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The North Dakota Game & Fish Department announces the following summary of regulations from amendment No. 1 of the 2025-2026 small game, waterfowl, and furbearer proclamation.

The 2026 spring light goose conservation order will be in effect Feb. 21 - May 10, 2026. Only light geese may be taken. Light geese include snow geese, blue geese, and Ross's geese. There will be no daily or possession limit on light geese during the conservation order.

Apply online at gf.nd.gov. A complete proclamation along with amendment No. 1 that contains regulations for the 2026 spring light goose conservation order is available from the NDGF Department, 100 N Bismarck Expy, Bismarck, ND 58501-5095, Ph: 701-328-6300, or online at gf.nd.gov.

## MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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## MISCELLANEOUS

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**HAVE A NEWS** release or other information that needs to reach all ND newspapers? ND Newspaper Association can help! One call does it all. 701-223-6397. (N)13p



## NELSON COUNTY

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On January 29, Gov. Kelly Armstrong rolled out the Governor's Legacy Soil Health and Habitat Program, a cooperative effort to improve soil health and wildlife habitat on marginally productive cropland across North Dakota's rural landscape.

Joining Armstrong at a capitol press conference to unveil the program were state Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring, Game and Fish Director Jeb Williams and ND Association of Soil Conservation Districts Executive Director Rhonda Kelsch, along with roughly 50 partners and supporters of the pilot project.

The goal of the voluntary working lands program is to help North Dakota farmers strengthen cropland productivity and resilience with perennial grass cover, while improving soil health and water retention and creating much-needed wildlife habitat and access for hunters.

The Game and Fish Department partnered with the Association of Soil Conservation Districts to secure \$4.3 million from the state's Outdoor Heritage Fund, along with \$2.2 million in matching contributions from partners, for the two-year, \$6.5 million pilot project.

"This joint effort will help preserve and promote our rich heritage of farming and hunting for generations to come, while also showcasing the spirit of cooperation that makes North Dakota special," Armstrong said. "Healthy soils and wild-



life habitat are essential to our strong economy and the unmatched quality of life that makes North Dakota the best place to live, work and raise a family."

"This gives us the ability to look at planting some perennial grasses in a short period -- I love that flexibility about it," Goehring said, adding, "There's a lot of value in this . . . It's going to do more to change the landscape and help landowners and sportsmen out there."

Williams said the additional grassland will provide much-needed cover for deer and grassland birds. Access is not a requirement of the program, but producers can elect to receive additional incentives for access if they enroll in the state's existing Private Lands Open To Sportsmen (PLOTS) program.

The program could be used to enhance habitat on existing PLOTS land, Williams said, noting the program has received input and broad support from ag, conservation and energy partners.

"This program is designed to be simple, locally led and producer-friendly," Williams said. "Our goal is to create a soil health and habitat program with strong support from all partners to build a lasting legacy of healthy soils, thriving habitats and resilient communities."

The Association of Soil Conservation Districts will administer the program, with local delivery through soil conservation districts and partners.

"This working lands program will encompass environmental stewardship, an economic return on investment,

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING MICHIGAN CITY COUNCIL

November 10, 2025 - 5 p.m.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Rysavy.

Members present: Daniel Reineke, Jay Gilbertson, Jay Vasichek, Lauri Rysavy. Members absent: Nathan Flom. Others present: Scott Gilbertson, city superintendent; Jason Flom, auditor; Kaitlyn, Otter Tail Power. Community members present: Rod Crommett, David Kalinoski, Bill Best, James Shirek, Floyd Alford, Jay Buhr, Elaine Larson, Maria Vasichek.

Mayor Rysavy recognized the community present. Asked for problems, concerns, issues to be brought forward.

Elaine Larson spoke. She asked for permission, along with Linda Miller, to decorate the Vets Park for Christmas. She stated they had already bought items last year. Council agreed that it would be great, but she would need to approach the park board.

Second item was she has been in contact with ND Game and Fish for a railed fishing dock placed at the reservoir. It would be given under grant from Game and Fish geared to youngster to give them ease for fishing. They would also stock the reservoir yearly. Legion has agreed to put the money up that would be needed to match. Council agreed that this would be a great opportunity to proceed.

