; M. Cox wage EBL \$297.88; M. Heine wage FO \$1,126.37; O. Morlock wage Mun Bldg \$15.93; S. Campbell wage Gen'l \$69.26; R. Bakeberg wage Sts/Wtr/Swr \$398.65; R. Bakeberg veh. allow. St/Wtr/Swr \$75; SD Dept of Rev sales tax Grbg \$70.29; T. Millard wage Gen'l \$46.17; VISA SAM Registration Gen'l \$899; USDA-RD loan Wtr \$475; WEB Water Wtr \$8,382.28

OLD BUSINESS

Rich Bakeberg provided a utility report. A petition was turned in by Scott Campbell for the upcoming board vacancy. The board discussed a water project this spring to update lines and fix a leak.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to designate the Town of Frederick to act as a passthrough for the Frederick Athletic Association in regards to a grant they are receiving from the North Brown Community Foundation made by Campbell/Millard; motion carried. Equalization week is coming up March 20-24 with the meetings being at 7PM on Monday and Friday. The board asked Hugh Dahme about demolition of the house at 303 2nd Ave this spring. Motion to accept the annual report made by Campbell/Millard; motion carried. The board discussed considering the possibility of

spring flooding with all the snow the town has gotten. Some steps may need to be taken to move some snow out of town in anticipation of the melting snow.

Motion to adjourn made by Millard/Kusters at 8:03 PM; motion carried.

M. Heine
Assistant Finance Officer
Published March 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$28.70 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22074

Groton School March 27, 2023 Meeting Minutes

UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF EDUCATION GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6

REGULAR MEETING
March 27, 2023

President Gengerke called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the GHS Library Conference Room. Members present: Flihs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith, and Weismantel. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principals B. Schwan and Sombke and Business Manager Weber.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to approve the agenda with one addition under New Business Item #7 - consider bus request. Motion carried.

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

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

Coaches Joni Groebelinghoff and Julie Milbrandt presented an overview of the Destination Imagination program. Teachers Adam Franken, Lindsey Tietz and Becky Hubsch gave presentations of their CTE programs.

Superintendent Schwan announced that a representative from Harlow's Bus Sales informed him that they will not be able to honor a recently bid bus price due to supply chain issues and are in fact raising the original bid award by \$6,000. Moved by Smith, second Weismantel to void the bid from Harlow's and pursue a similar bus purchase from Sourcewell Procurement. Motion carried.

The following topics were addressed in administrative reports: recent school bus bid, ASBPT Health Fund Renewal, Health Science Lab renovation, staff hirings, surplus bus, smarter balance testing, teacher evaluations, Suicide Prevention presentation, prom and post prom activities, driver's ed enrollment and health, vision, life, dental and work comp renewal rates.

Motion by Smith, second Harder to approve ASB Protective Trust Health Fund renewal for 2023-24 by selecting plan option 1 - \$1,000/\$2,000 deductible, plan option 3 - \$2,000/\$4,000 deductible and plan option 5 - \$3,500/\$7,000 HSA deductible. Motion carried.

Schwan presented a proposal from Huff Construction to renovate the MS/HS Health Science Lab for \$82,242. Moved by Smith, second Flihs to approve the proposal. Motion carried.

Moved by Rix, second Pharis to approve Carla Tracy as volunteer assistant track coach for the 2023 season. Motion carried.

Moved by Smith, second Rix to hire Brittany Hubbard as Science/Health Science Teacher and Oral Interp Advisor for the 2023-24 school year. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Flihs to hire Eric Swenson as Middle School Math Teacher for the 2023-24 school year. Motion carried.

Moved by Harder, second Pharis to declare bus #04 as surplus property and cancel vehicle insurance. Motion carried.

Moved by Smith, second Weismantel to approve request from St. John's Preschool for use of school bus to Watertown Zoo with normal mileage charge. Motion carried.

The board took a short recess at 8:21 pm and returned at 8:26 pm.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to go into executive session at 8:26 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) for personnel issues and SDCL 1-25-2(4) for negotiations. Motion carried.

Gengerke declared the board out of executive session at 10:55 pm.

Moved by Pharis, second Flihs to adjourn. Motion carried.

M. J. Weber, Business Manager

Deborah Gengerke, President
The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.

Published March 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$36.42 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22081

Brown County March 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes

MARCH 21, 2023 – GENERAL MEETING

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

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None

SPECIAL MALT BEVERAGE: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the application for Special Event Malt Beverage for Boys & Girls Club of Aberdeen Area on March 31, 2023 to April 1, 2023 for Bull Riding Classic at Holum Expo Building. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #241 – FIRST READING: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Dennert to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #241. Applicants Adam & Ashley Borg requesting to rezone from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring parcels into compliance: "Quiggle's Outlot 1" in the NW 1/4 of Section 12-T123N-R61W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13149 406th Ave., Groton Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #242 – FIRST READING: Moved by Commissioner Gage seconded by Dennert to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #242. Applicants Colleen Callum for owners Delbert and Caroline Lowe requesting to rezone from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring these parcels into compliance for its future use: Proposed Lot 1, "Delbert and Caroline Lowe First Addition" in the SE 1/4 of Section 15-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (38556 133rd St.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH ABERDEEN CITY ON TAX DEED PROPERTIES:

Moved by Commission Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the MOU between Brown County and Aberdeen City to share Nuisance Abatement Costs for Tax Deed Properties. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the General Meeting minutes of March 14, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims: Professional Fees: Avera St. Luke's \$376.89; Avera LTC Pharmacy Aberdeen \$2,313.98; CGI, LLC \$361.25; Christy Griffin-Serr Law Office \$7,211.64; Cogley Law Office, Prof LLC \$7,211.64; Credit Collections Bureau/Credico Inc \$1,181.58; Darcy L. Lockwood \$60.00; Dohrer Law Office \$7,211.64; Emergency Service Marketing Corp, Inc \$5,176.75; Faulk County Sheriff's Office \$3,330.00; Fox Law Firm, PLLC \$162.85; Jerald M. McNeary \$7,211.64; Jeremy Lund-Siegel Barnett & Schutz, LLP \$7,211.64; John Noyes-Bantz, Gosch & Cremer \$7,211.64; Kuck Law Office \$7,213.04; Lucy Lewno \$480.00; Mark Katterhagen \$45.00; Minnehaha County, SD \$9,765.35; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine \$756.00; SDSU Extension \$92.40; Taliaferro Law Firm \$7,211.64; Tyler Technologies Inc \$520.00; Valerie J. Larson \$15.00. Publishing: Gatehouse Media South Dakota Holdings, Inc \$1,071.89; Groton Daily Independent \$424.37. Repairs & Maintenance: Aberdeen Chrysler Center \$860.00; Anderson Electric \$2.14; Century Business Products \$38.03; Dakota Doors Inc \$180.61; Dakota Pump & Control \$3,821.44; Ecolab Pest Elimination \$117.60; Graham Tire Inc \$17.77; Hoven Auto Repair Inc \$635.05; K & S Plumbing, Inc \$1,356.64; Lien Transportation Company \$1,675.00; Little Falls Machine Inc \$253.99; Motorola Solutions, Inc \$38,426.72; Northstar Safety, Inc \$18.50; Thee Glass

Doktor, LLC \$300.00. Supplies: Aberdeen Chrysler Center \$787.88; Aberdeen Fire & Rescue \$986.00; Advance Auto Parts \$493.12; Anderson Electric \$105.00; Aramark \$135.05; Avera Pharmacies \$10.00; Century Business Products \$170.21; Cole Paper Inc \$496.50; Dakota Supply Group \$1,135.70; Faulkton Pharmacy, Inc \$18.15; Great Western Tire Inc \$4,107.06; Little Falls Machine Inc \$911.32; Lucy Lewno \$16.80; Mac's Inc-Capital One Trade Credit \$644.71; Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc \$2,984.30; Menards \$369.20; Midstates Group \$1,149.71; Northstar Safety, Inc \$60.00; NVC \$28.22; Performance Oil \$471.73; Quality Welding \$731.78; SD Dept of Health \$150.00; Share Corp \$751.80; Titan Machinery Inc-Aberdeen Case IH \$10.30. Travel & Conference: Bill Donaldson \$6.12; Duane Jark \$18.87; John Florey \$92.00; Nick Juenger \$92.00; SD Assoc of County Commissioners \$220.00. Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$43.23; City of Aberdeen \$619.36; City of Hecla \$246.44; Dependable Sanitation \$513.00; Northwestern Energy \$4,694.17; NVC \$3,818.09; Verizon Wireless \$4,131.23. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Erica Coughlin: Acknowledge resignation of Alexander Engel, Brown County JDC Detention Officer, FT, effective March 14, 2023. Request to fill. Modified start date: hiring Mark Milbrandt as Brown County Landfill Grounds Worker, PT; starting wage \$18.55/hour; effective March 15, 2023. Approve hiring Sierra Kamin as Brown County Jail Detention Officer, PT, starting wage \$16.76/hour; effective March 16, 2023. Approve hiring Brian Koens, as Brown County Jail Transport Driver, as needed; effective March 15, 2023. Approve promotion of Brett Wilson from Brown County Jail Detention Officer to Jail Shift Sergeant; starting wage \$25.18/hour; effective March 19, 2023. Approve promotion of Troy Knebel from Brown County JDC Detention Officer to JDC Shift Sergeant, starting wage \$25.18/hour; effective March 19, 2023. Approve the following Holidays off to follow the State: Good Friday, April 7, 2023 and Easter Monday, April 10, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize the Chairman sign the following lease agreements: Mosbrucker Rodeo for lease of Holum Expo Building and Expo Addition on March 31 – April 1, 2023 for Bullorama and American Foundation for Suicide Prevention for lease of Holum Expo Building on September 8, 2023 for Out of Darkness Fundraiser. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the following Travel Requests: John Florey & Nick Juenger go to Fargo, ND for ATTSA Conference on March 13-15, 2023 and Dirk Rogers go to Deadwood, SD for Superintendents Short Course on March 21-23, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: None
EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to go into executive session to discuss Contracts per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to adjourn the Brown County Commission meeting at 9:43 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor
Published March 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$72.30 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22075

Groton City March 22, 2023 Equalization

MINUTES FOR THE CITY OF GROTON LOCAL BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

The City of Groton Local Board of Equalization met on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 8:00pm at 120 N Main Street. Board members present were Mayor Scott Hanlon, Council members: Jason Wambach, Shirley Wells,

Jon Cutler, Karyn Babcock, Brian Bahr, and Kevin Nehls. Also present was Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer.

