

PUBLIC NOTICES

Council Member Lorenz “aye”, Council Member Zinke “aye”, M/C

City Office Organization Update: Auditor Volochenko gave a brief report on the paper sorting and file organization to date, when on to mention that the IRS requires seven year retention for income and expense receipts.

Old Business:
1. New NDIRF coverage available questionnaire. Auditor Volochenko stated that the survey for a premium quote was filled out and sent back, however NDIRF needs hard answers and not the “not sure” responses that I had given on a few questions.

Will need to do more research and resubmit in order to get an accurate quote.

2. Received a confirmation letter from USDA for the loan payment account changes.

New Business:
1. Auditor Volochenko has begun work on the 2027 Annual Budget.

2. Received a FYI email on February 23rd from the McLean County Land Mapping Office that the parcel owned by the Co-op Elevator of McClusky was split into two parcels.

3. There was discussion about splitting the cost to get the city hall carpet cleaned. Randy suggested a company in Turtle Lake, Prairie Carpet Cleaning.

4. Auditor Volochenko talked about getting lagoon cell #1 tested for sludge depth and get a water sample to take to Bismarck for testing. Based on what Auditor Volochenko learned at the Waste Water O&M Training at Beulah in February.

5. Auditor Volochenko talked about the NDIRF “Conferment of Benefits” letter. It stated that they had some very large claims and that they would not be sending out any conferment of benefits in 2026.

6. There was discussion to revisit the Mayoral authority to sign grants.

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 Gardiner made a motion to adjourn, Council Member Lorenz seconded, “ayes” all, M/C Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm CDT. (May 28, 2026)

Mercer City April Meeting Minutes

April 9th, 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 April 9th 2026 regular meeting.

Council Member Lorenz asked for an amendment to the minutes to change the name from “Brownfield to Brownfields” and from “Brownfield inspection and demolition grant(s)” to “assessment and clean-up grant” and was noted by Auditor Volochenko. Council Member Volochenko made a motion to accept the minutes as read, Council Member Lorenz seconded, ayes all, M/C.

Financials & Bills List:
Mayor Thomsen presented the completed 2026 Balance Sheet Standard, Year to Date & Month to Date Profit & Loss (P&L) reports.

Mayor Thomsen presented the current bills list.

The Waste Management driver took dash cam pictures of 3 pickups on 4/6/2026 that will be charged \$25.00 each for trash container “overages”. Council Member Lorenz stated that a notice should be sent to everyone. Auditor Volochenko said that perhaps Ann of McLean Sheridan Rural Water District could add something on the billing postcard. Discussion followed and ending with Auditor Volochenko stating that a call will be made to Waste Management for an explanation.

Council Member Lorenz moved to approve the entire financials and bills list as presented, Council Member Gardiner seconded, roll call vote results were; Council Member Gardiner “aye”, Council Member Volochenko “aye”, Council Member Lorenz “aye”, Council Member Zinke “aye”, M/C.

Auditor Volochenko presented the topic of Evolv/Gov card charging the city \$49.99 since December. Discussion

followed with Erika stating that there is another payment option with a platform called N’Court that doesn’t charge the city. Auditor Volochenko will check into that and apparently Evolv, Inc. is stating on their website that “You may qualify for no cost processing!”

Auditor will check into that as well.
Water/Wastewater Business:

Mayor Thomsen began by discussing the April 3rd power loss/loss of water pressure/precautionary boil order and the fact that we need a generator. Discussion followed with Ken stating that he could contact his electrician to get a quote. Council Member Gardiner made a motion to get Perry Strand of Bens Electric to give a quote, 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.

Mayor Thomsen presented the April 2026 water usage & various account reports.

Park Report: Council Member Lorenz stated that there was no report.

New Community Center Project Report:

Council Member Zinke stated that a new gaming fund request from the Turtle Lake and New Salem American Legions was turned in. Mayor Thomsen talked about working on getting a sign made to show donations for the

New MCC project:
Old Business:

2026 City Election: Auditor Volochenko state that the paperwork needed to get the ballots printed by the county was hand carried to the County Auditor, the sample ballot was then proof read and signed by Auditor Volochenko; therefore the pre-election process is complete. The Auditor also mentioned that the petitions that were turned in were one for Mayor (Ken Thomsen) and two for the Council Members (Dan Gardiner, Gary Volochenko).

