

McLean County Sheriff's Department - Calls Of Service

COMPILED BY KELLI AMELING
Associate Publisher

May 16

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 4 a.m. on U.S. Highway 83 near mile marker 127 in Washburn. A 64-year-old woman of Kenmae was cited for having expired registration.

May 17

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 12:45 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 northbound on mile marker 152. Dezarae Ballard, 26, of Minot, arrested for driving under suspension.

Deputies responded at about 5:45 a.m. to N.D. Highway 37

near mile marker 59 on a report of a car versus deer crash. The reporting party did say the airbags deployed and the car was leaking gas. A 30-year-old female of Philadelphia, Mississippi, was cited for driving without insurance.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 12:30 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 southbound near mile marker 141 in Underwood. A 30-year-old female, of Crookston, Minnesota, was cited for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 1 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 near northbound near mile marker 14. A 23-year-old female, of Minot, was cited

for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 8 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 southbound near mile marker 136. A 31-year-old female, of Bismarck, was cited for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 9 p.m. on Fourth Avenue in Washburn. A 22-year-old male, of New Town was cited for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 9:15 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 near mile marker 133. A 63-year-old male, of Roosevelt, Utah, was cited for speeding.

May 18

chenko, "ayes" all, "nays" none, M/C

2. FYI: 4-10-2026 Auditor Volochenko completed USPS City PO Box "No-Charge" annual renewal form.

3. Lagoon pumping transfer numbers and Cell #2 BOD5/TSS/pH test results are: pH-8.48, BOD5-14 ppm, TSS-30 ppm

4. Water, Wastewater & pH Certification: Auditor Volochenko stated that she is now a state certified level 1a in water distribution, wastewater treatment and certified in pH field testing.

5. McLean County Police Contract: Mayor Thomsen, was decided not to pay for the police contract

6. Gaming Site Authorization Application for Turtle Lake American Legion for Chester's Tavern: Mayor Thomsen, Council Member Gardiner moved to approve gaming application submitted by the America Legion for Chester's Tavern, Council Member Lorenz seconded, "ayes" all, "nays" none, M/C

7. A "FYI" letter "Notice of Foreclosure of Tax Lien" from McLean County concerning the old school property was received. Owner will need to pay at least \$4000.00 to keep it.

8. Major modifications are slated for the Garrison Dam beginning in 2029-2030 to 2041 to maybe even 2050.

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 Lorenz made a motion to adjourn, Council Member Gardiner seconded, "ayes" all,

M/C Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm CDT.

(July 2, 2026)

Resolution of the City Council of Mercer City

APPROVING AUDITOR BLANKET BOND COVERAGE

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the need to protect the assets of MERCER CITY from potential loss due to fraudulent or dishonest acts by employees, officers, or agents;

WHEREAS, fidelity and blanket bond coverage is an industry-standard method of providing such protection, as recognized by national surety and fidelity bond standards;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mercer City Council hereby authorizes and approves the declaration of the existing Commercial Blanket Bond with a coverage period of 12/3/2025-12/3/2026 in the amount of \$67,561.00 from a licensed surety provider, specifically, The North Dakota State Bonding Fund;

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, that the bond shall provide coverage consistent with standard fidelity bond forms promulgated by recognized surety associations, including protection against loss resulting from fraudulent or dishonest acts;

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Mercer City Council authorizes the City Auditor to execute all documents necessary to obtain and maintain said bond and to ensure compliance with all applicable regulations;

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, that this resolution shall be entered into the official records of the Board.

(July 2, 2026)

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL

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are undervalued, Mr. Oberg responded that the values do need to be gradually increased as so not to shock the owners.

Auditor Volochenko inquired about the lower city mil rate of 98.35 and not the maximum of 105.00 mils. Auditor Volochenko asked just how much higher the Vanguard property valuations are compared to what are listed now. Response was that it varies from property to property, some are 50% others are double the current list value. The county tax director sets property valuations. Mayor Thomsen asked for a complete report of who gets how much of each tax dollar. Auditor Volochenko asked as to where Vanguard gets their data from. Data is based on sales of similar properties in the state.

Financials & Bills List:
(The current available (remaining)) "Municipal Infrastructure Fund Bill" ("Operation Prairie Dog") is \$17,345.20
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 two more "overage" pickups on the latest bill. Mayor Thomsen said that we need addresses otherwise we cannot pass on the charges if we don't know who they are.

