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VELVA CITY COMMISSION MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2025
VELVA CITY HALL

The Velva City Commission met October 21 at 7:00 p.m. Commissioners Schreiner, Keller, Davis and Zietz were in attendance, with Jenson's absence being unanimously approved due to an obligation for training with the Velva Ambulance. Also present: Jenny Johns, Emma Lavachek, Heather Tudor (VAV) and Deputy Dave Dewanz. Minutes from the October 20 regular meeting was approved.

Bills totaling \$34,427.04 (Ackerman 582.50, Acme 197.58, Am. Welding 157.27, BAG 67.15, Circle Control 1618, Circle San 7275, Municode 1207.50, ESRI 700, Ferguson 6080, 1st District 60, Hawkins 1340.33, KWyche 54.30, Larsco 3287.90, McGee 350.50, Menards 751.97, MouseRiver 1151.59, NAPA 3.46, NSCCU 1055.88, OnPoint 1890, 1call 13.50, Ottetail 3219.61, PJemtrud 450, Runnings 23.98, RyanChevy 1832.28, SRT 568.07, Swanston 150, VCDC 245.82, VelvaDrug 5.18, VelvaLibrary 245.77, Verizon 250); and payroll of \$43,709.50 were approved.

Commission President Mike Schreiner reviewed the Police Report. Deputy Dewanz added that the McHenry County Sheriff's Department will hold a training session on December 11, hosting several officers from surrounding jurisdictions.

Schreiner presented the list of foreclosed property for sale, with a particular parcel of land that runs adjacent to the city's transmission line. Johns stated that Jemtrud expressed interest in the property due to its logistics, and asked if the commission would be interested in bidding on it. Keller moved, seconded by Davis, to bid on the property, with a maximum bid of \$5,000; and to designate Assessor Bourdeau as the city's bidder/representative. R/C: All ayes. M/c.

Johns asked if the city would be interested in a co-op senior from the school that would be willing and able to help with Auditor, Assessor and Public Works tasks during the second semester of school. Johns stated the 2026 budget would need to be amended to include the student's wages up to \$2,500 out of the water fund.

Davis moved, seconded by Keller, to amend the 2026 budget to include wages out of the water fund for a co-op student from January to May. R/C: All ayes. M/c. Mary Liz Davis had no business to discuss. Dave Keller asked about the sale of the Lariat. Ben Zietz had no business to discuss. Gene Jenson was unable to attend due to ambulance/CPR requirements.

Engineer Emma Lavachek (Ackerman-Estvold) submitted the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) grant application to the state, which may provide low-interest financing for future water and sewer improvements.

Auditor Jenny Johns presented the finalized list of unpaid nuisance abatement fees and penalties submitted to the County per the deadline. Johns asked that the commission consider an increase to the current late fee on the utility bills. The current fee is \$5/ month; however, this penalty does not dissuade some residents from paying their bill late. Johns asked for the commission to increase the late fee to 10% per billing cycle, as well as, increasing the "re-connection of curb/ stop fee" to \$100, instead of \$25. Davis moved, seconded by Zietz, to increase the utility bill penalties from \$5 to 10% and to increase the reconnection fee to \$100 from \$25. R/C: All ayes. M/c. 12/04/2025

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m. The next regular meeting is Monday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. Agenda requests are due by noon the Thursday prior. Minutes are subject to amendment and approval.

Obituary:

Our Deepest Sympathy

Carl Feist October 4, 1964 - November 24, 2025



Carl Feist, 61, Velva, ND and Cary, NC passed away Monday, November 24, 2025 in North Carolina.

Carl Dean Feist was born October 4, 1964 in Minot, ND to Curtis and Bonnie (Helstedt) Feist. He grew up on the Feist farm near Velva and attended Velva Public School, graduating with the Class of 1983. He furthered his education attending the North Dakota State School of Science at Wahpeton and graduated in 1985 with an Associate Degree in Applied Science and Industrial Electronic and Instrumentation Technology. He also graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business from Moorhead State University in 1991. His work took him to various places including Albuquerque, NM, Viborg, SD, Bismarck ND, Wahpeton, ND and in 2015 he began working for his current employer, AISIN North Carolina Corp in Durham, NC as a robotic engineer. He was currently the Maintenance Engineer Assistant Manager. He enjoyed this specialty work and recently had designed a robot training system to train new employees. He had an inventive spirit and through the years had enjoyed trying his

hand at creating several items he had hoped to patent.

Carl met the love of his life, Olga Sunduk, in 2003 during a visit to Sevastopol, Ukraine. He and Olga were married May 8, 2004 at Custer Park in Bismarck, ND. They moved from Bismarck to Fergus Falls, MN in 2010. Olga was not fond of the winters in the north and convinced Carl to move to North Carolina in 2013. They enjoyed life together there and recently purchased property in the Blue Ridge Mountains near Burnsville, NC and were working on improving the property with the hopes of spending time there in retirement.

Carl missed the North Dakota prairie and made a special point to come home to the farm and help at least a couple of times a year, usually Memorial Day weekend and again in the fall. He referred to these visits as his "Dude Ranch Vacations". It was always a working vacation and often included sorting and working cattle, fixing fence, doing fieldwork, or making hay. He enjoyed coming home for mom's cooking and to visit family.

Carl loved college football and lived for Saturdays during football season. He had multiple screens/devices going all day so he could follow as many games as possible. From September 1998 to March 1999, he took a leave from his job and traveled the United States in a 1973 Dodge Tioga camper visiting college football stadiums, tailgating and watching games. He stopped along the way to visit family members and do sightseeing. He especially enjoyed visiting many national parks and found solitude in nature.

Carl will be remembered for his strong work ethic and his infectious laughter and smile. He

was a loving husband, son, brother and uncle and will be deeply missed.

Carl's loving family includes his wife Olga, parents Curtis and Bonnie Feist, siblings: Valerie (Kevin) Heisler, Velva, Debra (Lindsay) Johnson, Dubuque, IA, Shelley Feist, Washington D.C., niece Erica (Michael) Carl, Velva and nephew Nicholas Johnson, Bettendorf, IA. He is also survived by brother-in-law Alexander Sunduk, niece Victoria Sunduk and nephew Clementi Sunduk, all from Sevastopol. His faithful and loving pups Snezhka and Zbyshek. He is also survived by several aunts and uncles as well as numerous cousins.

Carl was preceded in death by his grandparents Joe and Ruth Feist and Luella and Rudolph Helstedt; his mother and father-in-law Svetlana and Vitaliy Sunduk.

Celebration of Carl's Life: Friday, December 5, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. at Oak Valley Lutheran Church, Velva. To view a livestream of the service or to share memories and condolences access www.thomasfamilyfuneralhome.com

Interment: Bergen Community Cemetery, Bergen, ND. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the start of the service in the church.

Memorials are preferred to an organization of the donor's choice. Thomas Family Funeral Home of Minot is trusted with arrangements.





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