Old MCC: Council Member Lorenz stated that the application for the Brownsfields Grant was approved for the assessment within a week of being submitted and it will take about 3-4 months to get a contractor to get the building inspected.

New Business:
Motor to Mercer Car Show, June 20th: Raffle Permit request for a 50/50 Raffle, also same permissions as last year are requested for blocking off Main St. and to use any extra trash bins and city road barrier signs. Council Member Volochenko made a motion to give the Motor to Mercer Car Show a permit, Council Member Gardiner seconded, ayes all, nays none, M/C.

St Olaf-Lutheran & the LYO (Lutheran Youth Organization) Calendar Raffle: Mayor Thomsen asked for a motion to approve the request. Council Member Lorenz made the motion to give a permit for the calendar raffle, Council Member Volochenko seconded, ayes all, nays none, M/C.

Drainage issue according to Larry Metzger; Letter and map: Ken Thomsen the discussion included maybe putting another culvert. Auditor Volochenko added that the letter was found in older papers during the sorting process.

Street Graveling: Council Member Volochenko said there are a few spots that need gravel and added that he would like permission to just order the gravel when the time is right.

USA Flags: Mayor Thomsen began by saying that since this is the 250th Anniversary and continued that there are six flags in the back room and that we have 11 mounting brackets throughout the town we need to order 6 more flags, had talked to Vickie of the Turtle Lake American Legion and that all we need is to get the poles and Vickie will give us the flags. We need to buy 6 poles at about \$15.00 each. Council Member

Volochenko moved to buy the flag poles, Council Member Lorenz seconded, ayes all, nays none, M/C

NDLC Spring Conference (3-18, 19-2026) Report: Auditor Volochenko, Council Member Volochenko, Council Member Lorenz gave reports on the two day conference that was held in Dickinson.

NDRWSA (North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association) Training (3-26-2026) Report:

Auditor Volochenko reported that there was some sponsorship involved so no registration fee. The Auditor recommended that everyone should go to these trainings at some point.

Water & Waste Water Test Prep. (3-30-2026): Auditor Volochenko attended and it’s a prep class that focuses on water & wastewater math that’s held the day before the certification testing. However a person can attend for the practice.

NDIRF HR Collaborative Conference (two days) to be held in Bismarck on April 22& 23rd.

Mayor Thomsen stated it’s just a FYI for anyone that’s interested.

Grass Cutting: Council Member Zinke talked about that he will be working out of town, and that someone else will need to do the cutting. Council member Gardiner said he could mow this season. Some maintenance will need to be done for both the 3-point and zero turn mowers.

NDIRF Annual Meeting Notice; May 7th 2026 beginning at 9:30 am at the North Dakota Heritage Center, all city officials are welcome.

Bi-Annual Lagoon Discharge Monitoring Report submitted 3-31-2026: Auditor Volochenko mentioned that Keith Hegney (NDRWA) has the city “penciled in” to test #1 cell sometime in May.

Fire Hydrant Water Leak Fixed 3-23-2026: Mayor Thomsen said that the hydrant by the pump house was leaking on Sunday morning so he called Ward Heibredner of NDRWSA (North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association) circuit rider to work on the hydrant. Mayor Thomsen ordered more replacement hydrant parts to have on hand.

Lead & Copper Survey: Auditor Volochenko stated that we now have the spreadsheet to input the survey results as the responses that were returned to the city in 2024, were never received by NDDEQ and the Auditor never found them in the office. So the survey will need to be sent out again to all households that are connected to the Mercer City water system.

Auditor Volochenko asked Council Member Zinke for the phone number for the carpet cleaner as the Auditor never received any information from Karen. Council Member Zinke said he’ll make sure it gets done.

