

BUCCANEER BUZZ



Photo | Dale Peplinski

THE BEACH AND WIBAUX TEAM holds the poster of their winning bracket. Back row, left to right, are Tristyn Barker, Kort Peplinski, Devin Thilmony, Kase Schlepp and Thomas Krehbiel. Front row: Owen Marman, Kai Padilla and Thor Domek.

Zoning board meets

By Jordanna Garland
The Beach Zoning Board met on April 13, to discuss three applications for building in town.

First, the zoning board discussed a property on 352 4th Ave. SE. Owners Daniel and Cheryl Cornel are adding a garage. City Auditor Kim Gaugler stated that the application would not be approved unless the owners get their front-yard fence replaced.

Currently, their fence is 6.5 feet tall, which violates the zoning. Zoning states that front-yard fences have to be 4 feet tall, because

in a case of an emergency, the emergency responders need to be able to see above the fence. Furthermore, Daniel wants to also extend a portion of the driveway, so instead of it being 12 feet, it can be 16 feet.

Afterward, the zoning board discussed an application for 279 1st Ave. NW., in which the front steps are being replaced with a 10 by 12 foot deck. The house was recently purchased by LeAnne and Pat Rafferty. They will live there while their house in Sentinel Butte is being repaired.

The board then discussed a property on

625 2nd Ave. SW, where a deck is currently being built. The owners, Clay and Lea Farstveet unintentionally began the building process without knowing that an application for building had to be submitted prior.

After meeting with City Auditor Gaugler, the Farstveets decided that the steps would need to face the north, instead of the east so it did not encroach onto city property.

At the next zoning board meeting, there will be a public hearing regarding this property.

The next board meeting will be May 11.

Win Bowman Classic

By Gavin Farstveet
Students in the 3rd and 4th grades from Beach and Wibaux combined to win a basketball tournament in Bowman on April 11.

Coaches Shea Peplinski and Loni Thilmony brought together four students from each school to form a team and compete in their first tournament. The goal of the co-op team was to ensure enough players to

compete, while also giving students game experience.

The tournament featured six teams, with each team playing three games. Teams were divided into two pools, with Beach-Wibaux competing against Richardton and one of the Bowman teams.

The team opened the tournament with a 42-19 win over Richardton at 9:40 a.m.

They followed with a 37-19 victory over a Bowman team at 1 p.m. After winning both pool games, Beach-Wibaux advanced to the championship game at 6 p.m., where they defeated another Bowman team 21-9.

Thilmony shared that the tournament was a success, saying "I liked how everybody scored points and got a lot of playing time."

National Day of Prayer event

By Judy Johnson
In a time of national and global unrest, millions in our country will be joining in prayer on Thursday, May 7. It is the observation of the 75th anniversary of the National Day of Prayer. An event will be held that day at the Beach Community Center in Beach from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This year's theme is based upon 1 Chronicles verse 24 "Glorify God Among the Nations,

Seeking Him in All Generations."

Once again, Becky Weinreis of Golva is the organizer of this yearly event. For several years, The National Day of Prayer has been observed by a gathering of those from the Beach, Wibaux and Golva communities. Becky is aided by members of the various churches in those communities.

At 10 a.m., the event will begin with a prayer

and the Pledge of Allegiance. Throughout the day, there will be prayers, music and various speakers. A group of local children will provide music along with Jill Tescher and others. Speakers and prayer leaders will be the local pastors and members of both the Beach and Wibaux communities.

From noon to 1 p.m., a free lunch will be served. At 3 p.m. there will be closing music and prayer.

BEACH CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

BEACH CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS Published Subject to the Governing Body's Review and Revision April 6, 2026

A regular meeting of the Beach City Council was called to order by Mayor Walter Losinski on April 6, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. Present when the meeting was called to order were City Council Tom Marman, Lynn Swanson-Puckett, Sarah Ross, John Stonehocker (via telephone), Bev Wolff and Andy Zachmann. Others present included Public Works Superintendent Randy Dietz, City Auditor Kimberly Gaugler, Deputy Auditor Lea Massado, Engineers Zac Ranisate and Jasper Klein, and guests Corlene Olson, Adam Smith, Rory Farstveet, Carla Beeler, Missy Nelson, Deb Dietz, Tellan Buckman, Billy Buckman, Vern and Ellyne Tosner, Naomi Murphy and Jordanna Garland.

