



"WHERE THE WEST BEGINS"

mandan messenger

MAY 2019 • VOLUME 13 • ISSUE 4

June meetings

City Commission, June 4 & 18 at 5:30 p.m., City Hall

School Board, June 17 at 5:30 p.m., City Hall

Park Board, June 10 at 5:30 p.m., City Hall

County Commission, June 10 & 25 at 5:30 p.m., Morton County Courthouse

City Planning & Zoning, June 24 at 5:30 p.m., City Hall

Buggies-n-Blues

The 26th Anniversary of Buggies-n-Blues, Mandan's annual classic car show and music festival will be held June 8-9. Cruise over to Main Street to take a look at some of the coolest rides around.

The event kicks off with live music in Dykshoorn Park at 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 8. The classic car parade will take place at 8 p.m. On Sunday, a classic car show will be held on Main Street and food vendors will be set up in Dykshoorn Park at 11 a.m. For more information, visit www.buggies-n-blues.org.

Summer Concert Series

Many bands will play in Dykshoorn Park this summer. Beginning June 3, performances will be held at 7:30 p.m. every Monday through Thursday until Aug. 15. The Dakota Lions will serve hamburgers and brats on Tuesdays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Mandan could first see Prairie Dog money in 2020

Governor Burgum recently signed a bill funding up to \$250 million per biennium for critical infrastructure projects in North Dakota using oil and gas tax revenue. House Bill 1066 also known as "Operation Prairie Dog" will bring approximately \$6.5 million every two years to Mandan and help lessen the property owners' burden for infrastructure needs in communities across the state.

What qualifies as critical infrastructure? Critical infrastructure are assets that are essential for the functioning of a society or economy. The money can be used for projects such as streets, sewer, water lines, and airports. Prairie Dog money cannot be used for projects such as city buildings, playgrounds or swimming pools.

Process. Lawmakers use a bucket analogy to explain the funding process. Money from oil and gas tax revenue goes towards many different funds or "buckets." In general, once one bucket is full, it spills over to the next and so on, ultimately making its way to the Prairie Dog infrastructure buckets. The infrastructure buckets may fill up to \$250 million distributing \$115 million to cities, \$115 million to counties and townships and \$20 million for airport infrastructure. Funding would be pro-rated if the buckets don't fill due to a decline in oil prices and production. Distribution of the money throughout the state is based on factors such as populations and valuations.

The City of Mandan is now tasked with prioritizing use of the Prairie Dog money among various projects and making sure it benefits the city as a whole. Mandan could see its first \$2.5 million in the fall of 2020. The City Commission has already earmarked \$1.5 million to go towards the southside street improvement project.

Southside street bids under estimate, project approved

The City Commission awarded bids for the Southside Street Improvement project during a special meeting, April 23. The near \$6 million project includes the reconstruction of roadways, repaving of alleys, curb and gutter repairs, sidewalk and storm water improvements.

Besides residential property, the district includes land owned by the city, school district, railroad, water resource district and park district.

Bids were received April 10 from two contractors. There were six parts to the project's base bid and five additional alternate components.

The first alternate leads to cost savings and an accelerated construction schedule by using a cement stabilized base. This alternative is a replacement to the traditional gravel base. The downside of this option is potential challenges accessing underground utilities if repairs are needed.

Currently there is no storm sewer system in the project area. Installing a smaller storm sewer system is another cost saving alternate explored.



Mandan District 34 Representative Todd Porter was part of a large group testifying in support of House Bill 1066.

See **SOUTHSIDE** pg. 4





"WHERE THE WEST BEGINS"

NEW & EXPANDING MANDAN BUSINESSES

New

- Armour Floors
- B's Buff & Stuff, 108 6th Ave NE
- Blackstone Grill & Tavern, 2630 Old Red Trail
- Camera Clinic, 220 W Main St.
- Heritage Exteriors, 140 Riverwood Ave SE

Upcoming

- Balancing Goat Coffee Co., 2705 Sunset Drive
- Copper Dog Café, 218 W Main St.

Tighter leashes & other dog ordinance changes approved

After a few months of research and gathering feedback, the City Commissioners approved an ordinance relating to animals with the focus on dogs.