The Local Board of Equalization received one written notice of appeal in objection to property assessments from Bruce Babcock. Babcock objected based upon the fact that the lot in question, LT 12 & N 2 LT 11 BK 1 ORIG PLAT GROTON, had a west exterior door and south sliding glass door replaced which does not justify the 27% increase in total assessed value. The Local Board of Equalization made a recommendation to the Brown County Board of Equalization for a change in total valuation of the property from \$57,100 to \$50,000.

No other property owners were present on March 22nd to object to assessments. The Local Board of Equalization reviewed the property assessment list and had no recommendations for Brown County to review.

The Groton City Local Board of Equalization adjourned at 9:15 PM on a motion by Wells and seconded by Bahr. All members present voted aye.

ATTEST:
Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer

Published March 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$15.45 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22076

Columbia City March 22, 2023 Equalization

City of Columbia Equalization Meeting – Wednesday, March 22, 2023

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Present – Corey Mitchell, Cole Kampa, Meghan Butler, Cara Dennert, Emily Eichler, Trevor Meints, Jeremy Dosch

Mayor Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. There were no phone calls made to set hearing times for the meeting. No residents of the city attended the meeting to discuss the 2023 assessments.

The meeting was moved to adjourn by Emily Eichler – 2nd by Cole Kampa. All in favor – motion carried.

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

Published March 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$8.00 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22078

Columbia City March 22, 2023 Special Meeting

City of Columbia Council Special Meeting – March 22, 2023
CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Cara Dennert, Corey Mitchell, Cole Kampa, Emily Eichler, Trevor Meints, Meghan Butler, Jeremy Dosch

Mayor Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. He

called for a motion to approve the agenda. Cole Kampa made a motion to approve the posted agenda. Meghan Butler seconded the motion. All were 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 from the March 2, 2023 meeting were passed out. Meghan Butler made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

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

Cole Kampa made a motion to end the special meeting. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

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

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

Published March 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$15.18 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22077

Columbia City Notice of Election

NOTICE OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION
MUNICIPALITY OF COLUMBIA, SOUTH DAKOTA

A Municipal Election will be held on the 11th day of April, 2023, in Columbia, South Dakota. If the polls cannot be opened because of bad weather, the election may be postponed one week.

The election polls will be open from seven a.m. to seven p.m. central daylight time on the day of the election.

At the election the following office will be filled:

MAYOR – TWO YEAR TERM
Corey Mitchell
Dana Mohr

The polling place of this municipality is as follows:
Columbia American Legion – Columbia, SD

Any voter who needs assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, may contact the municipal finance officer at 605-396-2655 before the election for information on polling place accessibility for people with disabilities.

Cara Dennert
Finance Officer
The City of Columbia is an equal opportunity provider.

Published March 29, and April 5, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$23.73 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22079

Classifieds and Card of Thanks

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

1 Week: \$9 for first 30 words, 20¢/word thereafter
2 Wks: \$17 for first 30 words, 38¢/word thereafter
3 Wks: \$24 for first 30 words, 54¢/word thereafter
4th consecutive week is free
605/397-NEWS (6397)

EMPLOYMENT

DENTAL ASSISTANT: Delta Dental of South Dakota Mobile Program is seeking a Dental Assistant to join a dedicated team of professionals. Responsibilities include: chair side assistance, x-rays, patient charting, equipment sterilization, plus, greeting patients, preparing for treatment, and providing back-up support to staff when needed. Position is based in Pierre, SD with extensive travel required during the work week. Graduate from an accredited dental assisting education program or equivalent training is preferred. CPR & x-ray certification will be provided if not already obtained. Competitive salary and benefits including health, dental, vision, and 401k. Email cover letter, resume and professional references to [summer.sporrer@deltadentalsd.com](mailto:sommer.sporrer@deltadentalsd.com) or for more information contact 605-494-2569 or visit www.deltadentalsd.com.

LICENSED SOCIAL WORKER – Horizon Health Care Horizon Health Care seeks a licensed social worker to work remotely. Horizon offers competitive wage and benefits packages and student loan repayment. EOE. <https://www.horizonhealthcare.org/employment-opportunities/>

LAND

FARMLAND rents are strong. Do you need representation or a Farmland Manager? Contact Tim Peters at 605.270.9410 or tpeters@pifers.com. Pifer's Land Management, www.pifers.com

LIVESTOCK

SELLING 80 PAIRS - 40 F1 & 40 Black. Black Angus Calves at side. Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at Philip (SD) Livestock. Herber Ranch 605-488-0079 or 605-488-0360

MISCELLANEOUS

BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at AFFORDABLE PRICES! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 855-799-3330

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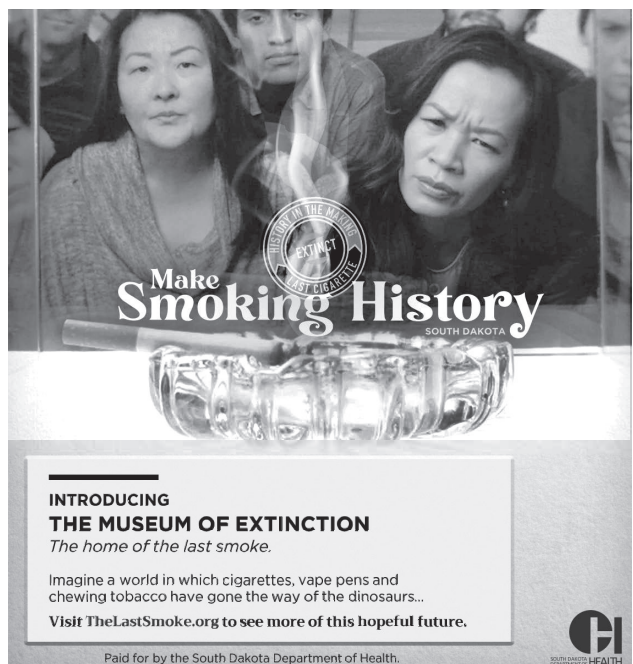
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Stratford Town Res. 2023-03

Water Rev. Bond

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-03
RESOLUTION GIVING APPROVAL TO CERTAIN DRINKING WATER FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS; GIVING APPROVAL TO THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A REVENUE BOND TO FINANCE, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, THE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE FACILITIES; APPROVING THE FORM OF THE LOAN AGREEMENT AND THE REVENUE BOND AND PLEDGING PROJECT REVENUES AND COLLATERAL TO SECURE THE PAYMENT OF THE REVENUE BOND; CREATING SPECIAL FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS FOR OPERATION OF THE SYSTEM AND RETIREMENT OF THE REVENUE BOND, AND PROVIDING FOR A SEGREGATED SPECIAL CHARGE OR SURCHARGE FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS.

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

WHEREAS, a municipality is authorized to issue revenue bonds to fund improvements, extensions and additions to its drinking water system by SDCL 9-40-6; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Stratford (the "Town") currently operates a water distribution system to supply municipal, industrial and domestic water to its inhabitants and has determined that improvements to the drinking water facilities are necessary for the conduct of its governmental programs and qualifies as an improvement, extension or addition to its drinking water system; and,

WHEREAS, the Town has determined to issue a revenue bond to finance the improvements to its system for the purpose of providing water and water supply for domestic, municipal, and industrial purposes (the "System") and has applied for a Loan to finance the improvements;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town as follows:

1. Declaration of Necessity and Determination of Facilities Financed. The Town desires and hereby determines it is necessary to construct improvements to its drinking water distribution facilities within its System, as described in Exhibit A hereto (the "Project"). The Town hereby expressly finds that if the Project is not undertaken, the System will pose a health hazard to the Town and its inhabitants. Because of the functional interdependence of the various portions of the System, the fact that the System may not lawfully operate unless it complies with state and federal laws, including SDCL Chapter 34A-3A, and the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, and the nature of the improvements financed, the City hereby determines that the Projects will substantially benefit the entire System and all of its users within the meaning of SDCL 9-40-15 and SDCL 9-40-17.

2. Approval of Loan. The Town hereby determines to finance up to \$326,000 of the costs of the Project through the issuance of utility revenue bonds (the "Revenue Bond").

3. Approval of Loan Agreement. The execution and delivery of the Revenue Obligation Loan Agreement (the "Loan Agreement") between the Town as Borrower and the South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources (the "Board"), is hereby in all respects authorized, approved and confirmed, and the Mayor and Finance Officer are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Loan Agreement in the form and content attached hereto, with such changes as the Attorney for the Town deems appropriate and approves, for and on behalf of the Town. The Mayor and Finance Officer are hereby further authorized and directed to implement and perform the covenants and

obligations of the Town set forth in or required by the Loan Agreement. The Loan Agreement herein referred to and made a part of this Resolution is on file in the office of the Finance Officer and is available for inspection by any interested party.