Waste Management three-year contract expires in late 2027 There was much discussion about when the Waste Management contract expires, to hire a different carrier when the time comes.

Mayor Thomsen suggested that Council Member Zinke should be refunded his \$25.00 tote overage fee that he voluntarily paid last month.

Council Member Lorenz moved to approve the entire financial and bills list as presented,

Council Member Volochenko seconded, roll call vote results were; Council Member Gardiner "aye", Council Member Volochenko "aye", Council Member Lorenz "aye", Council Member Zinke absent, not voting, M/C.

Auditor Volochenko presented the new utility payment platform contract "Catalis"; a company that doesn't charge the city any monthly fees. Council Member Volochenko moved to accept the contract with its terms, Council Member Gardiner seconded, "ayes" all, "nays" none, M/C.

Water/Wastewater Business:

Mayor Thomsen began by saying that the old MCC water meter has been taken out.

Mayor Thomsen talked about flushing hydrants on May the 28th & 29th, was decided to send a letter to the citizens notifying them of the flushing and leak detection projects. Auditor Volochenko will get a letter sent out to the citizens next week.

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

Park Report: Council Member Lorenz stated that the park was not awarded the AARP grant, however we will go ahead and do the sidewalk and pay out of the park project fund.

New Community Center Project Report:

Willa Murray stated that they have sent out the pamphlets and Mayor

Thomsen added that he has the donation sign ready and just need to dig the holes and install it.

Mercer Market: Council Member Lorenz said that Trista Rust had sent an email to join this organization for \$75.00 per year. <https://www.ndfarmersmarkets.org/join>

Auditor Volochenko suggested opening a bank account if it was going to be "active".

Response was "no" just a membership and should create a line item for Mercer Market showing the amount of \$381.00 as that what was showing in the last financial report generated by the former administration. Auditor Volochenko said that will be done.

Old Business:

1. Generator for City Water Pump House: Electrician quote(s) and generator(s) quotes:

Was decided that since the main gate water valve is now open, the city doesn't really need a generator. The only thing is that Mclean Sheridan doesn't have a backup generator.

2. Wild Prairie Solutions: Mayor Thomsen, quote for \$4,160.00 to replace curb stops and install a meter pit. May ask the contractor to replace a few more curb stop pipes while he is in town. Council Member Volochenko made a motion to have Wild Prairie Solutions to do the extra curb stops, Council Member Lorenz seconded, roll call vote, Council member Gardiner, "aye", Council Member Volochenko, "aye", Council Member Lorenz, "aye" Council Member Zinke absent, not voting, M/C.

3. USA Flags: Mayor Thomsen Purchased 6 more flags and poles to add to the current inventory.

4. Mayor Thomsen would like to talk Jacob Modin about working part time for the city.

5. Street Graveling: Council Member Volochenko will hold off on the graveling until the hydrants and sewer are flushed and we get some rain.

6. Our Savior's Lutheran Church Building Permit Application: Permit application was filled out and returned: Council Member Lorenz moved to approve the building permit, council Member Volochenko seconded, "ayes" all, "nays" none, M/C.

7. Motor to Mercer Car Show Raffle Permit: Not picked up as of this meeting.

8. City Hall Carpet cleaning quote(s): Kathrin Volochenko, for \$300.00, the \$50.00 for the spot pretreatment plus \$300.00 to clean the furnace ducts. The Mercer Seniors will pay a total of \$200.00, \$150.00 for the 50% cost share for the carpet cleaning and \$50.00 for 50% cost share for the spot removal.

9. Garbage/WM: Auditor Volochenko-Mayor Thomsen

10. Lagoon Pumping: date, time and gallons must be recorded, was some discussion on discharge testing and reporting criteria.

11. Catalis Online Payment Platform Contract: Auditor Volochenko presented the Catalis payment platform contract for discussion. Council Member Volochenko moved to accept the terms of the contract, Council Member Gardiner seconded, "ayes" all, "nays" none, M/C.