Restraint & leash length. Perhaps most important to dog owners are the additional provisions on the city's "leash law." Dogs must be secured by a leash or lead no more than 6 feet long being held by a person capable of controlling the dog when being walked. The prior ordinance allowed for up to a 12-foot leash. Also, a dog is considered under restraint if within the real property limits of its owner and securely confined by a fence or tether that does not allow the dog to

reach another property, public walkway, or road.

Citations. Police officers can now issue citations for violations of the animal ordinance. The process is similar to that of a speeding ticket. The officer issues the citation to the violator with a fine.

Vicious dogs. Changes were made in the ordinance stating the owner of a dog deemed vicious is liable for and required to pay all costs associated with impoundment, removal, euthanasia or other associated costs incurred. The offense is a class B misdemeanor, which is the highest level charge in municipal court.

Two tags required. Any dog or cat kept within city limits must be identified at all times by two tags. One tag must have the name and phone number of the owner, and the other is a metal tag that will be stamped or engraved with a license number at the time of issuance for each dog and cat. The tags will need to be attached to the animals' collar or harness.

Residents can acquire a license for dogs or cats by bringing proof from the animals' veterinarian of current rabies vaccinations to the Mandan Police Department, 205 First Ave NW. Licenses can be purchased for one to three years depending on how long the rabies vaccinations are valid. The cost is \$6 for one year, \$10 for two years and \$15 for three years. For more information on Ordinance 1307 visit www.cityofmandan.com/code.

"If I Were Mayor" essay winner attends commission meeting

A total of 21 essays were submitted by Mandan third grade students in the North Dakota League of Cities' (NDLC) "If I Were Mayor" Essay Contest this year. Mayor Tim Helbling read through all the local essays received and selected a winner, Julia Graff. She was recognized during the April 16 City Commission meeting.

Graff is a third grade student in Mrs. Hogan's class at Fort Lincoln Elementary School. In her essay, she states she loves Mandan because of the schools, playgrounds, parks, restaurants and the snow. She would like to see all playgrounds in Mandan have play equipment accessible to all children.

In February, the NDLC sought essays in their contest from third and seventh grade students across the state. Mandan entries are then shared with the mayor. The local winner participates in a live City Commission meeting, receives \$50 in Mandan Bucks from the Mandan Progress Organization and a City of Mandan t-shirt.

Essays focused on what makes Mandan great and ways to improve the community. Many students listed the schools, community events and outdoor recreation options as their favorite things about Mandan. No Mandan seventh grade essays were submitted this year.

Statewide contest winners will be announced by the North Dakota League of Cities.



Graff & Helbling

Backyard chickens allowed in Mandan with restrictions

An ordinance allowing backyard chickens with several restrictions to alleviate negative impacts to neighboring property owners received City Commission approval during a March meeting.

Residents wishing to have backyard chickens will have to apply for a permit through the Engineering and Planning office. The new permit fee is \$100. Requirements include:



- No more than four hens are permitted to any one lot.
- Roosters are prohibited.
- Chickens, their coop and run shall be located in the rear or side yard obscured from view from any street, trail, public park, or other right-of-way.
- Chickens outside the coop and run shall be supervised at all times.
- Coops should be less than 120 square feet in dimension.
- Coop height shall not exceed 8 feet.
- The coop and run should be located no closer than 10 feet from the property line and no closer than 20 feet from the adjacent property dwelling.
- All grain and food for the use of the chickens shall be stored in a rodent proof container.

Many urban communities in North Dakota and across the nation allow residents to keep chickens within city limits when meeting certain requirements. Other North Dakota cities allowing backyard chickens include Fargo, Jamestown, Casselton, Wahpeton, Park River and Beach. Regarding the matter, Mayor Helbling said he believed it was good for the City to get ahead of the game, rather than wait for chickens to become an issue.

The Engineering and Planning Department has received five applications for backyard chickens since the ordinance passed. Of those, the office has issued three permits. One applicant was asked to adjust coop and run plans and resubmit; another is under review.

Residents granted a backyard chicken permit will be required to renew their permit every year for a fee of \$50 and permits are revocable. For more information visit www.cityofmandan.com/permits or contact the Engineering & Planning Department at 667-3225.