4. Approval of Revenue Bonds. The issuance of the Revenue Bond in aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$326,000 as determined according to the Loan Agreement in the form and content set forth in Appendix B attached to the form of Loan Agreement shall be and the same is, in all respects, hereby authorized, approved, and confirmed and the Mayor, Finance Officer, and other appropriate officials shall be and are hereby authorized and directed to execute and seal the Revenue Bond and deliver the Revenue Bond to the Board, for and on behalf of the Town, upon receipt of the purchase price, and to use the proceeds thereof in the manner set forth in the Loan Agreement. The Mayor and Finance Officer are hereby authorized to approve the final terms of the Revenue Bond and their execution and delivery thereof shall evidence that approval. The Revenue Bond shall be issued under the authority of SDCL Chapter 9-40 and SDCL Chapter 6-8B, and the provisions of the Act are hereby expressly incorporated herein as provided in SDCL 9-40-19.

5. Paying Agent/Registrar. The Revenue Bond shall be payable at the office of the Board of Water and Natural Resources. The Finance Officer is hereby designated as paying agent and registrar.

6. Project Fund Accounts. For the purpose of application and proper allocation of the income of the System and to secure the payment of principal of and interest on the Revenue Bond, the following mandatory segregation accounts shall be used solely for the following respective purposes until payment in full of the principal of and interest on the Revenue Bond:

(a) Project Revenue Account. There shall be deposited in the Project Revenue Account as received the net revenues as defined in Section 17 of the Act derived from the operation of the Project collected pursuant to the Ordinances and resolutions of the Town of Stratford South Dakota (collectively the "Rate Ordinance"). Moneys from the Project Revenue Account shall be transferred periodically into separate accounts as provided below.

(b) Operation and Maintenance Account. There shall be established the General Operation and Maintenance Account. Out of the remaining revenues of the Project Revenue Account after application described in (c) and (d) below, there shall be set aside each month into the General Operation and Maintenance Account, a sum sufficient to provide for the payment of the next month's current expenses of administration and operation of the remainder of the System and such current expenses for the maintenance thereof as may be necessary to preserve the remainder of such System in good repair and working order. The term current expenses shall be construed to include all reasonable and necessary costs of operating, repairing, maintaining and insuring the System, including without limitation salaries, supplies and rent, but shall exclude General Depreciation Account and Project Debt Service Account.

(c) Project Debt Service Account. Out of the revenues in the Project Revenue Account, there shall be set aside no later than the 25th day of each month into the account designated Project Debt Service Account, a sum sufficient to provide for the payment as the same become due of the next maturing principal and interest on, the Revenue Bond and any reserve determined by the Town Council to be necessary. The amount set aside monthly shall be not less than one-sixth of the total principal, interest, and other amounts payable on the following May 1 or November 1, and if there shall be any deficiency in the amount previously set aside, then the amount of such deficiency shall be added to the current requirement.

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

depreciation of the Project.

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

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

i. To redeem and prepay the Revenue Bond when and as such Revenue Bond become prepayable according to its terms;

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

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

iv. To be used for any other authorized municipal purpose designated by the Town Council.

No moneys shall at any time be transferred from the Project Surplus Account or any other account to any other account of the Town, nor shall such moneys at any time be loaned to other municipal funds or invested in warrants, special improvements bonds or other obligations payable from other funds, except as allowed by this Section.

7. Pledge of Special Charge or Surcharge. All users which benefit from the Project shall be charged a special charge or surcharge pursuant to Section 15 of the Act for the services provided by Project financed by the Revenue Bond. The special charge or surcharge shall be segregated from other revenues of the System and shall be used for the payment of the Revenue Bond. The special charge or surcharge shall create net income, remaining from time to time after first paying all reasonable and current expenses of maintenance, repairs, replacements and operation, sufficient to fund interest, reserve and debt service fund annual requirements and shall be 100% of the debt service requirements on the Revenue Bond. The rate herein specified will be collected as a special charge or surcharge for the Project. This special charge or surcharge shall remain in effect until such time as the Revenue Bond is defeased or paid in full. The initial special charge or surcharge shall be set by resolution and collected at the same time as other charges of the utility. All users which benefit from the Project, current and future, shall be charged the special charge or surcharge. The special charge or surcharge is found to be equitable for the services provided by the Project. The special charge or surcharge shall begin at such time as will produce sufficient revenue to pay principal of and interest on the Revenue Bond when due.

The Finance Officer shall set up bookkeeping accounts in accordance with South Dakota Legislative Audit guidelines for the segregation of the revenue and surcharge. The amount of the surcharge shall be reviewed from time to time, not less than yearly, and shall be modified in order to produce such funds as are necessary and required to comply with the Loan Agreement's rate covenant and to pay principal of and interest on the Revenue Bond when due. The surcharge may be set by resolution in accordance with this Section. The rate resolution shall be necessary for the support of government and shall be effective upon passage.

8. Additional Bonds. As permitted by SDCL 9-40-8 and SDCL 9-40-9, additional Bonds payable from revenues and income of the System may be issued, as permitted in the Loan Agreement and no provision of this Resolution shall have the effect of restricting the issuance of, or

impairing the lien of, such additional parity bonds with respect to the net revenues or income from the extensions, additions or improvements. The Town shall have the right to issue additional bonds secured by a lien subordinate to the lien from the Revenue Bond pursuant to the Loan Agreement.

9. General Covenants.

(a) The Town hereby covenants and agrees with the Board and other owners of the Revenue Bond that it will punctually perform all duties with reference to the Project, the System and the Revenue Bond required by the constitution and laws of the State of South Dakota and by this Resolution.

(b) The Town agrees and covenants that it will promptly construct the improvements included in the Project.

(c) The Town covenants and agrees that pursuant to SDCL 9-40-28 and SDCL 9-40-29, the lawful holders of the Revenue Bond shall have a statutory mortgage lien upon the System and the extensions, additions and improvements thereto acquired pursuant to the Act, until the payment in full of the principal, interest, and Administrative Surcharge on the Revenue Bond, and the Town agrees not to sell or otherwise dispose of the System, the Project, or any substantial part thereof, except as provided in the Loan Agreement and shall not establish, authorize or grant a franchise for the operation of any other utility supplying like products or services in competition therewith, or permit any person, firm or corporation to compete with it in the collection and treatment of wastewater for municipal, industrial, and domestic purposes within the Town.

(d) The Town covenants and agrees with the Board and other owners of the Revenue Bond that it will maintain the Project and the System in good condition and operate the same in an efficient manner and at a reasonable cost, so long as any portion of the Revenue Bond remain outstanding; that it will maintain insurance on the System for the benefit of the holders of the Revenue Bond in an amount which usually would be carried by private companies in a similar type of business; that it will prepare, keep and file records, statements and accounts as provided for in this Resolution and the Loan Agreement. The Revenue Bond shall refer expressly to this Resolution and the Act and shall state that it is subject to all provisions and limitations thereof pursuant to SDCL 9-40-19.

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

(f) In the event of mismanagement of the System, a default in the payment of the principal or interest of the Revenue Bond, or in any other condition thereof materially affecting the lawful holder of the Revenue Bond, or if the revenues of the Project or System are dissipated, wasted or diverted from their proper application as set forth in the Loan Agreement, Revenue Bond, or herein, the Town hereby consents to the appointment of a receiver pursuant to SDCL 9-40-33, and agrees that the receiver will have the powers set forth therein, and in SDCL 9-40-34 and SDCL 9-40-35 to operate and administer the System, and charge and collect rates as described therein.

10. Issuance without Election.

The Town hereby determines that because the Revenue Bond is issued in connection with a financing agreement described in SDCL 46A-1-49, pursuant to SDCL 9-40-15 no election is required to issue the Revenue Bond.

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

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

13. Definitions. All terms used in this Resolution which are not defined herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Loan Agreement unless the context clearly otherwise requires.

14. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect on the 21st day following its publication, unless suspended by a referendum.

Adopted at Town of Stratford, South Dakota, this 10th day of January 2023.

APPROVED:

Vern Prickett

President

Town of Stratford

(Seal)

Attest: Suzanne Moen

Finance Officer

Adopted: January 10, 2023

Approved: January 10, 2023

Published: March 29, 2023

EXHIBIT A

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

The town of Stratford is proposing to construct a 20,000-gallon ground storage tank with associated pump station and transmission line. The town also proposes to install a new 6-inch PVC water distribution system along with new water meters.

Published March 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$195.00 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22085

Stratford Town Mowing/Weed Trimming Bid

Town of Stratford

Accepting Mowing/Weed Trimming Bids

Written/electronic bids to be received no later than: 5:00 PM, April 12, 2023 Submit directly to the Finance Officer or mail to:

Town of Stratford Attn: Mowing Bids 293 Rondell Ave Stratford, SD 57474

1. Ball Park and picnic area
2. City Park
3. Lots West of the old fire hall

Bids will be opened at the meeting on April 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM at the Community Center.

Suzanne Moen, Finance Officer stratford1906@gmail.com

Published March 29 and April 5, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$14.90 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22086

Stratford Town Roofing Bid Notice

Request for Bids – Roof

The Town of Stratford is seeking bids for removal of 3 layers (down to deck), any deck repair and installation of new roofing. Dimensions are approximately 23' x 66'. Contact Board Trustee Dave Bourassa (336) 689-8189 or Finance Officer Suzanne Moen (605) 228-2039 with questions. Submit directly or mail to:

Town of Stratford Attn: Roof Bids

293 E Rondell Ave Stratford, SD 57474

Bids will be reviewed at the next regular meeting on April 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Suzanne Moen, Finance Officer

stratford1906@gmail.com

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Published March 29 and April 5, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$17.10 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22087

Stratford Town Res. 2023-02

Water Surcharge

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02
TOWN OF STRATFORD
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A SURCHARGE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO DRINKING WATER, FOR PAYMENT OF REVENUE BOND AND YEARLY REVIEW OF RATE

• Surcharge for Bond Issue. There shall be charged a monthly surcharge for the services provided by the improvement financed by the Revenue Bond Series 2022. The surcharge shall be segregated from other revenues of the utility and shall be used for the payment of the revenue bonds. Provided that such surcharge shall create net income, remaining from time to time after first paying all reasonable and current expenses of maintenance, repairs, replacements and operation, sufficient to fund interest, reserve and debt service fund annual requirements.