New Business:
1. Declare Official City Newspaper by Resolution: Mayor Thomsen read the resolution declaring that the Official City Newspaper is the Central McLean News-Journal. Council member Lorenz moved to accept the resolution as read, seconded by Council Member Volochenko,

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 10 a.m. near Northgate/Sidney in Washburn. Cody Beckman, 37, of Washburn, was arrested for driving under suspension.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 9:30 a.m. on U.S. Highway 83 northbound near mile marker 125. A male, of Minot, was cited for having expired registration and tinted windows, and received a warning for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 2:45 p.m. at the intersection of U.S. Highway 83 and N.D. Highway 37. A 48-year-old female, of Bismarck, was cited for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 3:40 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 near mile marker 128. A 59-year-old male, of Fargo, was cited for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 9:30 p.m. on N.D. Highway 37 westbound on mile marker 58. An 18-year-old male, of Garrison, was cited for having expired registration, speeding and no insurance.

May 19

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 1:15 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 near mile marker 136. A 23-year-old male, of Bismarck, was cited for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 5 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 near mile marker 120. A 37-year-old male, of Bismarck, was cited for tinted windows.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 8:45 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 northbound near mile marker 129. A 37-year-old female, of Queen Creek, Arizona, was cited for speeding.

May 20

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 8 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 northbound near mile marker 139. A 52-year-old female, of Bismarck, was cited for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic

stop at about noon at the intersection of U.S. Highway 83 and N.D. Highway 200. A 20-year-old male, of Newtown, was cited for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 12:15 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 near mile marker 140 in Underwood. A 70-year-old male, of Mandan, was cited for speeding.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about 2 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 near mile marker 143. A 26-year-old female, of Minot, was cited for speeding and driving without insurance.

Deputies performed a traffic stop at about about 3:30 p.m. on U.S. Highway 83 northbound near mile marker 166. A 49-year-old male, of Minot, was cited for right of way for emergency vehicles.

Deputies were dispatched at about 2:15 p.m. to the area of the Time Out Tavern in Wilton for a suspicious situation. The reporting party stated a male was laying in the roadway exposing himself and was allegedly "very drunk." The caller stated the man got up and was walking around but his pants were pulled down. Deputies found the man, who had a BAC of .287%, and was laying in a yard "exposing himself." Curtis Kuntz, 25, of Butte, was arrested for disorderly conduct. Upon taking Kuntz to jail, the deputy had to stop to restrain him as he began to bang on the car's cage. During that time, the deputy noted the person urinated in the back of the cop car.

Deputies responded to a crash at about 11:45 p.m. north of N.D. 200A. four miles east of Underwood. The reporting party stated they vehicle was in the ditch on the eastside of the road and they would return the next day to get it. Deputies said the driver had to return to the scene of a crash. When deputies arrived, they noted the vehicle was on its roof. The driver returned to the scene.

PLANT ENGINEER

Milton R. Young Power Plant

Minnkota Power is seeking qualified candidates for a **Plant Engineer**, preferably with a **Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering** although other majors will be considered, at the **Milton R. Young Station** located near Center, ND. The Milton R. Young Station is a two-unit coal-fired power plant, providing a stable energy source for our cooperative member-owners. The station is located 35 miles from Bismarck, North Dakota, a growing and progressive city with many recreational opportunities.

- Coordinate the preparation of construction drawings and specifications for plant process equipment.
- Design and installation of new and replacement equipment.
- Work with consultants and contractors as necessary to accomplish engineering objectives.
- Troubleshoot existing systems with operations and maintenance to resolve safety or production problems with engineered solutions.
- Identify technical and operational training needs and initiate action on capital and O & M projects.
- Monitor work activity to ensure it is being done in a safe manner and in compliance with current regulations.
- Assist in record keeping of system work order files, standard drawing and data files
- Analyze plant data and provide recommendations.
- Monitor and recommend new technology which could improve the efficiency, reliability, availability, and longevity of the power plant.
- Provide engineering support to other departments as required.

A degree in mechanical engineering is required, though related education may be considered. We welcome candidates at all experience levels, including recent graduates and experienced engineers. Previous industrial experience, particularly with rotating or fixed equipment, is preferred but not required.

Minnkota Power Cooperative makes career growth and development a priority by creating a challenging and rewarding work environment. For more information regarding this job and our online application go to www.Minnkota.com. Resumes will not be accepted without a completed application. Closing date to submit applications is June 22, 2026.

Minnkota Power Cooperative is an EEO/AAP/Female/Minority/Disabled/Vets Employer



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