

Legal Notices:

Your right to know

VELVA REGULAR COMMISISON MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2026
7:00PM AT VELVA CITY HALL
The regular meeting of the Velva City Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Commission President Mike Schreiner. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. R/C: Mike Schreiner–Commission President, Street/Finance; Dave Keller – Vice President, Police Commissioner (including Cemetery oversight); Mary Liz Davis – Police/Finance Commissioner; Ben Zietz – Water/Sewer Commissioner; Gene Jenson – Streets/Improvements Commissioner (including Cemetery oversight); Jenny Johns – City Auditor; Emma Lavachek – Ackerman-Estvold Engineering; Heather Tudor – Velva Area Voice; Dave Dewanz, David Florey, Trey Skager – McHenry County Sheriff’s Department; Tracey Krueger – VCDC; Vedaa Consulting and Ellen Huber – NDAREC.

*Schreiner asked to move the zone change request to the top of the agenda. Keller/Jenson made a motion to accept the recommendation from Planning and Zoning and approve the zone change from C-1 neighborhood commercial to C-3 Central Business District, with a buffer zone requirement to be approved at a later date, when the new owners apply for their building permit with the planning and zoning board. Discussion on the buffer strip with Bourdeau and the NDAREC representatives. R/C: All ayes. M/c.
*Schreiner moved to the grant request submitted to the VCDC and sales tax committee from the golf course for pump system repairs. Keller/Jenson made a motion to approve the recommendation from the sales tax committee and grant \$31,430.25 to the Star City Golf Course out of the sales tax fund. R/C: Jenson,

Zietz, Keller, Davis, Schreiner - aye. M/c.
Davis moved, seconded by Zietz, to approve the minutes from the December 15th regular meeting and December 16th special meeting. R/C: All ayes. M/c.
*Davis/Jenson, to approve the bills paid and to be paid in the amount of \$49,725.15, and payroll in the amount of \$43,963.44. R/C: All ayes. M/c. Bills: Ackerman 195, SRT 565.58, AutoValue 418.86, Bag 85.85, C&R 1041.90, Circle 7617.62, Circle control 1125, Enerbase 990.30, 1stDistrict 60, GK repair 1012.34, Hawkins 1494.30, lenco 4100, MainElec 1917.74, McGee 799.50, Sheriffs Dept 20325, MouseRiver 602.08, mouse river journal 42, Napa 56.98, northern brake 395, Ottetail 5070.10, PJemtrud 450, TCspec. 940, CompStore 170, Verizon 250.
President/Finance Schreiner asked the commission if they would like to be notified on any emergent situations that take place within the city, such as the windstorm last summer. Commission concurred to do so. Schreiner presented the option of mandatory contractor licensing for work done throughout the city. No resolution was made. Schreiner visited with the State School Superintendent when he was in Velva last week. Schreiner recommended giving an award for outstanding achievements to Velva residents. Zietz/Jenson made a motion to approve outstanding achievements with an award. R/C: All ayes. M/c.
No complaints to review. Schreiner reviewed the Police Report. Deputy Dewanz presented the opportunity to erect a sign along Highway 200 honoring a Velva fallen officer; the cost for two signs would be approximately \$367. Keller/Jenson made a motion to approve the purchase of two signs, not to exceed \$400. R/C: All ayes. M/c.
*Johns asked if anyone would be

interested in attending the March Madness/NDLC convention in March in Dickinson. Davis will tentatively attend.
Davis: no business to discuss. Keller: discussed the potential for excessive anhydrous truck traffic being detoured through Velva along highway 41 to Grand Forks in the coming future. Keller asked to eliminate the engine brakes sign. Zietz asked that the city start the condemnation process on the elevator located on the west side of the underpass, previously leased by Nathan Smith farms, as there is visible building deterioration to the exterior of the building, and verbal mention of interior damage. The commission concurred to start the process. Jenson: no business to discuss. Engineer Lavachek gave a rundown on the items for Velva she has taken care of, including access inquiries, Sunset Addition, the Floodplain ordinance and lead service line inventory funding. Lavachek has Velva on the list for the 66% loan forgiveness grant being offered by the NDDEQ. Lavachek ran quick numbers, and worst-case scenario has costs totaling over 2.5 million dollars.
155 residents have yet to respond to the lead line inventory project. Deadline for reporting to the NDDEQ will be November of 2027; at that time the city will need to have a plan in place to replace lead lines.
Auditor Johns presented and explained the 2025 EOY transfer list that needs approval to finalize and closeout 2025. Jenson/Davis made a motion to approve the 2025 transfers as presented. R/C: All ayes. M/c. Johns asked for approval of the 2025 Cash Receipts/Disbursements Schedule. Jenson/Davis made a motion to approve the 2025 Cash Receipts/Disbursements Schedule as presented. R/C: All ayes. M/c.
Johns stated that the city was awarded the 2025 Emerald Ash Borer mitigation grant; and work will begin this spring. Ordinance change, section 2-21. Davis/ Zietz made a motion to approve the 2nd reading of Sec. 2-21 Regular Meetings as follows: The city commission shall meet regularly at the city hall on the third Monday of each month at the hour of 6:00 p.m. unless some other time and place shall be specifically fixed by the board... R/C: All ayes. M/c.