• Rates and collection. The Town does hereby establish the special charge or surcharge payable by each customer of its System who receives or benefits from the services of the Project. Such charge or surcharge shall be set at a level which will produce income at the times and in amounts sufficient to pay when due the principal of and interest on the Revenue Bond Series 2022 and all other payments as may be required under the loan agreement and Revenue Bond Series 2022.

• Revenue Bond Series 2022 Surcharge. The following water debt service surcharges shall be applicable to all customers served whether in or out of the Town or whether retail or sales or resale:

Revenue Bond Series 2022 Surcharge: \$21.60 per user, per month.

This surcharge shall become effective July 1, 2023.

This surcharge shall remain in effect until such time as the revenue bonds are discharged. The initial surcharge shall be collected at the same time as other charges of the water system. The surcharge is found to be equitable for the services provided by the improvement.

• Segregation. The debt service surcharge shall be segregated from other income of the Sewer System in a separate account and is pledged to the South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources for the payment of the loan payments on the Revenue Bond Series 2022.

• Yearly review. The amount of the surcharge shall be reviewed from year to year and may be modified in order to provide such funds as are set forth herein. The charges shall be reviewed yearly by Town personal and administratively adjusted, upwards or downwards, pursuant to SDCL § 9-40-15 to such amounts as may be necessary to pay principal, interest, and other charges as may become due and owing under the Revenue Bond Series 2022.

• Billing and Accounting. The surcharge shall be included in the monthly user water bill. Nothing contained herein requires the surcharge be indicated on the billing; however, the surcharge segregation shall be indicated on the books of the Town.

• Surcharge not to create constitutional indebtedness. The charges provided herein are for the purpose of paying the Revenue Bond, Series 2022 of the Town which do not constitute indebtedness within the meaning of Article XIII, Section 4 of the South Dakota Constitution.

• Severability. If any one or more of the provisions of the shall be held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, by final decree of any court of lawful jurisdiction, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision hereof.

Adopted at Town of Stratford, South Dakota, this 10th day of January 2023

APPROVED:

Vern Prickett

President

Town of Stratford

(Seal)

Attest: Suzanne Moen

Finance Officer

Adopted: January 10, 2023

Approved: January 10, 2023

Published: March 29, 2023

Published March 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$41.70 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22084

Stratford Town Res. 2023-01

Sewer Surcharge

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01
TOWN OF STRATFORD
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A SURCHARGE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO SEWER, FOR PAYMENT OF REVENUE BOND AND YEARLY REVIEW OF RATE

• Surcharge for Bond Issue. There shall be charged a monthly surcharge for the services provided by the improvement financed by the Revenue Bond Series 2022. The surcharge shall be segregated from other revenues of the utility and shall be used for the payment of the revenue bonds. Provided that such surcharge shall create net income, remaining from time to time after first paying all reasonable and current expenses of maintenance, repairs, replacements and operation, sufficient to fund interest, reserve and debt service fund annual requirements.

• Rates and collection. The Town does hereby establish the special charge or surcharge payable by each customer of its System who receives or benefits from the services of the Project. Such charge or surcharge shall be set at a level which will produce income at the times and in amounts sufficient to pay when due the principal of and interest on the Revenue Bond Series 2022 and all other payments as may be required under the loan agreement and Revenue Bond Series 2022.

• Revenue Bond Series 2022 Surcharge. The following water debt service surcharges shall be applicable to all customers served whether in or out of the Town or whether retail or sales or resale:
Revenue Bond Series 2022 Surcharge: \$8.50 per user, per month.

This surcharge shall become effective July 1, 2023.

This surcharge shall remain in effect until such time as the revenue bonds are discharged. The initial surcharge shall be collected at the same time as other charges of the water system. The surcharge is found to be equitable for the services provided by the improvement.

• Segregation. The debt service surcharge shall be segregated from other income of the Sewer System in a separate account and is pledged to the South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources for the payment of the loan payments on the Revenue Bond Series 2022.

• Yearly review. The amount of the surcharge shall be reviewed from year to year and may be modified in order to provide such funds as are set forth herein. The charges shall be reviewed yearly by Town personal and administratively adjusted, upwards or downwards, pursuant to SDCL § 9-40-15 to such amounts as may be necessary to pay principal, interest, and other charges as may become due and owing under the Revenue Bond Series 2022.

• Billing and Accounting. The surcharge shall be included in the monthly user water bill. Nothing contained herein requires the surcharge be indicated on the billing; however, the surcharge segregation shall be indicated on the books of the Town.

• Surcharge not to create constitutional indebtedness. The charges provided herein are for the purpose of paying the Revenue Bond, Series 2022 of the Town which do not constitute indebtedness within the meaning of Article XIII, Section 4 of the South Dakota Constitution.

• Severability. If any one or more of the provisions of the shall be held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, by final decree of any court of lawful jurisdiction, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision hereof.

Adopted at Town of Stratford, South Dakota, this 10th day of January 2023

APPROVED:

Vern Prickett

President

Town of Stratford

(Seal)

Attest: Suzanne Moen

Finance Officer

Adopted: January 10, 2023

Approved: January 10, 2023

Published: March 29, 2023

Published March 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$41.39 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22083

Stratford Town Res. 2023-04

Sewer Rev. Bond

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-04
RESOLUTION GIVING APPROVAL TO CERTAIN SEWER FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS; GIVING APPROVAL TO THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A REVENUE BOND TO FINANCE, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, THE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE FACILITIES; APPROVING THE FORM OF THE LOAN AGREEMENT AND THE REVENUE BOND AND PLEDGING PROJECT REVENUES AND COLLECTED TO SECURE THE PAYMENT OF THE REVENUE BOND; CREATING SPECIAL FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS FOR OPERATION OF THE SYSTEM AND RETIREMENT OF THE REVENUE BOND, AND PROVIDING FOR A SEGREGATED SPECIAL CHARGE OR SURCHARGE FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS.

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

WHEREAS, a municipality is authorized to issue revenue bonds to fund improvements, extensions and additions to its sewer system by SDCL 9-40-6; and,

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

WHEREAS, the Town has determined to issue a revenue bond to finance the improvements to its system for the purpose of providing water and water supply for domestic, municipal, and industrial purposes (the "System") and has applied for a Loan to finance the improvements;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Town as follows:

1. Declaration of Necessity and Determination of Facilities Financed. The Town desires and hereby determines it is necessary to construct improvements to its sewer facilities within its System, as described in Exhibit A hereto (the "Project"). The Town hereby expressly finds that if the Project is not undertaken, the System will pose a health hazard to the Town and its inhabitants. Because of the functional interdependence of the various portions of the System, the fact that the System may not lawfully operate unless it complies with state and federal laws, including SDCL Chapter 34A-2, and the federal Clean Water Act, and the nature of the improvements financed, the Town hereby determines that the Projects will substantially benefit the entire System and all of its users within the meaning of SDCL 9-40-15 and SDCL 9-40-17.

2. Approval of Loan. The Town hereby determines to finance up to \$128,200 of the costs of the Project through the issuance of utility revenue bonds (the "Revenue Bond").

3. Approval of Loan Agreement. The execution and delivery of the Revenue Obligation Loan Agreement (the "Loan Agreement") between the Town as Borrower and the South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources (the "Board"), is hereby in all respects authorized, approved and confirmed, and the Mayor and Finance Officer are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Loan Agreement in the form and content attached hereto, with such changes as the Attorney for the Town deems appropriate and approves, for and on behalf of the Town. The Mayor and Finance Officer are hereby further authorized and directed to implement and perform the covenants and obligations of the Town set forth in or required by the Loan Agree-

ment. The Loan Agreement herein referred to and made a part of this Resolution is on file in the office of the Finance Officer and is available for inspection by any interested party.

4. Approval of Revenue Bonds. The issuance of the Revenue Bond in aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$128,200 as determined according to the Loan Agreement in the form and content set forth in Appendix B attached to the form of Loan Agreement shall be and the same is, in all respects, hereby authorized, approved, and confirmed and the Mayor, Finance Officer, and other appropriate officials shall be and are hereby authorized and directed to execute and seal the Revenue Bond and deliver the Revenue Bond to the Board, for and on behalf of the Town, upon receipt of the purchase price, and to use the proceeds thereof in the manner set forth in the Loan Agreement. The Mayor and Finance Officer are hereby authorized to approve the final terms of the Revenue Bond and their execution and delivery thereof shall evidence that approval. The Revenue Bond shall be issued under the authority of SDCL Chapter 9-40 and SDCL Chapter 6-8B, and the provisions of the Act are hereby expressly incorporated herein as provided in SDCL 9-40-19.

5. Paying Agent/Registrar. The Revenue Bond shall be payable at the office of the Board of Water and Natural Resources. The Finance Officer is hereby designated as paying agent and registrar.

6. Project Fund Accounts. For the purpose of application and proper allocation of the income of the System and to secure the payment of principal of and interest on the Revenue Bond, the following mandatory segregation accounts shall be used solely for the following respective purposes until payment in full of the principal of and interest on the Revenue Bond:

(a) Project Revenue Account. There shall be deposited in the Project Revenue Account as received the net revenues as defined in Section 17 of the Act derived from the operation of the Project collected pursuant to the Ordinances and resolutions of the Town of Stratford South Dakota (collectively the "Rate Ordinance"). Moneys from the Project Revenue Account shall be transferred periodically into separate accounts as provided below.

