

Public Notices

Notice to Creditors

PROBATE NO. 52-2025-PR-00011
WELLS COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

In the matter of the Estate of Mary Ann Michelson, Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned have been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within three months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to Sandy Popp, Personal Representative of the Estate, at PO Box 213, Milnor ND 58060, or filed with the Court. Dated this 30th day of December, 2025.

Sandy Popp, Personal Representative
(January 3, 10 & 17, 2026)

Notice to Creditors

PROBATE NO. 52-2025-PR-00030
WELLS COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

In the matter of the Estate of Daniel M. Becvar, Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned have been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within three months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to Victoria Becvar, Personal Representative of the Estate, at 2218 53rd Avenue NE, Cathay ND 58422, or filed with the Court. Dated this 30th day of December, 2025.

Victoria Becvar, Personal Representative
(January 3, 10 & 17, 2026)

Notice to Creditors

Probate No. 52-2025-PR-00029
Galen J. Mack SBAND #04398
Mack Law Offices, P.C.

Attorney at Law
PO Box 196
Rugby ND 58368
701-776-5246

Attorney for Personal Representative
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF WELLS COUNTY, STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF VERA BOWERS A/K/A CAROLINE VERA BOWERS, DECEASED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the above named decedent are required to present their claims within three months after the date of the first publication or mailing of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to either Laura J. Musca, 2260 39th Avenue NE, Harvey, ND 58341, or filed with the clerk of the district court.

Dated December 17, 2025.
Laura J. Muscha

Personal Representative
Attorney for Personal Representative

Date of first publication on December 27, 2025.

(December 27, 2025, January 3 & 10, 2026)

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The City of Harvey is accepting bids for a 2027 Ford 750 truck. Gas engine with 335 hp, single axel, 6 speed automatic with a 16' dump body and 36" sides. Any questions contact Jamey Weinmann at 701-324-2000. Submit a bid to the City Auditor, Attn:

Truck, 120 West 8 th Street Harvey, ND 58341 by 4 pm Monday, January 12th. The bids will be opened at the city council meeting on January 14th at 5:30pm at City Hall. The City of Harvey has the right to refuse or reject any or all bids.

(January 3 & 10, 2026)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MARTIN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Monday, January 5, 2026; 7:00 pm
City Hall

Martin City Council met at City Hall on Monday, January 5, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

Present: Mayor Milton Hase; Council members: Cindy Martin, and Tina Schmitt; Auditor Shonella Lerner.

Absent: Gus Grade, and Travis Monge.

Mayor Hase called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: none

MINUTES: Minutes from December 1, 2025 Regular Meeting were in council packet.

M by Schmitt, MS by Martin to approve the minutes as presented. Upon VV, MC.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activities for December 2025 were in council packet and reviewed. M by Martin, MS by Schmitt to approve the financial reports as presented. Upon VV, MC.

OLD BUSINESS: Discussed update on lift station repair, burn variance, and policy for public comment period. No action taken on any item.

NEW BUSINESS: Information from FDHU regarding campground licensure was in council packet. M by Martin, MS by Schmitt to independently adopt and enforce NDCC ch 23-10, NDAC ch 33-33-01, and NDAC 33-33-02 as minimum standards to ensure the safety and comfort of guests. Upon VV, MC. M by Schmitt, MS by Martin at accept the proposed 2026 meeting calendar as presented by Auditor. Upon VV, MC. M by Martin, MS by Schmitt to designate Dakota Heritage Bank, First International Bank and First State Bank all of Harvey, ND as depositories. Upon VV, MC.

BILLS: M by Schmitt, MS by Martin to approve the following bills for payment: OTCPO 473.34, CPWD 33.02, Circle Sanitation 1,011.25, Gus Grade 92.35, Milton Hase 203.17 and 100.00, Shonella Lerner 1,108.20, Cindy Martin 110.82, 179.00, and 40.00, Travis Monge 92.35, Tina Schmitt 110.82, Shane Hase 55.41, US Treasury 312.12. M by Martin, MS by Schmitt to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 pm.

NOTE: These minutes are subject to correction and approval by Council.

Milton Hase, Mayor
Shonella Lerner, Auditor

(January 10, 2026)

WELLS COUNTY PUBLIC HEARING WELLS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

JANUARY 7, 2026

The Wells County Planning Commission met in a public hearing on Monday, January 5, 2026 in the KTL Meeting Room at 7:00 pm, with the following members present: Chairman Stan Buxa, Warren Strand, Faye Schimelfenig, Chad Ziegler via telephone, and Vice Chair Danny Maxwell via phone. Members absent were Jon Polries, Robert Martin, and Daniel Stultien. Others Present were Jana Mogren, Lydia Gessele, Tammy Roehrich, and Dale Schmitz.