*Schreiner presented the 1st reading of ordinance change no. 2026-01 Sec. 12-6 Floodplain Management. Zietz/ Jenson made a motion not to pass the ordinance as presented. R/C: Zietz, Jenson – yes; Schreiner, Davis, Keller – nay; motion failed. Davis/Keller made a motion to approve the 1st reading of ordinance change no. 2026-01 Sec. 12-6 Floodplain management. R/C: Davis, Keller, Schreiner – aye; Jenson, Zietz – nay; m/c.
After much review, the attorney has recommended we withdraw the sale notice for the property located on the west edge of the city. Due to unforeseen circumstances, access to the property has been denied. Keller/Jenson made a

motion to remove the property for sale until further notice and shred any bids received. R/C: All ayes. M/c. Zietz/Jenson made a motion to pursue eminent domain to gain access across their property. R/C: Zietz, Jenson, Schreiner – yes; Davis, Keller – nay; m/c. Adjournment There being no further business, President Schreiner adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m.
The next regular City Commission Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 17th, at 6:00 p.m. Agenda requests must be submitted by Thursday at noon prior to the meeting. Minutes are subject to amendment and approval.
1/29/2026

Hammer announces run for Congress
Submitted by Nicole DesRosier, Campaign Manager

Trygve Hammer is officially announcing his candidacy for the U.S. House of Representatives.
The retired Marine, former educator, oil field roughneck, and now political columnist is running to be an advocate in Washington, D.C. for the people of North Dakota.
“Right now we have no voice in Congress. We need someone who will see something and say some-

thing. We need a representative who will demand that Congress take back its rightful powers,” Hammer said.
Hammer previously ran for Congress in 2024. “I learned a lot from the last campaign, and the issues we talked about then have not been addressed. North Dakotans are not better off now than they were a year ago.”



Velva Dental
Dr. Colleen Hofer
701-338-2061
or call
701-829-0895

We would love to have you as a patient!
In-Network Insurance Plans
*Ameritas
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Next Blue of North Dakota
Delta Dental
United Concordia
UNUM
United Healthcare*

JOINT ANNUAL MEETING
*Velva Community
Development Corporation,
& Souris Valley Care Center, Inc.*
Monday February 2 • 7:00 PM
Verendrye Electric, Velva
Agenda includes financial reports and election of directors to all three boards
The public is welcome - and encouraged - to attend.

Financial Report Year Ending December 31, 2025 Velva - CITY						
FUND	Balance 1-1-25	Revenue	Transfers In	Expense	Transfers Out	Balance 12-31-25
General	\$ 81,373.64	\$ 853,978.89	\$ 165.46	\$ 363,168.40	\$ 532,698.10	\$ 39,651.49
Agency Funds (Library, VCDC, VFD)	\$ 62,145.03	\$ 44,801.33		\$ 28,334.10	\$ 78,612.26	\$ 0.00
Cemetery	\$ (1,946.58)	\$ 52,148.95	\$ 169.63	\$ 460.99	\$ 49,911.01	\$ (0.00)
Highway Distribution	\$ -	\$ 280,059.35			\$ 280,059.35	\$ -
Legacy Fund Earnings	\$ -					\$ -
Flexible Transportation Fund	\$ -	\$ 41,899.60				\$ 41,899.60
Garbage	\$ 31,053.02	\$ 93,006.11	\$ 3,638.24	\$ 1,208.47	\$ 98,763.22	\$ 27,725.68
Water	\$ 241,725.73	\$ 326,637.86	\$ 60.00	\$ 40,221.56	\$ 251,128.39	\$ 277,073.64
Sewer	\$ 157,003.61	\$ 145,128.28	\$ 3,326.11	\$ 29,734.78	\$ 121,048.03	\$ 154,675.19
City Sales Tax (Infrastructure/VCDC/Park/W&S)	\$ 653,642.12	\$ 313,754.84		\$ 121,574.70	\$ 18,892.81	\$ 826,929.45
Emergency Dike/Flood Fund	\$ 336.03	\$ 159.06		\$ 495.09		\$ -
Debt Service Funds	\$ -					\$ -
MISC. (City Beautification, Wine Walk, Farmer's Market, Light Up Velva)	\$ 38,250.60	\$ 3,745.00		\$ 1,002.00	\$ 31,016.15	\$ 9,977.45
Other (Water/Sewer Reserve, Curbstop, Vector)	\$ 51,417.42	\$ 2,976.49	\$ 150.16	\$ 3,011.67	\$ 302.38	\$ 51,230.02
Other (Prairie Dog, CDBG, ARPA)	\$ (154,390.43)	\$ 435,935.52			\$ 281,545.09	\$ -
TOTALS (must match money in bank)	\$ 1,160,610.19	\$ 2,594,231.28	\$ 7,509.60	\$ 589,211.76	\$ 1,743,976.79	\$ 1,429,162.52

I attest the information provided in this document is true and accurate.

Joanifer Johns

City Auditor

1/22/2026

Velva area Voice
NEWSPAPER DEADLINES
Ad and article submissions are due in our office by
5PM THURSDAY 338-2599
vavads@srt.com

USPS 019-156
The Velva Area Voice / #3 North Main Street / P.O. Box 630 / Velva, ND 58790
Ph. 701-338-2599 / Fax 701-338-2705
Email: vavads@srt.com
Office/Sales Manager Becky Cederstrom
Reporter Heather Tudor / **Layout/Design** DeAnna Frantsen
Published every Thursday at #3 North Main Street, Velva, ND 58790
Periodical postage paid at Velva, ND 58790, and at additional mailing offices.
A weekly publication from:
BAG, LLC / 109 Main Street South / Minot, ND 58701
Postmaster: Send address changes to:
Velva Area Voice / P.O. Box 630 / Velva, ND 58790
For subscription prices or more info, call 701-338-2599
Email: vavads@srt.com

An award-winning member of the

