

Public Notice

NOTICE OF STERLING SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION Sterling, North Dakota June 2, 2026

Notice is hereby given that the annual school district election of the Sterling School District No. 35 will be held on: **June 2, 2026**, at the polling location(s) listed below.

The polls will be open from **11:00 AM and will continue to be open until 7 PM** of that day.

The following officials will be elected: **School Board Member (2 positions) for 3 years.**

Minutes Publication Measure.
The polling location is as follows: **Sterling School 118 McKenzie St Sterling ND**

If auxiliary aid is required to vote, contact Tonya Bauer at 701-527-2554 at least 5 days prior to the election.

Shirley Ryberg, Business Manager
May 19, 2026

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: Water Main Replacement Phase 1 City of Steele (Kidder County), North Dakota DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 2200913-01

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed Water Main Replacement Phase 1 for the City of Steele in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR Part 6). The NDDEQ has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion and is exempt from further substantive environmental review.

Because the proposed project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion, a full Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment will not be required. Following is a description of the proposed project and a brief statement of how the project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion.

The proposed project consists of water main replacement throughout the City of Steele. The existing water main is cast iron and was installed in the 1940s and 1950s. Buildup and sedimentation have restricted flow and the city has had to repair multiple breaks. In addition, some areas of the city have undersized water mains.

The proposed project will replace water mains throughout the City of Steele. The improvements will ensure more reliable service, improved water pressure, and a reduction in service interruptions caused by main breaks. Water mains will be sized according to current design standards.

The City of Steele plans to apply for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan of \$1,456,000 to finance the project. The city has the legal authority and financial and administrative capability to construct the proposed improvements.

This project is being granted an exclusion because the improvements will occur entirely in the existing right of way. No previously undisturbed areas will be affected by the construction activities. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer has concluded that no historic properties will be affected by this project provided it takes place in the location and in the manner described in the documentation and provided all borrow comes from an approved source (ND SHPO Ref.: 24-5157). It has been determined that exempting the proposed project from further review under the National Environmental Policy Act will not result in adverse impacts to the population or area of Steele and Kidder County. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has reviewed this project (ID No. NWO-2023-01693-BIS) and determined that a Section 404 permit would be needed if dredge or fill material is either temporarily or permanently discharged in the waters of the United States.

The documentation to support this decision will be on file and available for public review at the NDDEQ, Division of Municipal Facilities.

Comments concerning this decision may be addressed to Shannon Fisher, DWSRF Program Manager, Division of Municipal Facilities, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, 4201 Normandy St., Bismarck, ND, 58503-1324.

Dated April 28, 2026.
David J. Bruschwein, P.E.
Director
Division of Municipal Facilities

May 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes of the City Council of Steele, North Dakota Held on May 11, 2026 In the Steele Community Building

*Mayor Jon Harter called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

*Roll Call:

Present: Jon Harter, Josh Rode, Luke Reski, Bob Anderson, Stuart Blotter, Jorey Kartes, Jason Rutledge
Also Present: April Rutledge, Leigh Nolan, Wendlin Rohrich, Norm Fries

*Motion by Jason Rutledge, seconded by Josh Rode to approve the agenda – Motion Carried

*Motion by Jorey Kartes, seconded by Bob Anderson to approve the minutes from the April 13, 2026 regular meeting – Motion Carried

*Visitors – AJ Tuck from Moore Engineering provided an update on Department of Water Resources funding.

*Tom Fettig, manager of Steele Amvets, requested permission from the Council to install a fence on the property to allow alcohol to be served outdoors during the summer. Motion by Jason Rutledge, seconded by Stuart Blotter to approve the installation of a fence – Motion Carried

*Myron Strom reported that city clean up week went well.
*Motion by Jorey Kartes, seconded by Jason Rutledge to approve the Sales Tax Committee's recommendation to provide \$10,000 to Steele Housing to cover administrative costs associated with recent renovations – Motion Carried. Luke Reski abstained.

*Leigh Nolan reported on water and sewer, including an update on meter installations and patching streets.

*Motion by Luke Reski, seconded by Josh Rode to accept the resignation of Jason Grzadzieski, submitted May 11, 2026 – Motion Carried. His last day of employment will be May 22, 2026.

*Wendlin Rohrich presented the police report, including information on community texting services. Motion by Jason Rutledge, seconded by Jorey Kartes to purchase TextMyGov – Motion Carried

*Motion by Luke Reski, seconded by Jason Rutledge to approve street closures on June 20, 2026 for the Dash to Splash 5K, which is being sponsored by the Kidder County Swimming Pool – Motion Carried

*Mary Rohrich presented the Community Coordinator report.

*Jon Harter reported on building permits. Discussion was held on storage containers and the possible need for a new or updated ordinance to address issues within the city related to these containers. The matter was tabled until the next meeting.

*Jason Rutledge noted that the network upgrade equipment has arrived for the City Office and Community Building. He will be installing this soon.

*Motion by Luke Reski, seconded by Jorey Kartes to approve the financial report – Motion Carried

*Motion by Bob Anderson, seconded by Jorey Kartes to approve the pledge pools for FCCU and Choice Bank – Motion Carried

*Motion by Josh Rode, seconded by Jason Rutledge to approve gaming site authorization for the Corner Depot – Motion Carried

*April Rutledge reported that Melissa Johnson, owner of Steele Grocery, approached the city regarding the possibility of the city taking over the grocery store, as she is planning to sell the business. The Council discussed the matter and decided not to pursue it.

*Next meeting is on June 8, 2026 at 7:00 PM.

