

PUBLIC NOTICES

2026 MOTORCOACH TOURS

Yellowstone	May 31 - June 5
Mystery Tour	June 22-25
Medora & Black Hills	August 4-8
Folklorama & Winnipeg	August 12-15
Washington, D.C. 250th	September 2-11
Branson & Memphis	Sept. 29 - Oct. 8
Nashville	October 21-27
Branson Holiday Tour #1	November 5-11
Branson Holiday Tour #2	November 12-18



Call 1(800)446-2711, e-mail info@westpictravel.net or find us at www.westpictravel.net for full tour info.

Did you hear about the great bargains in the classifieds?

Find them in the

Central McLean **News-Journal**

Call 442-5535



Underwood School Elections Notice

Underwood School District is holding elections for two available seats on our School Board. Election day will be held June 9th, in conjunction with McLean County and Mercer County elections. For individuals living within the Underwood School District, please follow your counties polling locations.
(May 28 & June 4, 2026)

Mercer City February Meeting Minutes

February 12th, 2026
Mercer City Hall at 7:00 pm CST
The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thomsen at 7:00 pm CST and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Present: Council Members Gary Volochenko, Erika Lorenz, Dan Gardiner, Randy Zinke
Auditor: Kathrin Volochenko
A quorum was established.
Minutes:
Mayor Thomsen read the minutes from the January 8th 2026 regular meeting. Council Member Lorenz made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Council Member Volochenko seconded, ayes all, M/C.

Financials:
Auditor Volochenko presented the completed 2026 Balance Sheet Standard, Year to Date & Month to Date Profit & Loss (P&L) reports. Auditor Volochenko also presented the January bank statements with the attached reconciliation summaries showing all un-cleared deposits.

Mayor Thomsen introduced Mary Jameson of the Midwest Assistance Program (MAP). Ms. Jamerson talked about the services that MAP provides, and went on to explain the USDA Water and Sewer Loan 2025 financials.

Council Member Volochenko moved to approved all of the financials as presented,

Council Member Lorenz seconded, roll call vote results were; Council member Gardiner "aye", Council Member Volochenko "aye", Council Member Lorenz "aye", Council Member Zinke "aye", M/C.

Bills:
Mayor Thomsen presented the bills that need to be paid. Council Member Gardiner made a motion to approve the bills as presented, Council Member Lorenz seconded, roll call vote results were; Council member Gardiner "aye", Council Member Volochenko "aye", Council Member Lorenz "aye", Council Member Zinke "aye", M/C.

Water Reports:
Mayor Thomsen presented the water usage & various account reports. There was some discussion about the unread meters and why. Auditor Volochenko mentioned that more stage 1 water testing sites should be added to the roster on a rotational basis for more diversified results, the general consensus was to "yes" go ahead and do so once individual permission was granted.

Park Report:
Council Member Lorenz reported on the last park board meeting and presented the minutes. Council Member Lorenz went on to talk about the sharing of lawn mowing duties, needing to get the outhouse pumped as it was never previously cleaned. The security camera subscription renews in June or

July of each year for about \$225.00 and is charged to the City credit card. Auditor Volochenko added the she was able to log into the security camera website and found that they only accept credit or debit cards, no ACH payments from a bank account, so will just need to leave things the way they are. Council Member Lorenz talked about the committee wanting do some fund raisers for the coming summer as the committee is planning to make some park improvements. Committee also is planning to apply for an AARP grant to install a sidewalk to the second shelter, replace the flooring in one of the shelters and some other work.

New Community Center Project Report:
Council Member Zinke and Karen Zinke gave a report on the committee planning progress.

First informational gathering was held on January 30th. Second meeting is scheduled for February the 13th at 6:30 pm in the city hall. This gathering is more to get the informational letter composed to be sent out to community.

Old Business:
Mayor Thomsen turned the floor over to Mary Jamerson of MAP for the presentation on the Emergency Response Program (ERP) booklets what we need to know in how to respond.

Mayor Thomsen talked about the Municipal Infrastructure Fund allowed expenses, "That fund is only for infrastructure and cannot be used for equipment." As per the email response to Auditor Volochenkos' query
Mayor Thomsen went down the list of completed quarterlies and required reports.

4th Qtr. 2025 Federal 941- sent 1-14-2026
4th Qtr. 2025 WSI report & fee - filed 1-17-2026

4th Qtr 2025 Job Service & fee - filed (amended) 1-17-2026
ND DEQ Distribution System Disinfectant Residual Summary - sent 1/5/2026

End of Year Water Usage Report to ND Dept of Water Resources - final report as ground water permit had been cancelled as of 11-21-2025, sent via email 1-21-2026 to NDDWR (ND Dept of Water Resources)

New Business:
Mayor Thomsen mentioned that the City Auditor must "on or before March 1 of each year; The City Auditor submits to the governing board an annual financial statement showing revenues, expenditures, transfers and fund balances of the city for the year ended December 31. (NDCC 40-16-04)"

Mayor Thomsen mentioned that "by March 1 of each year - City Auditor shall publish the financial statement for the preceding year showing the receipts and disbursements on account of each fund in the official newspaper. (NDCC 40-16-05)" Therefore Auditor Volochenko will insure that the all 2025 financials (balance sheet & P&Ls) shall be published in the official city newspaper; Central McLean News - Journal; in the last issue of February 2026.