Third item was a request for one of the fire escapes off the old school building. Council denied request due to age of the escape and other factors involved.

Kaitlyn from Otter Tail Power Company presented the second reading of the 20-year agreement between Otter Tail Power Company and Michigan City. Only change from prior contract/ordinance was that we would have to give OTPC 60-day notice instead of 30-day notice if we intended to break the contract. Jay Gilbertson made a motion to approve second reading and changes to the agreement with OTPC. Jay Vasichek seconded. Roll call vote: Dan Reineke--yes, Jay Gilbertson--yes, Jay Vasichek--yes. Motion carried.

Kaitlyn thanked the council and left the meeting.

Maria Vasichek presented. She has concerns that there are 29 cars

in Michigan that do not run and should fall under the Ordinance #144 regarding such. She stated that she is flipping homes and one such property with this problem is located across the street from this home. She presented a letter that prior council had NCSO draft to go with the city ordinance. Council Member Vasichek stated besides a certified letter that the NCSO should serve this letter and ordinance; they have 30 days to remove said vehicle. Mayor Rysavy offered a copy of the ordinance to all present.

In connection with said complaint, Floyd Alford spoke on the property to the west of him and the history the property owner has in Petersburg with collection of non-running vehicles over there. Council stated that they are aware of this and currently have been watching over there. Auditor Flom stated that currently all vehicles over there have driven in on their own accord and are licensed. Alford also asked about the property directly east of the Duffers Club. Council stated that the owner mows the grass and buildings on said property; at this time there is no action to be taken by city.

Jay Buhr spoke on the same matter and issued complaint of vehicles on blocks, next door in the backyard. After discussion, council will take pictures of said vehicles to compile a list, after which it will be discussed and letter put together by the auditor. Auditor will talk to the NCSO to help with delivery of official letters and send them certified mail. Member Vasichek reminded the group that if the vehicle is licensed and runs that we can take no action on them.

Maria Vasichek, Elaine Larson, Floyd Alford, Jay Buhr left the meeting. Rod Crommett, Bill Best, David Kalinoski and James Shirek spoke on behalf of the Michigan Legion. They stated they have gaming money they feel would help the city greatly, such as the store, food pantry, so on and so forth. After a discussion, council directed them to cut the checks directly to the local JDA. JDA can see fit where it needs to go, such as building repairs to the old Kite Building, food pantry, grocery store. Legion agreed with the council and will go directly to them. Mayor Rysavy and council graciously thanked the Legion for all their donation to Michigan to keep it the beautiful place

that it is! They were also thanked for their recent donation toward new Christmas pole decorations!

Rod Crommett, Bill Best, David Kalinoski and James Shirek left the meeting.

Mayor Rysavy called for motion to approve the last meeting minutes. Jay Vasichek made a motion to approve as presented. Daniel Reineke seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Dan Reineke--yes, Jay Gilbertson--yes, Jay Vasichek--yes. Motion carried.

Bills were presented:

1st United Bank .....	\$1,704.93
MHF .....	27.95
Brager .....	2,000.25
Otter Tail .....	2,002.20
Nodak .....	150.00
Polar .....	185.33
NCSO .....	1,315.00
One Call .....	3.00
Card Member Services ..	1,267.22
ND Water Users Assn. ..	125.00
John Deere Financial ....	9,167.56
Verizon .....	41.53
Hamster Oil .....	123.05
Farmers Union .....	150.00
Ferguson Waterworks ....	1,250.00
Lakota Hardware .....	15.56
Nelson Co. Water .....	2,824.98

Motion made by Jay Vasichek to approve. Daniel Reineke seconded. Roll call vote: Dan Reineke--yes, Jay Gilbertson--yes, Jay Vasichek--yes. Motion carried.