Lead by 3rd grader Tellan Buckmann, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken. All members were present.

Additions or Corrections to the Agenda and Approval

Mayor Losinski called for any additions or corrections to the agenda. Gaugler requests adding correspondence from BHS Future Business Leaders of America. Zachmann moved to approve the agenda with the addition of correspondence, second by Wolff. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Participation

Lincoln Elementary 3rd grade student Tellan Buckman won the local "Mayor for a Day" Essay Contest. Tellan read his essay, receiving a big round of applause when finished. Mayor Losinski presented Tellan with a certificate and a gavel of his very own.

BHS Future Business Leaders of America - Taya Feldmann, Gavin Farstveet, Sawyer Farstveet and Bentley Farstveet - informed the

City Council and Mayor that seventeen FBLA members attended the State Leadership Conference on March 29-30 in Bismarck. Taya, Sawyer, Gavin and Bentley have qualified to attend the National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, TX this summer. Any support offered to assist them in reaching their goal in attending the National Leadership Conference is greatly appreciated. Zachmann moved to provide \$250 from the Community Enhancement Fund for each of the four students attending the National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, TX this summer, second by Wolff. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

Minutes of the meeting on March 16th, 2026, were presented. Zachmann moved to approve the minutes as presented, second by Swanson-Puckett. Motion carried unanimously.

Vouchers

Vouchers were reviewed for payment. Swanson-Puckett moved to approve the following vouchers, second by Ross. Motion carried unanimously.

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| Abrasives, Inc. | \$127.07 |
| Advanced Engineering & Environmental Services, LLC | 7,654.00 |
| Beach High School FBLA | 1,000.00 |
| Beach Park Board | 3,221.53 |
| Beach Volunteer Fire Dept. | 3,585.63 |
| Bierschbach Equipment & Supply | 588.48 |
| Bobcat of Dickinson | 300.30 |
| Boss Office Products | 18.99 |
| CNH Industrial Capital Prod. Plus | 38.16 |
| Cooperative Legal Services, PLLC | 577.50 |
| Coral Creek Landfill | 1,835.60 |
| CT Electric | 2,245.80 |
| Dakota Dust-Tex, Inc. | 108.40 |
| Dakota Pump & Control, Inc. | 1,221.50 |
| Farmers Union Oil | 1,021.23 |
| Fireside Office Solutions | 199.57 |
| Golden Valley County | 9,853.46 |
| Greyson Stedman | 45.00 |
| GS Publishing | 1,542.11 |
| Hach Company | 159.30 |
| Home On The Range | 200.00 |
| Jill Schatz | 45.00 |
| John Deere Financial | 215.25 |
| MDU | 7,153.15 |
| ND League of Cities | 400.00 |
| One Call Concepts | 6.00 |
| Point CPA | 4,300.00 |
| Prairie Lumber Company | 364.86 |
| Rohan's Hardware | 31.16 |
| RTC Networks | 504.00 |
| Runnings | 631.83 |
| Sanitation Products, Inc. | 955.43 |
| Sensaphone | 299.40 |
| Southwest Water Authority | 9,055.23 |
| Southwestern District Health Unit | 30.00 |
| Stockwell Cleaning | 218.75 |
| Thomas Littlecreek | 60.00 |
| X Foods | 11.19 |
| March Payroll | 34,860.17 |
| City of Beach | 491.30 |
| First State Bank of Golva | 3,216.34 |
| Unum Life Insurance | 73.05 |
| Badlands Cleaning Service | 100.00 |
| Kimberly Gaugler | 339.90 |
| Randy Dietz | 723.21 |
| First State Bank of Golva | 169.60 |
| Verizon Wireless | 255.38 |
| City of Beach | 418.10 |
| First State Bank of Golva | 4,031.26 |
| NDPERS | 5,122.20 |
| Office of ND Tax Commissioner | 265.07 |
| Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND | 11,725.90 |
| USPS | 803.45 |

Engineer's Report

Engineer Ranisate reviewed his written report. Beach 2026 Main and Central Street Reconstruction - The contract with Strata Corporation is fully executed. A pre-construction meeting is expected to be held next week. Amendment #1 to Task Order 11 for Construction Administration in the amount of \$600,700 was presented. Swanson-Puckett moved to approve Amendment #1 to Task

Order 11, second by Ross. Discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Board of Equalization