Mayor Thomsen mentioned "by March 9 - Thirty days before the filing deadline for candidates' names to be printed on the ballot (April 6, 2026), an official notice of this deadline must be published in the official newspaper (even-numbered years). (NDCC 40-21-02)"

Auditor Volochenko talked about the NDIRF Announcement letter; new coverage is available for sewer back-up and water main breaks. Will fill out the form to request a quote.

Auditor Volochenko reported on the Waste Water Management Safety Meeting that was held on January 20th

8030-1500 Beulah Civic Center.

Council Member Gardiner & Auditor Volochenko reported on the Pipeline Safety Meeting that was held on February 4th at the Bismarck Eagles

Auditor Volochenko reported on the PC Matic anti-virus orientation via Google Meets on February 5th.

Public Comment:
No speaker cards were turned into the Auditor; therefore there was no public comment.

With no further business to discuss Mayor Thomsen asked for a motion to adjourn, Council Member Volochenko made a motion to adjourn, Council Member Gardiner seconded, "ayes" all, M/C Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm CST.
(May 28, 2026)

Mercer City March Meeting Minutes

March 12th, 2026
Mercer City Hall at 7:00 pm CDT
The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thomsen at 7:00 pm CDT and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Present: Mayor Thomsen, Council Members Gary Volochenko, Erika Lorenz, Dan Gardiner, Randy Zinke
Auditor: Kathrin Volochenko
A quorum was established.

Minutes:
Mayor Thomsen read the minutes from the February 12th 2026 regular meeting. Council Member Lorenz made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Council Member Volochenko seconded, ayes all, M/C.

Financials & Bills List:
Auditor Volochenko presented the completed 2026 Balance Sheet Standard, Year to Date & Month to Date Profit & Loss (P&L) reports. Auditor Volochenko also presented the February bank statements with the attached reconciliation summaries. Auditor Volochenko mentioned that there were a couple of fund (ledger) adjustments after the previous reconciliation that did affect the reconciliation results. Discussion also included Mayor Thomsen placing values on the city fixed assets that will be added to the balance sheet.

Mayor Thomsen presented the current bills list.

Council Member Lorenz moved to approved all of the financials and bills list as presented, Council Member Zinke seconded, roll call vote results were; Council Member Gardiner "aye", Council Member Volochenko "aye", Council Member Lorenz "aye", Council Member Zinke "aye", M/C.

Water Reports:
Mayor Thomsen presented the February water usage & various account reports. Auditor Volochenko mentioned that permission was granted to add more stage one testing sites and those they were emailed to ND DEQ to be added to the rotation.

Auditor Volochenko gave a report on the McLean Sheridan Rural Water District Board Meeting that was held on February the 17th at the MSWRD office.

Mayor Thomsen talked about the ND Rural Water Systems Training to be held at the Bismarck Public Works on March the 26th.

Auditor Volochenko found two different addresses for accounts that changed ownership; Ann of MSWRD that does our billing was instructed to send the March bills to those new owners and will see if they "bounce back" via returned USPS mail to the city.

Park Report:
Council Member Lorenz reported that the park board had applied for an AARP grant for about \$7000.00 and will know in May if they are awarded or not.
New Community Center Project Report:

Mayor Thomsen talked about what the committee has done so far.

Mayor Thomsen asked for a motion to subscribe to the Grant Finder platform through the ND

League of Cities. Council Member Gardiner moved to subscribe the Grant Finder platform, Council Member Volochenko seconded, roll call vote; Council Member Gardiner "aye", Council Member Volochenko "aye", Council Member Lorenz "aye", Council Member Zinke "aye", M/C

Council Member Zinke talked about the Brownfield inspection and demolition grant(s) and that an inspection crew can come in, assess, and issue a report. Discussions included that the city should sell it and give the profits to the New MCC Committee. Council Member Zinke made a motion to fill out the Brownfield grant application, Council member Volochenko seconded, roll call vote, Council Member Gardiner "aye", Council Member Volochenko "aye",

NOTICE OF ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 the Annual School District Election will be held at the City Hall in Turtle Lake, McLean County, North Dakota for the purpose of electing members to the School Board for the Turtle Lake-Mercer School District No. 72.

Elect: Three(3) members within the boundaries of the Turtle Lake-Mercer School District for the following term.

Two School Board Members for a 3-year term

Candidates:
Rick Britton
Julie Wagner
Brian O'Shea

One School Board Member for a 2-year term

Candidates:
Nicole Wardner
Brent Ravnaas

Polling Location: Turtle Lake City Hall
107 Eggert St, Turtle Lake, ND
Poll Hours: 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM (CST)
By order of the School Board of Turtle Lake-Mercer Public School District No. 72.
Laura Fiedler, Business Manager

(May 28 & June 4, 2026)

Catch the Great Bargains in the Classifieds!

phone 462-8126



WANTED

STRAW IN THE WINDROW & STRIPPER STRAW

Wheat • Oat • Rye • Barley

Now Contracting for 2026 Harvest

North Dakota & Minnesota

Call Jason

320-815-8484

Parker Hay Company

GET IN GEAR

PLACE AN AD HERE

701.462.8126