Chairman Stan Buxa called the meeting to order.

Wells County Emergency Manager asked that verbiage be added to the 14.1.8, Emergency Response Needs. Chairman Stan Buxa brought up concerns about the fee schedule in 14.1.3.2. Warren Strand motioned to include the verbiage "review emergency response plan yearly" to 14.1.8a, Emergency Response Needs , "filed yearly with the state and the county Emergency Manager" to 14.1.8c, Emergency Response Needs, and "or as negotiated" shall be listed on 14.1.3.2, Permitting Fee. Sec-ond was made by Faye Schimelfenig. On a vote being called, all voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn was made by Danny Maxwell. Meeting adjourned.

(January 10, 2026)

Two Rivers Board Meeting Scheduled

TWO RIVERS RURAL AMBULANCE DISTRICT, situated in the North Dakota counties of Eddy, Foster, and Wells, will hold a board meeting on January 21, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. This will be held at the Community Ambulance Service of New Rockford, located at 818 1st Avenue North, New Rockford, ND.

Board meeting agenda items include treasurer's report, minutes, reports from the board members, and any other business required.

(January 10, 2026)

Ordinance reading City of Fessenden

CHAPTER SEVEN: WATER AND SEWER

ARTICLE 1 UTILITY ESTABLISHED 2

7.0101 WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHED 2

7.0102 SUPERINTENDENT OF CITY WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT 2

7.0103 SAME: REPORTS 2

7.0104 CITY WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT TO BE INDEPENDENT AGENCY 3

7.0105 APPLICATION FOR WATER SERVICE AND SERVICE CONNECTION CHARGE 3

7.0106 WATER SERVICE - TO PROPERTY NOT PREVIOUSLY ASSESSED 3

7.0107 SUBSEQUENT CONNECTION TO PREMISES 3

7.0108 WATER DEPOSIT REFUND 3

7.0109 SEPARATE CONNECTIONS FOR EACH PREMISE - EXCEPTION 3

7.0110 SERVICE OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS - PROHIBITED EXCEPTION 3

7.0111 SERVICE IN UNPLATTED AREAS 3

7.0112 WATER SERVICE - CONSTRUCTION OF - MAINTENANCE OF BY OWNER 3

7.0113 WATER METERS CHECKED- FEES 5

7.0114 UNLAWFUL TO USE WATER NOT METERED- UNLAWFUL TO TAMPER WITH CURB COCK 5

7.0115 DEFECTIVE SERVICE - CONSUMERS DUTY TO REPORT 5

7.0116 USE OF PUBLIC SEWERS REGULATIONS 5

7.0117 REGULATIONS GOVERNING SERVICE 6

7.0118 CONNECTION TO BE SUPERVISED BY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES 6

7.0119 SERVICE PIPES SPECIFICATIONS 7

7.0120 CURB COCK SPECIFICATIONS 7

7.0121 CHECK VALVES REQUIRED WHEN NECESSARY 7

7.0122 USE OF WATER DURING FIRE-UNLAWFUL 13

7.0123 WATERWORKS CUSTOMERS MAY LAY LARGER PIPES WITH HYDRANTS-WHEN 13

7.0124 RATES AND CHARGES 13

7.0125 RATES AND CHARGES - LIABILITY FOR 13

7.0126 DUTY TO REPORT TO AUDITOR 14

7.0127 EXCAVATORS 14

7.0128 RESTRICTION USE OF WATER 14

ARTICLE 2 Regulation of sewer use 14

7.0201 PURPOSE 14

7.0202 DEFINITIONS 15

7.0203 USE OF PUBLIC SEWERS REQUIRED 17

7.0204 WHEN PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL PERMITTED 18

7.0205 BUILDING SEWERS AND CONNECTIONS 19

7.0206 USE OF PUBLIC SEWERS 21

7.0207 DAMAGE TO SEWER WORKS PROHIBITED 24

7.0208 POWERS AND AUTHORITY OF INSPECTORS 25

7.0209 HEARING BOARD 25

7.0210 PENALTIES 26

7.0211 VALIDITY 26

ARTICLE 3 Sewer Surcharge 26

7.0301 PURPOSE 26

7.0302 DETERMINING THE TOTAL ANNUAL COST OF OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE 27

7.0303 PAYMENT OF THE USER'S WASTE-WATER SERVICE CHARGE AND PENALTIES 27

7.0304 WASTES PROHIBITED FROM BEING DISCHARGED TO THE WASTEWATER SYSTEM 27

ARTICLE 4 Adoption of state plumbing code 27

7.0401 ADOPTION 27

7.0402 PLUMBING CODE - ENFORCEMENT OF PROVISIONS 28

7.0403 PLUMBING CODE - CHANGES IN EXISTING INSTALLATIONS 28

7.0404 PLUMBING CODE - NEW INSTALLATIONS 28

ARTICLE 5 GENERAL PENALTY PROVISION 29

7.0501 PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF CHAPTER 29

vate uses, and/or useful in connection with the collection, treatment and disposal of sewage, waste and storm sewers for the inhabitants of this city, subject to all ordinances, rules and regulations.