At 7:30 p.m., Ross moved to adjourn as the Beach City Council and meet as the Board of Equalization, second by Wolff. Motion carried unanimously. Minutes of the Board of Equalization meeting on April 7, 2025, were approved. Golden Valley County Tax Director Carla Beeler provided information on increases/decreases in true and full valuation of property, eligible property tax exemptions and sales ratio analysis. Total True & Full Valuation for 2026 in the City of Beach is \$94,750,150, an increase of \$5,797,950 or 6.5% from 2025. Overall, Commercial Lots decreased \$477,350, Commercial Structures decreased \$3,700, Residential Lots increased \$6,304,300, and Residential Structures decreased \$102,100. Based on Sales Ratio Study for the 2026 assessments, the average sale price for a residential structure is \$133,103 and average sale price for a commercial structure is \$54,748. Sixteen applicants are tax exempt under Non-Profit, and Religious Organization. Fifty-five applicants qualified for Homestead Credit Exemption, and Disabled Persons Credit Exemptions. Mayor Losinski opened the meeting for public comments or questions. Councilman Marman inquired when Vanguard would return for a reassessment of all properties in the county. Tax Director Beeler indicated that Vanguard is scheduled to return in 2030 for a reassessment of all properties. Councilman Stonehocker asked if Center Stage Performing Arts was eligible to receive exempt status since they are a non-profit organization. Tax Director Beeler provided information on how non-profit organizations receive tax exempt status. Kimberly Gaugler mentioned parcel 05296000 had increased by 100% and

wondered if all lots similar to this parcel received the same increase. Tax Director Beeler confirmed all residential lots similar to this parcel would have received the same increase. Vern Tosner shared concerns on the true and full valuation of historic homes. No other public comments were received.

Marman moved a finding be made that all classifications of property have been reviewed and they are proper as assessed, second by Zachmann. Marman-yes, Swanson-Puckett-yes, Ross-yes, Wolff-yes, Zachmann-yes, Stonehocker-no. Motion carried.

Marman moved a finding be made that we have reviewed all Exemptions and find them proper as presented, second by Ross. Marman-yes, Swanson-Puckett-yes, Ross-yes, Wolff-yes, Zachmann-yes, Stonehocker-no. Motion carried.

Marman moved a finding be made that the overall Assessment Roll for the City of Beach for 2026 has been reviewed and find it proper as assessed, second by Zachmann. Marman-yes, Swanson-Puckett-yes, Ross-yes, Wolff-yes, Zachmann-yes, Stonehocker-no. Motion carried.

Marman moved based on preceding findings, we declare the Assessment Roll for 2026 for the City of Beach equalized, second by Swanson-Puckett. Marman-yes, Swanson-Puckett-yes, Ross-yes, Wolff-yes, Zachmann-yes, Stonehocker-no. Motion carried. At 8:20 p.m., Zachmann moved to adjourn as the Board of Equalization and reconvene as the Beach City Council, second by Swanson-Puckett. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works Report

PWS Dietz reviewed his written report. Dietz reported that seasonal worker Glenn Ferren has returned to work. Ross moved to increase Ferren's wage by 3% as was budgeted, second by Swan-

son-Puckett. Discussion. Ross moved to amend her motion to increase Ferren's wage by \$1/hr., second by Swanson-Puckett. Motion carried unanimously. Dietz requested ability to purchase a rock bucket attachment for the Bobcat. Marman moved to approve the request up to \$1,500, second by Wolff. Motion carried unanimously.

Auditor's Report

Gaugler reviewed her written report. Gaugler mentioned expenses to date are \$587,687.92 and revenues to date are \$823,030.11.

Committee Reports

Health Insurance - Zachmann and Ross reviewed the Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance Renewal Proposal. Zachmann mentioned the Classic Blue 250 plan that the employees are currently on has decreased in cost by 3.1%. Zachmann moved to renew the plan for another year, second by Swanson-Puckett. Motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Correspondence from ND Insurance Reserve Fund regarding the Annual Meeting in Bismarck on May 7th was read.

Correspondence from Roosevelt Custer Regional Council regarding the State of the Region in Dickinson on April 23rd was read.

Correspondence from Golden Valley County Community Foundation regarding the Spring Grant Application deadline on April 27th was read.

No other business was brought forward. Zachmann moved to adjourn, second by Ross. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Walter Losinski, Mayor
Kimberly Gaugler, City Auditor
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