Superintendent Report -- Scott Gilbertson presented. Water loss for the month was within normal range. Civic Center has had 40 lights changed over to LED. There are about that many left to complete. Working on being winter-ready; bulk water station has been closed for the season. Fire hydrants have been flushed and working on a couple replacing parts. Burnt tree pile at the reservoir. Need to contact Brian Johnson to push them back and push back the concrete pile. Mixer for the water tower is in and waiting for Ohnstad Electric to come and wire it. Will be taking vacation the next few afternoons this week.

Auditor Report -- Jason Flom presented. Water shut off notices were presented. Bank statement, profit/loss and balance sheets given. USDA report was given and amounts left with them. All special assessments have been turned in to the Nelson County auditor. Discussed new policy for new construction houses and the setback rule. Will have examples next meeting; this will not be an ordinance but a policy. The new accounting and utility billing system was discussed, and auditor hopes to have it all in place by year's end.

Old Business -- Spark Housing was discussed and Lisa from RRRRC stated through an email that construction will begin in the spring. Motion was made by Jay Vasichek to abate the taxes during construction. Jay Gilbertson seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Dan Reineke--yes, Jay Gilbertson--yes, Jay Vasichek--yes. Motion carried.

Second reading of Ordinance 146 (Pets in City Limits) was done. Jay Vasichek made a motion to approve the changes made to Ordinance 146. Daniel Reineke seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Dan Reineke--yes, Jay Gilbertson--yes, Jay Vasichek--yes. Motion carried.

New Business -- 2026 beer license for Hamster Oil and 2026 beer and liquor license for Horseshoe Bar and Grill were presented.

Daniel Reineke made a motion to approve the Hamster Oil beer license. Jay Vasichek seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Dan Reineke--yes, Jay Gilbertson--abstain, Jay Vasichek--yes. Motion carried.

Jay Vasichek made a motion to approve the Horseshoe Bar and Grill 2026 liquor and beer license. Jay Gilbertson seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Dan Reineke--yes, Jay Gilbertson--yes, Jay Vasichek--yes. Motion carried.

Next regular meeting will be Dec. 8, 2025 at 5 p.m.

Jay Gilbertson made motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Reineke seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted, Jason M. Flom Auditor

Amendment Dec. 8, 2025: Jay Vasichek made a motion to approve as presented. Nathan Flom seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

and increased development of wildlife habitat. Through these tools we will continue to build upon a legacy North Dakota can be proud of," Kelsch said.

The pilot program will cover approximately 10,000 acres, with the goal of eventually seeking dedicated funding to execute the program on a larger scale. All types of cropland are eligible for the program, which offers annual payments on five-year agreements for producers to establish perennial grasses. Producers are also eligible to receive a crop insurance premium reduction in coordination with USDA's Risk Management Agency, on acres seeded to perennial grasses.

The "Legacy" title of the program is an acronym for Land stewardship, Ecology and energy, Growth and governance, Agriculture and access, Conservation and collaboration, and Yield and your future.

Landowners interested in this effort to improve soil health and wildlife habitat can contact their local soil conservation district at NDASCD.com. Enrollment is open as of February 2.

The Outdoor Heritage Fund was created during the 2013 legislative session and receives a portion of the state's oil and gas gross production tax. The Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board recommended approval of the program to the ND Industrial Commission, which approved the program December 17.

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING MICHIGAN CITY COUNCIL

December 8, 2025 - 5 p.m.

Mayor Rysavy called the meeting to order.

Members present: Daniel Reineke, Nathan Flom, Jay Vasichek, Jay Gilbertson via Teams online. Others present: Scott Gilbertson, city superintendent; Jason Flom, auditor. Community members present: Maria Vasichek, Jay Buhr, Bernie Linstad, Renee Anderson, Allen Orwick.

Mayor Rysavy acknowledged the community group present and asked for comments/concerns from each. Maria Vasichek started with her follow-up on Ordinance #144 and complaint submitted last month. Mayor Rysavy and Auditor Flom both stated that the letter used in the past that was written by a prior sheriff and our ordinance were given to the sheriff's department and they were going to review. Daniel Reineke spoke on his finding within town. Questions were asked by different one in the group present. It was explained that some of the cars listed were used and licensed. Member Flom had texted Petersburg mayor and she had sent over their new ordinance on dilapidated vehicles. Copies of this ordinance, along with Michigan City current ordinance, were distributed to the group for review. Discussion was held that Michigan City ordinance was solid but for enforcement we would need to work with NCSO.