7.0102 Superintendent of City Water and Sewer Department

A Water and Sewer Utility Superintendent shall be appointed by the governing board. If he is a part time employee, and if he is also a city employee in some other capacity, only his services respecting the utility shall be an operating charge of the system. It shall be the duty at the Superintendent to exercise control and management of the operation of the utility system. He shall have power and authority to employ, subject to the approval of the governing body, all such engineers, filter plant operators, meter readers, laborers and other employees, as may be necessary to the operation of the utility system. All such employees shall be subject to his orders and directions, and he shall be responsible for their acts. He shall have power and authority to purchase such materials, supplies and repairs for the water-sewer system, with the approval or 'the governing board of 'the city, as shall be reasonably necessary for 'the operation or such system. He shall keep such books and records of matters pertaining to the operation of the system, as are necessary to show the operation and condition thereof. He shall at all times be subject to the supervision and direction of the governing board. He shall perform such other duties and have such other powers and authority as are hereinafter provided for.

7.0103 Same: Reports

Such Superintendent shall make monthly reports to the governing body concerning the operation of his department.

7.0104 City Water and Sewer Department to be Independent Agency

All of the business affairs of the said City Water and Sewer Department shall be conducted, insofar as is possible within the ordinances of the City of Fessenden as a completely separate and distinct division of the City of Fessenden. Separate and distinct accounts shall be set up on the books of the City Auditor, which said accounts shall at all times reflect the true condition of the Water and Sewer Department, as distinct from the remaining business of the city, and which shall be so devised as to disclose the annual profit or loss of said department. The funds of the department shall be held in the custody of the City Auditor and disbursed upon warrant in the same manner as other funds, but the said Water and Sewer Department shall be given credit upon the books of the city for any and all funds paid by it into the City Treasury, and shall be charged on the books of the city with all payments made by the city on its behalf. Transfers from the Water and Sewer Department to the General Fund or any other fund of the city shall not be made except upon order of the governing body, nor shall transfer be made from said city funds to the Water and Sewer Department without like order. Where bonds have now been, or may hereafter be issued against any water works improvement or sewage improvement, which constitute a general obligation of the city, the taxes levied for the payment of such bonds and interest shall be levied and expended for such purpose in the manner provided by law, until such time as it may be possible out of the proceeds of said Water and Sewer Department, after setting up a reasonable reserve for depreciation and new construction, to make payment of the bond requirements from the profits of the said Water and Sewer Department. It is expressly declared to be the purpose of this ordinance that as soon as the same can be accomplished without undue order to the water users of this city, the said Water and Sewer Department shall be placed upon an entirely independent basis as a separate business enterprise.

7.0105 Application for Water Service and Service Connection Charge

Any party desiring water and sewer service from said utility for premises not heretofore connected with the system, and not subject to the provisions of section 7.0106 set forth below, shall apply for a connection on a form provided by the municipality. Such application shall state an exact description of the premises to serve, and the uses, both general and special, to which the water is to be put, the nature of sewage to be discharged, and the estimated amount of water to be used for a quarter-annual period. Such application shall befiled with the City Auditor, and the applicant shall thereupon pay to the City Auditor, as and for a connection charge, an amount established by resolution from the City Council, which they may change from time to time, for a residential building, commercial building, vacant lot, or multiple dwelling.

7.0106 Water Service - To Property Not Previously Assessed

No permit shall be issued for the making of any connection between any water or sewer line on any property which has not previously been benefited by existing water and/or sewer lines or whenever the owners of such property have not been assessed for such water and sewer lines, unless and until such person shall have paid or made a written statement with the city to pay in monthly installments within a maximum of five (5) years an amount of money as may be therefore determined by the governing body, such amount shall be based on the area served and benefit resulting to the property involved. Within 30 days of the receipt of such application, the governing body shall determine the amount of money required to be paid before such connection shall be made, and shall advise the applicant property owner of such determination.