(b) Operation and Maintenance Account. There shall be established the General Operation and Maintenance Account. Out of the remaining revenues of the Project Revenue Account after application described in (c) and (d) below, there shall be set aside each month into the General Operation and Maintenance Account, a sum sufficient to provide for the payment of the next month's current expenses of administration and operation of the remainder of the System and such current expenses for the maintenance thereof as may be necessary to preserve the remainder of such System in good repair and working order. The term current expenses shall be construed to include all reasonable and necessary costs of operating, repairing, maintaining and insuring the System, including without limitation salaries, supplies and rent t, but shall exclude General Depreciation Account and Project Debt Service Account.

(c) Project Debt Service Account. Out of the revenues in the Project Revenue Account, there shall be set aside no later than the 25th day of each month into the account designated Project Debt Service Account, a sum sufficient to provide for the payment as the same become due of the next maturing principal and interest on, the Revenue Bond and any reserve determined by the Town Council to be necessary. The amount set aside monthly shall be not less than one-sixth of the total principal, interest, and other amounts payable on the following May 1 or November 1, and if there shall be any deficiency in the amount previously set aside, then the amount of such deficiency shall be added to the current requirement.

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

(e) Project Surplus Account.

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

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

i. To redeem and prepay the Revenue Bond when and as such Revenue Bond become prepayable according to its terms;

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

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

iv. To be used for any other authorized municipal purpose designated by the Town Council.

No moneys shall at any time be transferred from the Project Surplus Account or any other account to any other account of the Town, nor shall such moneys at any time be loaned to other municipal funds or invested in warrants, special improvements bonds or other obligations payable from other funds, except as allowed by this Section.

7. Pledge of Special Charge or Surcharge. All users which benefit from the Project shall be charged a special charge or surcharge pursuant to Section 15 of the Act for the services provided by Project financed by the Revenue Bond. The special charge or surcharge shall be segregated from other revenues of the System and shall be used for the payment of the Revenue Bond. The special charge or surcharge shall create net income, remaining from time to time after first paying all reasonable and current expenses of maintenance, repairs, replacements and operation, sufficient to fund interest, reserve and debt service fund annual requirements and shall be 100% of the debt service requirements on the Revenue Bond. The rate herein specified will be collected as a special charge or surcharge for the Project. This special charge or surcharge shall remain in effect until such time as the Revenue Bond is defeated or paid in full. The initial special charge or surcharge shall be set by resolution and collected at the same time as other charges of the utility. All users which benefit from the Project, current and future, shall be charged the special charge or surcharge. The special charge or surcharge is found to be equitable for the services provided by the Project. The special charge or surcharge shall begin at such time as will produce sufficient revenue to pay principal of and interest on the Revenue Bond when due.

The Finance Officer shall set up bookkeeping accounts in accordance with South Dakota Legislative Audit guidelines for the segregation of the revenue and surcharge. The amount of the surcharge shall be reviewed from time to time, not less than yearly, and shall be modified in order to produce such funds as are necessary and required to comply with the Loan Agreement's rate covenant and to pay principal of and interest on the Revenue Bond when due. The surcharge may be set by resolution in accordance with this Section. The rate resolution shall be necessary for the support of government and shall be effective upon passage.

8. Additional Bonds. As permitted by SDCL 9-40-8 and SDCL 9-40-9, additional Bonds payable from revenues and income of the System may be issued, as permitted in the Loan Agreement and no provision of this Resolution shall have the effect

of restricting the issuance of, or impairing the lien of, such additional parity bonds with respect to the net revenues or income from the extensions, additions or improvements. The Town shall have the right to issue additional bonds secured by a lien subordinate to the lien from the Revenue Bond pursuant to the Loan Agreement.

9. General Covenants.

(a) The Town hereby covenants and agrees with the Board and other owners of the Revenue Bond that it will punctually perform all duties with reference to the Project, the System and the Revenue Bond required by the constitution and laws of the State of South Dakota and by this Resolution.

(b) The Town agrees and covenants that it will promptly construct the improvements included in the Project.

(c) The Town covenants and agrees that pursuant to SDCL 9-40-28 and SDCL 9-40-29, the lawful holders of the Revenue Bond shall have a statutory mortgage lien upon the System and the extensions, additions and improvements thereto acquired pursuant to the Act, until the payment in full of the principal, interest, and Administrative Surcharge on the Revenue Bond, and the Town agrees not to sell or otherwise dispose of the System, the Project, or any substantial part thereof, except as provided in the Loan Agreement and shall not establish, authorize or grant a franchise for the operation of any other utility supplying like products or services in competition therewith, or permit any person, firm or corporation to compete with it in the collection and treatment of wastewater for municipal, industrial, and domestic purposes within the Town.

(d) The Town covenants and agrees with the Board and other owners of the Revenue Bond that it will maintain the Project and the System in good condition and operate the same in an efficient manner and at a reasonable cost, so long as any portion of the Revenue Bond remain outstanding; that it will maintain insurance on the System for the benefit of the holders of the Revenue Bond in an amount which usually would be carried by private companies in a similar type of business; that it will prepare, keep and file records, statements and accounts as provided for in this Resolution and the Loan Agreement. The Revenue Bond shall refer expressly to this Resolution and the Act and shall state that it is subject to all provisions and limitations thereof pursuant to SDCL 9-40-19.

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

(f) In the event of mismanagement of the System, a default in the payment of the principal or interest of the Revenue Bond, or in any other condition thereof materially affecting the lawful holder of the Revenue Bond, or if the revenues of the Project or System are dissipated, wasted or diverted from their proper application as set forth in the Loan Agreement, Revenue Bond, or herein, the Town hereby consents to the appointment of a receiver pursuant to SDCL 9-40-33, and agrees that the receiver will have the powers set forth therein, and in SDCL 9-40-34 and SDCL 9-40-35 to operate and administer the System, and charge and collect rates as described therein.

10. Issuance without Election. The Town hereby determines that because the Revenue Bond is issued in connection with a financing agreement described in SDCL 46A-1-49, pursuant to SDCL 9-40-15 no election is required to issue the Revenue Bond.

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

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

13. Definitions. All terms used in this Resolution which are not defined herein shall have the meanings assigned to them in the Loan Agreement unless the context clearly otherwise requires.

14. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect on the 21st day following its publication, unless suspended by a referendum.

Adopted at Town of Stratford, South Dakota, this 10th day of January 2023.

APPROVED:

Vern Prickett

President

Town of Stratford

(Seal)

Attest: Suzanne Moen

Finance Officer

Adopted: January 10, 2023

Approved: January 10, 2023

Published: March 29, 2023

EXHIBIT A

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJ-

ECT

The town of Stratford is proposing to clean and televise the entire town to identify any critical structural deficiencies in their systems. The town also proposes to make general improvements to the existing treatment facility including adding perimeter fencing and an access road to allow the operator to continue to operate and maintain the treatment facility.

Published March 29, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$196.22 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22088

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4.11.2023

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School board finding alternative to bus bid, moves forward with health lab renovations, hires new teachers

By Elizabeth Varin

Frustration was evident as the Groton Area School District board looked into where to find a bus after plans fell through for a second time.

So instead of requesting more bids for a bus, the board approved contracting to cut down on some of the waiting time.

The school board opened bids February 13 for a new school bus. The board voted to purchase a bus from Harlow's Bus Sales for \$111,680.70.

However, Superintendent Joe Schwan said, since that bid was opened, the prices have increased to about \$117,000. This is the second time the district has had a signed bid price change for a bus.

Schwan presented three options to the board at Monday's meeting: buy the bus from Harlow's Bus Sales at the higher price, go out to bid for another bus or contract with a purchasing cooperative.

Sourcwell, based in Staples, Minn., solicits contracts for products and service for government agencies including state and local governments, higher education and K-12 school districts.

A lot of school district utilize Sourcwell, Schwan told the board. Buses in particular have become a popular thing schools look for through the company.

Schwan recommended contracting with Sourcwell to avoid going to bid and push the issue back another four to six weeks. Even without that delay, he said, a new bus still takes 12 to 18 months to get.

Board President Deb Gengerke asked whether the district could take legal action against the bus company that was awarded the bid in order to get the originally-agreed-upon price.

That could be an option, Schwan said. However, a lawsuit may take a few years to be resolved, and until then, the district would be out a bus.

Board member Grant Rix asked if contracting with Sourcwell could allow the district to find other things the schools could use.

Sourcwell finds contracts not only for vehicles, but the company could also help the district bid for big projects, Schwan said. When the district was looking to get the track resurfaced, Sourcwell was an option to find companies that could do that work.

"I say we use Sourcwell," Rix said.

"Me too," said board Vice President Marty Weismantel.

The board also voted to contract with Huff Construction for renovations to the health science laboratory at the high school.

Huff Construction of Aberdeen will be the general contractor for the project, which includes removing the current science lab tables, some built-in cabinets and the flooring. The contractor will also put in new flooring similar to what is in the elementary school common area, update lighting, add in stainless steel sinks and paint the interior of the lab.

Included in the project is abating asbestos that was found to be in the flooring.

The total project cost is estimated at \$82,242, Schwan said. That price could move up or down depending on how much the asbestos abatement ends of costing.

Board Vice President Weismantel asked if money for the renovation was coming from the \$236,522 state Department of Education Career and Technical Education Innovative Equipment Grant. Superintendent Schwan replied that grant cannot be used on renovations for the building, but rather is set aside for equipment in the lab. Money for the renovation is coming from some shifting in the capital outlay plan.

One new face and a returning one are joining the Tigers for the next school year.

The school district board approved hiring Brittany Hubbard as science/health science teacher and oral interpretation advisor for the 2023-2024 school year. The board also voted to hire Eric Swenson as middle school math teacher for the next school year.

Hubbard returns to Groton having been a student teacher at the district a few years ago, said Superintendent Schwan. She currently works Holgate Middle School in Aberdeen as a sixth grade science teacher and study skills instructor, as well as doing athletic training for Avera.