*Motion by Josh Rode, seconded by Jason Rutledge to adjourn – Motion Carried

General Fund

KEM.....	147.79
MDU.....	2,541.78
Salaries Less Deductions.....	8,086.16
Verizon.....	84.54
Hetland Law Office.....	387.00
Information Technology.....	18.50
BEK.....	570.47
City Water Dept.....	172.74
CB&T.....	955.87
Darwin's Plumbin.....	743.00
ND State Surplus.....	400.00
Steele Ozone.....	58.00

Water Department

MDU.....	2,328.30
Salaries Less Deductions.....	3,923.32
ND Dept of Health.....	27.00
BEK.....	423.15
CB&T.....	148.21
Dakota Supply Group.....	4,297.91
Eggers Electric Motor Co.....	2,153.32
ND Dept of Env. Quality.....	831.55
Black Mountain Software.....	9,090.00
Sweeney Controls.....	1,080.00

Sewer Department

MDU.....	121.94
Triple P Rentals.....	137.50

Garbage Department

Myron Strom.....	16,920.01
Gary Magstadt.....	333.33

Street Department

Salaries Less Deductions.....	8,142.22
Visa/Northland.....	1,755.78
Alfac.....	229.49
CB&T.....	550.74
Zimmerman's Mfg.....	369.75
Swanston Equipment.....	1,500.00
The Joshua Tree Company.....	8,500.00

Sales Tax Department

KEM.....	55.62
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/s/ Jon Harter,
Mayor
/s/ April Rutledge,
City Auditor

ANALYSIS OF THE STATEWIDE MEASURES APPEARING ON THE ELECTION BALLOT JUNE 9, 2026

The following analysis is for the measure appearing on the statewide Primary Election ballot on June 9, 2026. This publication is required by section 16.1-01-07 of the North Dakota Century Code to enable voters to become familiar with the effect of proposed measures. The full text of each measure is available on the Office of the Secretary of State's website at vote.nd.gov or by requesting a copy from the Elections Division at 701-328-4146, or from the office of any County Auditor.

In addition, as required by section 16.1-01-17 of the North Dakota Century Code, a copy of the Legislative Council's report on the estimated fiscal impact of initiated Measures No. 1 is available on the Office of the Secretary of State's website at vote.nd.gov, by phone at 701-328-4146, by email at soselect@nd.gov, or by letter to Secretary of State, 600 E Boulevard Avenue Dept 108, Bismarck ND 58505-0500.

Analysis of Initiated Constitutional Measure No. 1
(Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4007, 2025 Session Laws, Ch. 615)

Initiated Constitutional Measure No. 1 was placed on the ballot by action of the 2025 North Dakota Legislative Assembly with passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4007 (2025 Session Laws, Chapter 610). If approved, this constitutional measure would amend and reenact section 9 of article III and section 16 of article IV of the Constitution of North Dakota, relating to requiring each resolution adopted by the legislative assembly proposing a constitutional amendment and each initiative petition and measure proposing a constitutional amendment be comprised of a single subject. The proposed amendment would require constitutional amendments to be limited to one subject. The Secretary of State shall not approve an initiative petition for circulation if the Secretary determines that the proposed amendment comprises more than one subject. Additionally, the legislative assembly is required to limit proposed amendments to the constitution to one subject.

The estimated fiscal impact of this measure is none.

Voting "YES" means you approve the measure summarized above. Voting "NO" means you reject the measure summarized above.

Obituaries



PHYLLIS PLEINES

Phyllis Lorraine Pleines was born on June 8, 1937 at Ashley, ND, the daughter of Jacob and Emma (Bendewald) Reuther, and passed away on May 9, 2026 at Eventide, Jamestown.

Funeral Service was at 10:30 a.m., Friday, May 15th at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Pettibone. Special Music by David Morlock. Burial took place at Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery, Pettibone, with a lunch to follow at Pettibone Community Hall.

Phyllis was the youngest of four children and went to school in Ashley. After graduation, she worked as a nurse in Ashley from 1956 to 1959, when she met her future husband, Clarence at the doctor's office. Clarence was working construction at the time and they were married on March 29, 1959 at Zion Lutheran Church in Ashley. They lived in Bismarck for a while, Phyllis worked as a nurse at Bismarck Hospital and Clarence worked for Luehr Construction that summer and later for MidContinent Construction Company of Jamestown in 1960. In the fall of 1960, they moved on the Pleines home place northwest of Pettibone and farmed there until the spring of 1969, when they purchased the Pete Guthmiller farm six miles southeast of

Pettibone. They farmed, milked dairy cows, and raised stock cattle for several years.

Phyllis was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Pettibone and was a member of the Lions club. Above all else, she loved her family. Her home was a place of comfort, warmth, and full plates. No one ever left her home without "lunch," a home-made cookie, or a pop for the road. Family gatherings were her greatest joy and she took pride in caring for those she loved through simple gifts of a well-stocked table, garden produce, and canned goods prepared with hard work throughout the year. Phyllis was strong and resilient; a woman who worked tirelessly for her family and carried a deep love for her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She worried about them often, prayed for them always, and found her greatest purpose in making sure they were cared for. Her legacy lives on in the traditions she passed down, the meals shared around the table, and the steadfast love she gave so freely. She and Clarence were married for 67 years. Phyllis leaves behind her loving husband, Clarence; daughter Brenda and son-in-law Steve Seil; grandchildren Lisa and Drew Neumiller, and Andrew Seil; son Kevin Pleines; granddaughter Hayley and Bryan Wolf; son Marty Pleines; granddaughter Emma; and 10 great-grandchildren. Welcoming her to heaven was her granddaughter Shanna Seil-Knutson, her parents, siblings and in-laws. The family would like to thank Ave Maria Heritage Centre, Eventide, and JRMC Hospice for all their love and care provided to Phyllis and Clarence.

Funeral arrangements are in the care of Eddy Funeral Home, Jamestown.

CALL
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(701) 471-8799

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www.mmagsales.com

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