Residents can help prevent stormwater pollution

Spring has sprung and it's time to talk about ways to prevent stormwater pollution. Stormwater runoff from lands modified by human activities can harm surface water and, in turn, cause or contribute to poor water quality. The most common source of water pollution is runoff from lawns, roads, and agricultural land.

Ways residents & property owners can help prevent pollution. The Environmental Protection Agency has identified several household best practices for clean water:

- Compost or mulch yard waste. Do not sweep into streets or storm drains.
- Pick up and properly dispose of pet waste.
- Use a commercial car wash.
- Check vehicles, boats and other machinery for leaks. Clean up spilled fluids with an absorbent material like kitty litter or sand.
- Recycle used oil and other automotive fluids.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly.
- Avoid overwatering the lawn.

For more information, please visit www.cityofmandan.com/stormwater or call 667-3225.

Did you know?

Problems occur when pollutants like chemicals, dirt, and debris flow into stormwater systems or directly into streams, rivers and lakes. Anything entering these systems is discharged untreated into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water.



"WHERE THE WEST BEGINS"

Sign up for summer reading program

Individuals wishing to participate in Morton Mandan Public Library's summer reading program are invited to sign up beginning May 28.

The kickoff event for the summer reading program is Friday, May 31 at the North Dakota Heritage Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This year's theme is "A Universe of Stories" and Mortimer the bookmobile will be riding in style with a new wrap this summer. The program runs June 3 through July 26. Participants turning in their reading logs at the end of the program will be entered into a prize drawing!

Visit www.mortonmandanlibrary.org or call 667-5365 for more information.

Southside

from page 1

The storm sewer system selected was not sized to convey any certain storm event, but to act as a drain in order to alleviate water sitting on streets. While it will help alleviate issues during regular rain events, the smaller pipe size may not perform to City standards for storm sewer design. The Commission approved moving forward with both cost saving alternates.

Alley resurfacing, lighting and sanitary sewer extension were included as alternate components as well. The City Commission decided to proceed with alley resurfacing, however, the property owners impacted by the lighting and sanitary sewer extension asked that these options not be included. The cost of each option would be special assessed to only the benefitting properties.



The district lies within the confines of First Avenue SW to 13th Avenue SW and First Street SW to Seventh Street SW.

Private property owners will not be assessed for costs associated with existing water main and sanitary sewer improvements, Park District parking lot improvements and access roads.

The City Commission approved committing \$1.5 million from House Bill 1066, nicknamed the Prairie Dog Bill, towards the project.

The total project cost that will be divided among district participants, including the \$1.5 million buy down, is estimated at \$4.5 million. The average property could see an assessment about 35 percent lower than the amount in the notice letters distributed in December 2018.

Construction could begin as early as the end of May. The project will be substantially complete by the end of the 2019 construction season.

City Contacts

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Phone 701-667-3215
Fax 701-667-3223
www.cityofmandan.com

Mandan City Commission

Mayor Tim Helbling
Mike Braun
Scott Davis
Amber Larson
Dennis Rohr

City Departments

Administration	667-3215
Airport Authority	663-0669
Assessing	667-3232
Building Inspection	667-3230
Business Development & Communications	667-3485
Cemetery	751-7893
Engineering, Planning & Zoning	667-3225
Finance	667-3213
Fire	667-3288
Forestry	751-7894
Grounds Maintenance	751-7895
Human Resources	667-3217
Landfill	667-0184
Library	667-5365
Municipal Court	667-3270
Police	667-3250
Public Works	667-3240
Special Assessments	667-3271
Utility Billing	667-3219
Waste Water Treatment	667-3278
Water Treatment	667-3275

Receive E-mail Notices

Sign up to receive notice of city meetings and news in the "E-mail Updates" section of www.cityofmandan.com. Meeting dates and agendas are available.

Please mow tall grass

Property owners are required to mow tall grass or spray weeds by May 1, June 1, July 1, Aug. 1, Sept. 1 and Oct. 1 of each year.

Failure to comply results in the property being cut or sprayed by the City with costs applied to the special assessments for the property.

Report concerns to the code enforcement officer at 667-3264 or on the Report a Concern section of www.cityofmandan.com.