"It makes her uniquely qualified to take over this health science lab," Schwan said.

While Hubbard will be a familiar face, also having been an athletic trainer at some Groton athletics, Swenson will be new to the district.

Swenson currently teaches at the Aberdeen Catholic School District, serving as Roncalli High School general math and algebra 1 teacher. He also teaches eighth grade math and algebra 1 at Roncalli Junior High School, according to the state's teacher database.

Closer to home, Carla Tracy, co-owner of Beauty Brew Boutique, was approved as a volunteer assistant track coach for the 2023 season.

- The board voted to keep the same health insurance plans available to staff for the next school year. Other options available were presented, including a higher deductible plan. Board President Gengerke asked if there was any feedback from the teachers, to which Business Manager Mike Weber said, "I don't think they want to change plans, but they understand it's your prerogative to change that."

- Julie Milbrandt and Joni Groeblichhoff presented an overview of Destination Imagination. The program, open to kindergarten through 12th graders, involves students working together to solve open-ended science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics challenges. Groton Area has three teams this year, an elementary school level group and two early learning groups. There were no region competitions this year due to a lack of numbers across the state, Groeblichhoff told the board. However, there will still be a state competition on April 1 in Pierre.

- Adam Franken told the board about the agriculture classes available at the high school. This school year includes two horticulture classes, ag business and introduction to agriculture, as well as units on wildlife and fisheries, agriculture processing, plant science and animal science. He is teaching between 90 and 95 students this year through the fall and spring semesters.

- The Groton FFA chapter is in the middle of its contest season, Franken said. On Tuesday, FFA members will travel to Miller for a contest, followed by Little International at South Dakota State University on Friday. On April 6, as many as 900 FFA students from around the region are set to be at the Groton FFA Career and

Technical Education contest.

- Lindsey Tietz told the school board she continues to adapt her family and consumer science classes to the needs of the students. This year has included trips with some of her classes to Common Cents Thrift Store to show students how to repurpose and recycle items, as well as how to stretch their budgets.

- The Family, Career and Community Leaders of America group at the high school is comprised of nearly 40 members this year and is working on community service projects, Tietz told the board. There are also strong leadership amongst the group, which will make for a good team next year.

- Business-related classes are continuing strong, said Becky Hubsch, business and computer teacher. Subjects in classes include introduction to business, specialized accounting, personal finance and more. A portion of that also includes students learning the business software QuickBooks. "Kids who are going into this, this is something they're going to use, so why not teach it to them," Hubsch said.

- New medical-related classes are also taking place at the high school, Hubsch told the board. The fall semester saw 20 students in the introduction to medical terminology class, while 17 students are currently in the introduction to sports science class.

- Students in sixth, seventh, eighth and 11th grade start the Smarter Balance testing this week, said middle and high school Principal Kiersten Sombke. Testing should be finished by April 13.

- The door replacement project at the old gymnasium is set to be completed Tuesday, Superintendent Schwan said.

Antonsen places third at Miller CDE

The Groton CDE team went to Miller on Tuesday where Kaleb Antonsen placed third in Ag Business Management. The Horse Evaluation team placed fourth and the Agronomy team placed sixth.

Ag Business Management: Kaleb Antonsen – 3rd Place, Ethan Gengerke – 15th Place

Ag Mechanics: Nick Morris – 58th

Agronomy – 6th Place Team: Kellen Antonsen – 10th Place, Payton Mitchel – 30th Place, Logan Warrington – 33rd Place

Horse Evaluation – 4th Place team: Jayla Jones – 5th Place, Delayne Jones – 7th Place, Austin Aberle – 36th Place

Livestock Evaluation: Lexi Osterman – 23rd Place

Milk Quality: Layne Hanson – 10th Place, Hannah Monson – 13th Place

Natural Resources: Charlie Frost – 68th Place

Vet Science: Ashlyn Sperry – 10th Place, Ava Wienk – 42nd Place

Frederick School Notice of Election

NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION
FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6-2
A School District Election will be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, in all the voting precincts in School District No. 6-2, Frederick, South Dakota. If the polls cannot be opened because of bad weather, the election may be postponed one week.

The election polls will be open from seven a.m. to seven p.m. central time on the day of the election.

School Board Member – Three Year Term
School Board Member – Three Year Term

Candidates:
Jonathan Ellwein
Eric Sumption
Derik Bretsch

The polling place in each precinct of this district is as follows:
Frederick Community Center – Precinct 22
Westport Town Hall – Precinct 14

Any voter who needs assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, may contact the school business manager at (605) 329-2355 before the election for information on polling place accessibility for people with disabilities.

Shauna Severson
Business Manager
Published March 29 and April 5, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$26.49 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpulicnotices.com. 22089

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Groton's future - housing - day care - economic director

The future of Groton was the discussion at an economic development meeting held Friday at City Hall. The event was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM.

Laure Swanson, partner relations representative of the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), and Paula Jensen, Vice President of Program Development of Dakota Resources were on hand to help answer questions.

Housing, daycare and an economic development director had the bulk of the discussion.

Housing assistance

Swanson pointed out that there are a number of resources available through her office. They help with the Community Development Block Grant which helps with infrastructure projects and also point cities to the Northeast Council of Government (NECOG) for planning. She said their website at sdgoed.com has a community partner page that has several tabs for information to help communities.

Swanson said she started working for GOED about 10 months ago, filling a vacancy that has left Northeast South Dakota void with economic guidance. "I want Northeast South Dakota to prosper," she said.

There was a lot of discussion about housing; however, it was pointed out that Groton does not have a housing study. "You need to have data," Jensen said. "Housing is a real issue in Groton. How do you know that besides people saying it. You need that data to back you up and to apply for grants." She said that a market study could be done through a third party. "You're not going to get a housing needs study done in the next 12 months unless you get a third party to do it," Jensen said. "Campbell County did its own study and the SD Housing accepted it. Their director did it and it took a lot of work."

HAPI Homes (Homes Are possible Inc.) out of Aberdeen has been active not only in Aberdeen, but other communities as well. They are currently helping to set up an organization in Mitchell. They just started out lending to people to buy homes, but now they have four different huge housing developments in Aberdeen and are doing a Rehab program. "The rehab program helps keep houses in circulation and in good condition," Swanson said.

Examples of what is happening in other area communities were given.

Grow Spink out of Redfield is building houses in Northville and Mellette. One to two homes a year are being built in Redfield by the corporation because no one is building them. GROW SD is also a partner with them. Once a home is sold, the money is used to build another home.

In Faulkton, there is a coalition of investors and the development corporation. Jensen said that someone donated the land, a TIF was used to put in the infrastructure and they had access to loans to help pay off the TIF (Tax Increment Financing). There are 24 housing lots available.

Chamberlain is giving away lots and so far, they have given away eight of their 11 lots. In addition, they have worked with the town of Pukwana and lots in Pukwana have also been donated to the corporation for housing development.

"Housing developments are popping up in many small towns in South Dakota," Jensen said.

There is a new housing program that came out of the legislature this year where 70 percent of that money is allocated for use by smaller communities.

Deb and Austin Scheulke were at the meeting and they have property that could possibly be developed. Deb said, "It's a catch 22 that we're in. Let's say we want to develop some of our land. We would need the city to put in the infrastructure out there. Until the city commits, we have a tough time pulling the trigger to come up with a development plan."

Jensen said that is exactly what Faulkton

went through. The city said no - so they got the TIF and the development corporation put in the infrastructure. "Communities have solved all those problems," Jensen said. "They have come up with ways to work around them."

Day Care Assistance

There there was discussion on day care. "Housing and day care go hand in hand," Swanson said. "Everyone is in the same boat. Aberdeen received a CDGB grant for a day care."

State funded day cares have taken on various shapes, according to Swanson. They talked about Doland and that the city owns, maintains and hires the employees for their day care. "They have 20 kids in a town of 200 people," Swanson said. It has been in operation for 5-6 years.

"It takes a leader," Jensen said. "There needs to be a champion in the community that will rise up." It was said that teachers in Doland were taking their children to day care facilities in Redfield and Clark. Now that there is a day care in Doland, they are bringing their children there and there a good chance those children will also attend school in Doland instead of somewhere else.

Hoven and Gettysburg are partnering to create a third day care facility in Hoven. It was pointed out that a licensed director in Gettysburg is working with Hoven and they are using her license to get the facility going. "The Dept. of Social Services provides grants to day cares for equipment," Swanson said. She also pointed out that there are full ride scholarships for someone who wants to pursue a child development degree.

Chamberlain, Brookings and Custer are new Early Learner Sites through the state. Mitchell is providing a building for free to keep the cost down on a day care.

Cheryl Kampa is retiring as a day care provider in Columbia, but a new state licensed person will be stepping in to take over.

Karyn Babcock said, "It would make sense for us to locate a place, easy on easy off the highway, to have a daycare. We need a permanent day care." Property west of SD 37 west of the school was talked about as a good site for a day care.

Economic Development Director

Then the third element that was brought up was an economic development director.

"You need to have an economic development director in your community wake up every morning and say my job is to make my community a better place," Jensen said. "Swanson added, "It makes all the difference in a progressive community because it's their job. You could have been a couple of years ahead, possibly, if you would have had an economic development director. Some communities have a regional director." One director in Sioux Falls serves 15 communities. "Regionalsim is an option if you can't get one for yourself," Swanson said.

Paying someone in that position is a challenge in smaller communities. Jensen said that a statewide survey was done a couple of years ago and the average statewide salary for a development director is \$55,000. "That's right in the middle. There are communities paying less and some paying a lot more," Jensen said.

Tom Mahan said that it would be best to partner with a few other communities and pay someone a decent salary to serve all of them.

An economic development director would work independent from the city. They would answer to a board. The city could still have a vote at the table, but they would not dictate the duties of the director.