All such money paid and received pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be placed in the water and sewer utility fund and shall be expended in accordance with the purposes of such fund.

7.0107 Subsequent Connection to Premises

Any party, other than the original applicant, desiring service For premises where a connection has been made pursuant to sections 7.0105 and 7.0106 hereof shall make written application therefore as in cases described in section 7.0105 hereof, and if the connection charge for such premises has not been fully paid at such time, the applicant shall pay or agree to pay the remainder thereof in like manner and time as described in sections 7.0105 and 7.0106 hereof.

7.0108 Water Deposit Refund

Every property owner, tenant, or customer requesting municipal water and/or sewer services shall pay a Water Meter Deposit in an amount established by resolution of the City Council. The deposit shall be paid prior to the commencement of any water or sewer services. The deposit shall be held by the Water and Sewer Department, as security for payment of all water and sewer service charges. Upon vacating a property or termination of water and sewer services, the customer shall be entitled to a refund of their Water Meter Deposit within a reasonable period of time.

7.0109 Separate Connections for each Premise - Exception

Unless special permission is granted by the Water and Sewer Utility superintendent, each premise shall have a separate and distinct water service connection and sewer service connection, and where permission is granted for branch service systems, each unit on the branch shall pay the fees as set in 7.0124.

7.0110 Service Outside City Limits - Prohibited Exception

No application for water and/or sewer service outside the city limits of the City shall be approved and no person outside of the corporate

limits of the City shall hook up to or make connection with the city water and/or sewer system whether the same now is outside or inside the incorporated limits of the City. Water service and/or sewer service outside the corporate limits of the City may be permitted pursuant to contractual agreement of the governing body arising in limited and extraordinary circumstances but shall be permitted only upon a resolution unanimously adopted by the governing body.

7.0111 Service in Unplatted Areas

No application for water and/or sewer service shall be approved and no person shall hook up to or make connection with the city water and sewer system unless the area to be served by said water and/or sewer connection has been duly platted and the plan approved by the governing body and recorded in the Register or Deeds Office of Wells County, North Dakota.

This prohibition may be waived in limited and extraordinary circumstances, provided the provisions of Section 7.0110 are followed.

No application for water and/or sewer service shall be approved and no person shall hook up to or make connection with the city water and sewer system unless the area to be served by said water and/or sewer connection has been duly platted and the plan approved by the governing body and recorded in the Register or Deeds Office of Wells County, North Dakota.

This prohibition may be waived in limited and extraordinary circumstances, provided the provisions of Section 7.0110 are followed.

7.0112

The cost of original installation of all plumbing and extraordinary circumstances, provided the provisions of Section 7.0110 are followed.

7.0113 Water Meters Checked - Fees

Every consumer of water shall provide a suitable place where a water meter can be installed and each consumer shall supply, maintain and change when necessary, the same, and if at any time the consumer desires to have the meter tested for accuracy, the same shall be done by the municipality.

7.0114 Unlawful to Use Water Not Metered-Unlawful to Tamper With Curb Cock

It shall be unlawful for any person to use water from any premises without the consent of the owner, or to use water from the municipal water system except when drawn through a meter installed by the municipality. No person except an authorized representative of the Utility Superintendent shall turn on or off or tamper with any curb cock.

7.0115 Defective Service - Consumers Duty to Report

All claims for defective service shall be made in writing and filed with the utility Superintendent on or before the 19th day of the month next succeeding such defective service, or be deemed waived by the claimant; and if such claims so filed, it shall be the duty of the Utility Superintendent to investigate the facts alleged in such claim and determine the amount, if any, which should be refunded to such claimant by reason of such defective service and report such determination to the governing body, and, if approved by that body, such amount shall be allowed as credit on the following bill or paid as other claims, but no claim shall be made against the municipality for any fire or any injuries to the person or property of any consumer of water or sewer service under the provisions hereof.

7.0116 Users Consent to Regulations

Every person applying for or making payment for water and sewer services from the municipal system, and every owner of property for which such application or payment is made, shall be deemed by such application or payment to consent to all the rules, regulations, fees, and rates contained in the resolution or ordinances of the city and to any modification thereof and to all new rules, regulations or rates duly adopted.

7.0117 Regulations Governing Service

The following rules and regulations shall be considered a part of the contract with every person who takes or receives water and/or sewer service supplied by the city through the City waterworks system and every such person who takes such service shall be considered to be bound thereby.

1. Shutting Off Water - Who Authorized. No person except an authorized employee of the water department shall shut off or turn off the water at the curb cock to any premises without first obtaining permission from the water department.