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 8:18 pm CDT. (May 28, 2026)

Turtle Lake City May Meeting Minutes

Turtle Lake, North Dakota City Commission Meeting Minutes (unapproved)
Date: 5-18-2026

Commissioners: Dianne Zenker, Stacie Adams, Rick Schwalk, Tim Britton, Absent-Matt Lang
Auditor: Michelle Pickett
Also present: Alexis Nienow, Moore Engineering, John Lundby
Public Attendance: 5

Review of prior meeting minutes:
Regular city commission meeting
Motion to approve the minutes of April 13th, 2026

Made by: Adams
Seconded: Britton
Roll call vote: Unanimous
Outcome: Motion Passed
Review of financial reports & bills as presented:

Review and discussion:
Motion to approve financial reports and bills as presented:

Made by: Adams
Seconded: Schwalk
Roll call vote: Unanimous
Outcome: Motion Passed

Public comment period: No requests
Colliers Security John Lundby-
Results of the bonds sale to finance the city-wide street project- Sale went well- the sale resulted in 4.45% interest to the city on a 20-year maturity.

John asked for approval to finalize all documentation for closure on June 9th.
Motion to approve the Bond resolution -

Made by: Britton
Seconded: Schwalk
Roll Call – Adams-Yay, Britton-yay, Schwalk-Yay, Zenker-Yay, Lang-Absent
Moore Engineering-Engineer’s report

Contracts have been sent to Keller Paving
They will be sending the official contracts to city for signature’s.

No official schedule yet, but they will have a start date of mid-July. They are aware of the Turtle Days Parade Route.

Engineering amendments were provided to the commission from Moore Engineering.

Motion to approve the engineering amendment-

Made by: Britton
Seconded: Schwalk
Roll call, Adams- yay, Britton-Yay, Schwalk-Yay, Zenker- Yay, Lang-absent
Sewer project update-
Update from Swanberg-
Swanberg Should be done with underground work by May 19th.

Knife river will be doing work when Swanberg is done with underground work

Chip seal will begin in 2027
Manhole rehabilitation will start as soon as weather is consistent

It was verified with Moore that the lawns damaged on Charles Street would

be repaired.
New Business-
Consideration for sale
Main Street storage lot- tax value of \$3,800
RV park tax value of \$6,200
Will discuss again after turtle days
Topsy Turtle Gaming site authorization

Motion to approve the tipsy turtle gaming site authorization-
Made by- Adams
Seconded-Schwalk
Roll Call – Adams – Yay Schwalk – Yay Britton- Abstained

Outcome- Motion Passed
133 gaming site authorization-
Motion to approve gaming site authorization for the 133-

Made by- Adams
Seconded by- Schwalk
Roll Call - Unanimous
Outcome- Motion Passed
2nd ave property- Hayes:

*no discussion
Event permits:
Topsy Turtle Event permits-
Motion to Approve the Event permits for the Topsy Turtle (Presser Event and Turtle Days)-

Made by- Schwalk
Seconded by-Adams
Roll Call - Unanimous
Outcome- Motion Passed
Law Enforcement Contract-
Motion to Approve 2027 Law Enforcement contract-

Made by-Schwalk
Seconded by- Adams
Roll Call - Unanimous
Outcome- Motion Approved

Old Business-
Crack sealer/ Durapatcher
Will be reaching out to some companies for suggestions on the best option for our community.

Website Update-
Soft launch for the website went well on May 9th

Website is up and running for the public
Lagoon Maintenance-
The boat is being brought in by TeamLabs should be arriving in the next two weeks.

Spring Clean up-
Last Dumpster was removed on May 18th

Discussion on possible new guidelines for the next city clean-up days.
Lincoln ST Bids-
2 Bids were received-



Your future self will thank you.

When it comes to planning for the future, sometimes getting started is the hardest part. That’s where my team comes in. From life insurance and annuities to retirement planning and more, we’ll help you get started and stay with you every step of the way.

Together, we’ll make your future self proud.



Bobbi Jo Krueger
275 2nd St SW
Garrison, ND
701.463.2270
bkrueger@nodakins.net

Nodak Insurance Company

Registered Representative/Securities & services offered through FBL Marketing Services, LLC,*
5400 University Ave., West Des Moines, IA 50266, 877/860-2904, Member SIPC. Nodak Insurance Company/Fargo, ND. Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company*/West Des Moines, IA. *Affiliates. PR-LI-B (7-25)

BUSINESS DIRECTORY



HAUGEN'S
DRAIN SERVICE

"For those sluggish drains and backed-up mains"
Residential-Commercial-Industrial

Washburn • 462-3730 Cell 315-0600

Power Snakes
Sewer Cleaning
24-Hour Service