Thirty-nine years ago, the Groton Development Partnership was formed and land was bought at \$700 an acre. There were 28 people in the original partnership. The partnership was dissolved last year (with just 10 members left) and the property they had acquired that was left was sold for \$8,000 an acre. Mahan,

a member of the former partnership, said that a corporation was formed. "I would like to see a rekindling of the corporation," he said. Swanson said that money from the corporation could be used to help fund a director in the community, even if it's just part time.

The question was asked if there would be enough work for a director. Swanson said that person would respond to many questions and they would make things happen. They could work on housing concerns, day care concerns, economic development, and the like. "Economic development is not immediate," Swanson said. "It's planning for the future."

Often times, there are naysayers in a community. Mayor Scott Hanlon said when people talk about the pool or baseball, "I tell them it's for the kids. They are our future." Mahan said, "No matter how good of an idea you have - half the people don't want it. And they're the only ones you hear from. You know you're on the right track. Stay on it."

Other things that need to be done are a capital improvement plan and a comprehensive plan, which NECOG could help and should be encouraging communities to do.

Swanson asked, "Who is getting your RFPs?" (Request for Proposals). They come from the state. No one knew if Groton was getting any. A director would help with something like that. "You missed out on opportunities for businesses to come into your community," Swanson said.

For someone new as an economic development director, there are training options available. In fact, many of them. Swanson her office has meetings to help people get in touch with the resources they need. Jensen said there is coating available through Dakota Resources and GrowSD. "There is a lot of support for new economic development directors," Jensen said.

Now What?

So what now? The last time the city had a serious economic development meeting was November 14, 2021. "We need to have another meeting," said Bruce Babcock, "not just an annual meeting. We need to have another meeting and get after it." Karyn Babcock said meetings like every two weeks or at least monthly should be held. Mayor Hanlon said this meeting was good. "It's nice to talk with you guys," Hanlon said. "It gets us fired up."

Mahan said, "We have some great stuff on the table here. Let's do something with it."

- Paul Kosel

Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League

Team Standings: Shihtzus - 18, Jackelopes - 12 1/2, Foxes - 12 1/2, Chipmunks - 11 1/2, Cheetahs - 9, Coyotes - 8 1/2

Men's High Games: Roger Spanier - 224, Brad Waage - 209, Brad Larson - 201

Women's High Games: Darci Spanier - 179, Sam Bahr - 170, 167, Vicki Walter - 170, 163

Men's High Series: Roger Spanier - 578, Brad Waage - 571, Brad Larson - 546

Women's High Series: Sam Bahr - 498, Vicki Walter - 474, Sue Stanley - 455



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Groton Community April Calendar

Saturday, April 1

Easter Egg Hunt at the Groton Area Elementary School, 10 a.m. (alternate date is April 8)
 Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Catholic: SEAS Confession, 3:45-4:15 p.m.; SEAS Mass, 4:30 p.m.
 St. John's Lutheran: Questioning Confirmations, 5 p.m.
 Dueling Duo at Groton Legion, 6 p.m.
 State DI Tournament in Pierre

Sunday, April 2

PALM SUNDAY
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship with communion, 9 a.m. (Procession of Palms), No Sunday school Choir, 7 p.m.
 Groton CM&A: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.; Hymn Sign/Night of worship with cookies/bars to follow, 6 p.m.
 Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m., SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.; SEAS Confession, 4-5 p.m.
 St. John's Lutheran: Worship with communion at St. John's, 9 a.m., and Zion, 11 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.
 United Methodist: Worship with communion at Conde, 8:30 a.m. and at Groton, 10:30 a.m.; Coffee hour, 9:30 a.m.; Dessert Auction for Mission, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School sing in worship, 10:30 a.m.; Family Feast following worship RSVP Pastor Brandon, 11:30 a.m.
 POPS Concert, 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Monday, April 3

School Breakfast: Egg bake.
 School Lunch: Pepperoni pizza, green beans.
 Catholic: SEAS Confession, 12:00 noon, 7:00 - 8:00 pm
 Senior Menu: Sloppy Joe on bun, oven roasted potatoes, mixed vegetables, ice cream sundaes.
 The Pantry, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, April 4

School Breakfast: Egg and cheese wraps.
 School Lunch: Tacos
 Senior Menu: Chicken Alfredo, broccoli and cauliflower, peaches, whole wheat bread.
 Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
 The Pantry, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
 City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
 St. John's Lutheran: Ladies Aid LWML, 1 p.m.

Wednesday, April 5

School Breakfast: Hashbrown pizza.
 School Lunch: Garlic cheese bread, cooked carrots.
 Senior Menu: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, carrots and peas, Mandarin oranges, pineapple, whole wheat bread.
 Living Stations at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, 7 p.m.; SEAS Confession after Living Stations.
 Groton CM&A: Kids' Club, Youth Group and Adult Bible Study begins at 7 pm
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Sarah Circle, 5 p.m.; Confirmation and League attend Stations of the Cross at SEAS, 6:30 p.m.
 St. John's Lutheran: Bible Study, 2:45 p.m.
 United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Book Study with Lindsey Tietz, 4 p.m.; Confirmation, 4 p.m.
 Chamber Meeting, noon, at City Hall

Thursday, April 6

School Breakfast: Oatmeal.
 School Lunch: Pasta and meat sauce.
 Senior Menu: BBQ Chicken breast, rice pilaf, mixed vegetables, fruit, cookie.
 Catholic: Holy Thursday Mass 7:00 pm with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 10:00 pm
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Nigeria Circle, 2 p.m.; Worship with communion, 7 p.m.
 St. John's Lutheran: Maundy Thursday Service with Communion, 7 p.m.
 FFA Career Development Event in Groton, 9 a.m.

Friday, April 7

Good Friday
 City Hall Closed, No School
 Ecumenical Service at Methodist Church, 7 p.m.
 Catholic: Liturgy of the Passion 7:00 pm
 St. John's Lutheran: Good Friday Service, 7 p.m.
 Track at Hitchcock-Tulare, 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, April 8

Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Catholic: SEAS Confession, 3:45-4:15 p.m.; SEAS Mass, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 9

EASTER SUNDAY
 Groton CM&A: Breakfast, 9:30 a.m., Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.
 Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m., SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Sunrise Service with communion, 7 a.m.; Breakfast between services; Worship with communion, 9:30 a.m.
 St. John's Lutheran: Worship at Zion, 7:30 a.m., and at St. John's, 9 a.m.
 United Methodist: Groton Sunrise service, 7 a.m.; Groton Breakfast, 8 a.m.; Conde worship, 8:30 a.m.; Easter egg hunt after breakfast, 8:30 a.m.

Monday, April 10

City Hall Closed
 Senior Menu: Hamburger cabbage roll hot dish, corn, pears, muffins.
 School Breakfast: Cereal.
 School Lunch: Chicken and dumpling soup.
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6 p.m.
 United Methodist: PEO meeting (outside group), 7 p.m.
 Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center, 1 p.m.
 School Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 11

Senior Menu: Pork cutlet, creamy noodles, mixed vegetables, blushing pears, whole wheat bread.
 School Breakfast: French toast.
 School Lunch: Lasagna hot dish, corn.
 Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
 The Pantry, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Council, 7 p.m.
 United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m.
 Groton Area Track Meet, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, April 12

Senior Menu: Roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, fruit cocktail, whole wheat bread.
 School Breakfast: Egg omelets.
 School Lunch: Nachos.
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 6 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Bible Study, 2:45 p.m.
 United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Book Study with Lindsey Tietz, 4 p.m.; Confirmation, 4 p.m.

Thursday, April 13

Senior Menu: Hamburger on bun with lettuce, tomato and onion, potato salad, cucumber salad, fresh fruit.
 School Breakfast: Muffins.
 School Lunch: Chicken sandwich, fries.

Friday, April 14

Senior Menu: Potato soup, ham salad sandwich, tomato spoon salad, carrot bars
 School Breakfast: Eggs and sausage.
 School Lunch: Pizza crunchers, peas.
 All School Play, 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 15

Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Catholic: SEAS Confession, 3:45-4:15 p.m.; SEAS Mass, 4:30 p.m. Easter Vigil 7:30 pm
 Emmanuel Lutheran worship at Rosewood Court, 10 a.m.
 All School Play, 4 p.m.

Sunday, April 16

Groton CM&A: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.
 Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m., SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship with communion, 9 a.m.; Sunday school, 10:15 a.m.; Worship at Avantara, 3 p.m.; Choir, 7 p.m.
 St. John's Lutheran: Worship with communion at St. John's, 9 a.m., and Zion, 11 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.
 United Methodist: Conde worship, 8:30 a.m.; Coffee hour, 9:30 a.m.; Groton worship, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school after children's sermon in worship, 10:30 a.m.
 State FFA Convention at SDSU, Brookings

Monday, April 17

Senior Menu: Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, carrots, fruit, whole wheat bread.
 School Breakfast: Waffles
 School Lunch: Chicken nuggets, tater tots.
 Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center, 1 p.m.
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6 p.m.
 St. John's Lutheran: Christian Literature Circle, 7:30 p.m.
 State FFA Convention at SDSU, Brookings

Tuesday, April 18

Senior Menu: Creamed chicken, buttermilk biscuit, winter bled vegetables, cookie, apricots.
 School Breakfast: Breakfast sandwich.
 School Lunch: Sub sandwiches, chips
 Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
 The Pantry, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
 St. John's Lutheran: Quilting, 9 a.m.
 United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m.; Conde Ad Council
 State FFA Convention at SDSU, Brookings
 Track at Britton-Hecla, 2 p.m.

Wednesday, April 19

Senior Menu: Ham, au gratin potatoes, cauliflower, tropical fruit, whole wheat bread.
 School Breakfast: Eggs and breakfast potatoes.
 School Lunch: Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 6 p.m.; League, 6:30 p.m.
 St. John's Lutheran: Bible Study, 2:45 p.m.