2. City Reserves Right to Shut Off Water- Notice. In the case of making repairs or constructing new work, the City reserves the right to shut off the water at once and keep the same shut off as long as may be necessary to accomplish such purposes. Service may also be discontinued for nonpayment of bills or for disregard of rules and regulations affecting the service.

3. Non-liability of City for Deficient Supply or Quality of Water. It is expressly provided that the City shall in no event be or become liable to any consumer of water for a deficiency in the supply of water or the quality thereof, whether by shutting off the same to make repairs or to construct new work or for any other cause whatsoever.

Shutting Off Water- Charge for. The water department shall make a charge, as determined by the City governing body, for shutting off or turning on services

5. Entrance and Access to Premises by Waterworks Employees.

Authorized employees of the water and sewer department shall have free access to any premises supplied with water, at proper times, to inspect and ascertain the condition of the meters and fixtures, or for reading meters, and no owner or occupant shall refuse such employees such access. The water department shall have the right to enter any premises and remove the meter for the purpose of examination and test after first notifying the owner or occupant, and to shut off the water to premises where free access is prevented.

6. Fire Hydrants - Who May Open. No person except city employees in the performance of their official duties shall open or cause to be opened any fire hydrant without the written permission of the water superintendent.

7.0118 Connection to be Supervised by Municipal Employees

In installing water and sewer service, all taps shall be driven, street excavations made, corporation cocks inserted, pipes installed from the main and the curb cock installed in an iron box to which the service is to be connected by the individual, his agent or employee under the

supervision, direction and control of the water and sewer department. Ten feet spacing shall be allowed between all water and sewer lines in new connections to service. Failure to comply with this section shall be considered a disregard of the rules of the department and service to the affected property can be withheld or discontinued as the case may be.

7.0119 Service Pipes Specifications

All service pipes connected with the water and sewer utility shall be laid 5 feet and 6 inches below the established grades or as low as the street mains. All water and sewer pipes shall be of a material approved by the Utility Superintendent.

7.0120 Curb Cock Specifications

There shall be a curb cock in every service line attached to the water mains, the same to be placed as near as possible to the curb if on a street, or within one foot of the alley line if the main is located in the alley. Curb cocks shall be supplied with strong and suitable "T" handles and shall be enclosed in a substantial iron case covered with a tight fitting iron lid with the letter "W" cast upon it. There shall be one or more stops and waste cocks attached to every supply pipe at some point between the curb cock and the meter so that the water can be shut off and the house plumbing entirely drained. There shall be another such stop and waste cock in the pipe on the house side of the meter.

7.0121 Check Valves Required When Necessary

(1) Purpose

The purpose of this Ordinance is to protect the public water system from contaminants or pollutants that could enter the distribution system by backflow from a customer's water supply system through the service connection.

(2) Authority

The authority to implement this program is contained in the following documents: North Dakota Administrative Code 33.1-17-01-19 Protection of Public Water Systems

2018 North Dakota Plumbing Code

2018 Uniform Plumbing Code

The public water system shall have the authority to survey all service connections within the distribution system to determine if the connection is a cross-connection.

The public water system shall have the authority to control all service connections within the distribution system if the connection is a cross-connection.

The public water system may control any service connections within the distribution system in lieu of a survey if the service connection is controlled with an air gap or reduced pressure zone backflow prevention assembly.

The public water system may collect fees for the administration of this program.

The public water system shall maintain records of cross-connection surveys and the installation, testing and repair of all backflow prevention assemblies installed for containment and containment by isolation purposes.

Except as otherwise provided herein, the public water system shall administer, implement and enforce the provisions of this Ordinance.

(3) Applicability

This Ordinance applies to all commercial, industrial and multi-family residential service connections within the public water system and to any persons outside the City who are, by contract or agreement with the public water system, users of the public water system. This Ordinance does not apply to single-family-residential service connections unless the public water system becomes aware of a cross connection at the single-family connection.

(4) Definitions

a. "ACTIVE DATE" means the first day that a backflow prevention assembly or backflow prevention method is used to control a cross-connection in each calendar year.

b. "AIR GAP" is a physical separation between the free-flowing discharge end of a potable water supply pipeline and an open or non-pressure receiving vessel installed in accordance with standard ASME A112.1.2.

c. "BACKFLOW" means the undesirable reversal of flow of water or mixtures of water and other liquids, gases or other substances into the public water systems distribution system from any source or sources other than its intended source.

d. "BACKFLOW CONTAMINATION EVENT" means backflow into a public water system from an uncontrolled cross connection such that the water quality no longer meets the North Dakota Primary Drinking Water Regulations or presents an immediate health and/or safety risk to the public.