Discussion was also held on the old school building, nursing home and three houses that need to come down. It was asked of the council to please share an update to the group. Auditor Flom stated he will contact Sheriff Schwind to attend our next meeting.

Group left the meeting. Minutes from Nov. 10, 2025 meeting were presented. Jay Vasichek made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Nathan Flom seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Bills were presented as follows:

1st United Bank .....	\$1,704.93
NAPA .....	3.99
Brager .....	1,950.50
Otter Tail .....	1,899.06
Polar .....	185.54
NCSO .....	1,315.00
One Call .....	3.00
Card Member Services ..	795.28
Catalis .....	1,064.00
Verizon .....	41.53
Hamster Oil .....	221.40
USBank .....	1,945.00
GF Utility Billing .....	52.46
Ferguson .....	1,700.75
Total .....	\$12,882.44

Jay Vasichek made a motion to approve all bills as presented. Jay Gilbertson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Superintendent Report -- Water loss is at a normal state. Christmas lights are up, including the second set of new ones. Peggy Kalinoski donated to Civic Center for the old snowflakes. Burials are done for the season at the cemetery as the ground was frozen. Lift station generator was fixed. Lagoon had transfers from one cell to another.

Auditor Report -- Transition to Banyon is ongoing. No one is on the shut-off list for water. Upcoming doctor's appointments so will be out of office a couple days in December. Pete Beasley has sold the old Leroy Sparks property to Shaun Walkin. Water station bills have been sent out for the summer 2025 season. Civic Center will be busy in the month of December.

Old Business -- Ordinance #144 was discussed at length. Council will discuss more about it at the next regular meeting when Sheriff Schwind is present.

New Business -- Jay Vasichek submitted his resignation effective immediately. Mayor Rysavy and the rest of the council thanked him for his time. Jay stated that the two different councils he served on through the years have been great!

Auditor Flom reminded all the next meeting is Jan. 12, 2026 at 5 p.m.

Nathan Flom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jay Vasichek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Jason M. Flom Auditor

Amendment Jan. 12, 2026 at 5:35 p.m.: Nathan Flom made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Jay Gilbertson seconded the motion. Motion passed by roll call vote.

# Business & Service Directory

## OPTOMETRISTS

**DRS. MOEN, ENDERLE & JOHNSTON OPTOMETRISTS**  
Highway 2 East, Devils Lake, ND  
Between Lake Toyota & Mr. & Mrs. J's  
PHONE: 662-4085  
HOURS: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
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Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

## Dr. Tom Dunham

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## HEALTHCARE

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Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sat. 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon

## INSURANCE

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**NELSON COUNTY PUBLIC HOUSING**  
Nelson County has 2 or 3 bedroom townhouses located in Aneta, Lakota, McVillie, Michigan, Petersburg and Tolna. Rent is based on 30% of adjusted gross income.  
**Please send in application to be placed on waiting list.**  
For more information, please call Nelson County Public Housing at 701-746-2745. Ask for Brenda.

# NOTICE

*Michigan Area Ambulance District*  
**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m.**  
*Michigan Ambulance Building, 117 Broadway N., Michigan, ND*

# LAND FOR RENT LAND

## in Central Township

The Board of County Commissioners of Nelson County will accept sealed bids for the rent of the **NE1/4 of Sec. 12, Twp. 151. Rge. 59 except the parcel formerly used as the Nelson County landfill until February 13, 2026 at 4 p.m.**

Bids will be opened and publicly read at 10 a.m., February 17, 2026, in the Commissioners Room at the Courthouse in Lakota. Bidders that submit sealed bids are allowed to increase their bid at that time.

More information on this parcel can be obtained at the Nelson County Auditor's Office, Lakota, ND.

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Nathan Parks, Nelson County Auditor