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United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Book Study with Lindsey Tietz, 4 p.m.; Confirmation, 4 p.m.; Groton Ad Council, 7 p.m.
FCCLA Banquet, 6 p.m.

Thursday, April 20

Senior Menu: Baked cod, macaroni and cheese, spinach salad, fruit cocktail, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Stuffed bagels.
School Lunch: Hamburgers, fries.
United Methodist: Newsletter times due.

Friday, April 21

Senior Menu: Bratwurst on bun, sauerkraut, 3 bean salad, chocolate pudding with bananas.
School Breakfast: Biscuits and jelly.
School Lunch: Pizza, green beans.

Saturday, April 22 - EARTH DAY

Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Catholic: SEAS Confession, 3:45-4:15 p.m.; SEAS Mass, 4:30 p.m.
GHS Prom, 8 p.m.
Firemen's Spring Social, 7 p.m.

Sunday, April 23

Groton CM&A: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.
Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m., SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday school, 10:15 a.m.; Choir, 7 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Worship at St. John's, 9 a.m., and at Zion, 11 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.
United Methodist: Conde worship, 8:30 a.m.; Coffee hour, 9:30 a.m.; Groton worship, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school after children's sermon in worship, 10:30 a.m.

Monday, April 24

Senior Menu: Ranch chicken breast, boiled potato, mixed vegetables, pineapple tidbits, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Egg bake.
School Lunch: Taco salads.
Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center with potluck at noon.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6 p.m.
United Methodist: PEO meeting (outside group), 7 p.m.
Girls Golf at Redfield Golf Course, 10 a.m.
School Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 25

Senior Menu: Beef stroganoff noodles, squash, cookie, apple sauce.
School Breakfast: Egg omelets.
School Lunch: Meat balls, mashed potatoes.
Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
The Pantry, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m.
Ag Fair in Aberdeen.
Groton Area Track Meet, 11 a.m.

Wednesday, April 26

Senior Menu: Meat loaf, scalloped potatoes, creamed peas, honey fruit salad, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Hashbrown pizza.
School Lunch: Chicken strips, sweet potato puffs.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 6 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Bible Study, 2:45 p.m.
United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Book Study with Lindsey Tietz, 4 p.m.; Confirmation, 4 p.m.
Baseball, Softball, T-Ball Parent Meeting at the Groton Legion, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 27

Senior Menu: Beef stew, biscuit, tossed salad, rainbow sherbert.
School Breakfast: Oatmeal.
School Lunch: Hot dogs, baked beans.
Girls Golf Meet at Milbank Golf Course, 10 a.m.
Middle School Spring Concert, 7 p.m.

Friday, April 28

Senior Menu: Chicken pasta salad, grape juice, breadstick, apple crisp.
School Breakfast: Cereal.
School Lunch: Mac and cheese, peas.
Track at Webster Area, 10 a.m.

Saturday, April 29

Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Catholic: SEAS Confession, 3:45-4:15 p.m.;

SEAS Mass, 4:30 p.m.
Middle School Band Contest at GHS Gym.

Sunday, April 30

Groton CM&A: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.
Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m., SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship with communion, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.; Choir, 7 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Worship at St. John's, 9 a.m., and at Zion, 11 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.
United Methodist: Conde worship, 8:30 a.m.; Coffee hour, 9:30 a.m.; Groton worship, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school after children's sermon in worship, 10:30 a.m.

Stary has music clinic with Groton Area students

Ron Stary is a retired band director from Brookings. Desiree Yeigh brought him in as a clinician to work with the kids on their contest music. He was also one of our judges for the Lake Region Marching Festival this past fall.

The 8-12 Band got a special treat by having a session with Mr. Ron Stary. He taught the band a new warmup routine and pushed them with their Contest Pieces that they performed on Wednesday NSU in the JFAC Theatre in which they received superiors from all three judges!

Ron Stary wrote on his Facebook Page: "Always the biggest honor to be invited into a fellow band directors room as a guest clinician.

"It such an enjoyable one because 1) all the work Dez Yeigh has put into building a great culture at Groton and 2) successfully hitting a number of the goals we have for running any band clinic. Love when it clicks!

"*Reinforcing and emphasizing all the hard work and goals the Band Director has set out to accomplish

"*Motivate and inspiring students to go next level! *Push them in a fun way that can get momentarily lost in the day to day routines

"*Give away tangible axioms, exercises, and rehearsal strategies that can be easily integrated in the band Directors daily routine seamlessly cause it resonates!

" It's positivity electrifying to stand in front of your group feeling trust, musicality, and confidence grow in students! "



Dear EarthTalk: I've heard that gas stoves are bad for indoor air quality, but what about gas furnaces and other gas-powered appliances typically found in homes?
 - L.J., Ronkonkoma, NY

Natural gas is almost as ubiquitous an energy source in American households as electricity. Indeed, 48 percent of U.S. homes stay warm with gas-powered furnaces while 38 percent do their cooking with gas. But recent revelations about the negative effect cooking with gas can have on indoor air pollution has given rise to new concerns about other types of gas-powered appliances inside our homes as well.

Gas cooktops may be the biggest offender given how much pollution they throw off when we use them, but gas-powered ovens, water heaters, clothes dryers and fireplaces are also worthy of concern. Gas-powered appliances emit carbon monoxide (CO), a colorless, odorless gas that, when inhaled, can cause headaches, dizziness, nausea—even death in high concentrations. Modern furnaces and appliances have safety features to prevent dangerous levels from building up, but they can still emit small amounts of CO.

Another concern with gas-powered appliances is the emission of nitrogen dioxide (NO2). NO2 is a reddish-brown gas that can

irritate the eyes, nose and throat. It can also exacerbate respiratory conditions such as asthma and bronchitis. Gas stoves are the primary source of indoor NO2, but gas furnaces and other gas-powered appliances can also produce it. Gas-powered appliances also emit particulate matter (PM), another type of indoor air pollution. PM is a mixture of tiny particles that can be inhaled deep into the lungs. Exposure to PM can cause respiratory and cardiovascular problems, particularly in vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly and those with pre-existing health conditions.

To minimize the negative effects of gas-powered appliances on indoor air quality, it is important to properly maintain and ventilate them. Regular maintenance, such as cleaning and replacing filters, can help ensure that appliances are running efficiently and emitting fewer pollutants. Additionally, proper ventilation can help remove pollutants from the air. Ventilation can be achieved by opening windows or using exhaust fans that vent to the outside.

Another option for reducing indoor air pollution from gas-powered appliances is to switch to electric varieties instead. Electric stoves and furnaces do not produce CO or NO2, and they emit far less PM than gas appliances. While electric appliances may have higher upfront costs, they can be more cost-effective over time due to lower operating costs and reduced maintenance needs.

If you are designing a new home from



Recent revelations about the negative effect cooking with gas can have on indoor air quality have given rise to new concerns about other gas-powered appliances. Credit: Pexels.

scratch, it's a no-brainer these days to choose appliances powered by electricity not gas. But most of us don't have that luxury, and it's not easy to decide if it's worth the expense and hassle of switching out an old gas-powered appliance with a shiny new electric one. The bottom line is "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" as swapping out an old one for a new one generates more pollution overall thanks to the lifecycle costs of manufacturing. But if your old appliance has reached the end of its useful life anyway, changing to an electric one may well be the best move.

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"Medical School Journey"

It has been 9 years since my medical school acceptance. I can describe my personal process in 2 words: arduous and lengthy. Now, this may not be the case for all people that apply to medical school. A few individuals may be able to apply directly out of undergrad and be accepted. I'll speak from my experience which had a few more detours involved.

I am the first person in my family to become a physician. This added unique challenges while applying to medical school - I essentially had to blaze my own trail. The journey starts during undergraduate education. Many students major in the sciences and take the courses to build a strong foundation for the coming years. Regardless of major, your GPA plays a role in medical school acceptance. Surround yourself with like minded individuals that will help you succeed in your goal.

The application and acceptance process is a dynamic one. The initial hurdle is the MCAT (Medical College Acceptance Test). After my first MCAT, I realized I needed a structured approach and direction to succeed. I highly recommend an in-person class or an online study group that offers insight into test taking strategies and practice exams. These resources will be worth the investment. My score drastically improved and made my application much more competitive.

Unfortunately, the number of medical school applicants is staggering in comparison to the limited number of seats available. This is where building and personalizing your application comes into play. Inquire admission committees on how to bolster yourself on paper. Many highly recommend experiences in patient care. These can come in the form of volunteerism or employment at local hospitals or nursing homes. Some individuals do research, shadow physicians, become scribes or work other skill-building jobs in the field. I decided to work at a local hospital providing direct patient care. Through this, I gained the experience I needed to stand out. The patients you meet along the way will teach you more than you realize.

I also furthered my education with a Master's degree, focusing on human anatomy and physiology. This gave me the opportunity to teach undergrad students and gain even more foundational knowledge.

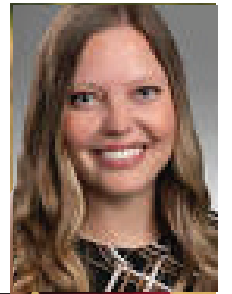
The perseverance and experiences paid off. I was accepted to Ross University School of Medicine in 2014, spent 2 years in Chicago, graduated with Highest Honors and matched into my first choice residency program for Family Medicine. I graduated in June 2021.

There is no wrong way to go about getting into medical school but there are more efficient routes. Have a mentor. Utilize appropriate resources. Stay focused and on track.

Samantha Darnall-Werlinger, MD work at Avera Medical Group Internal Medicine in Watertown, SD. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org and on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show providing health information based on science, built on trust, on SDPB and streaming live on Facebook most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.



Based on Science, Built on Trust



By Samantha Darnall-Werlinger, MD

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