

<http://www.minotusa.com/smartmail/CityofMinotannouncespreliminarybudgetfor2019MinotNewsletterAugust2018/>



### City of Minot announces preliminary budget for 2019

Minot City Manager Tom Barry presented the City Council with a \$179,931,375 million preliminary budget for 2019 at the Council's regular meeting on Aug. 6. The 2018 budget was \$142.7 million.



The proposed 2019 budget calls for 129.26 mills. The mill increase from the 2018 mill levy of 106.65 is driven almost exclusively by two factors: slightly lower property valuations of about 3% (3.37 mills) and shifting sales tax collection back to the Northwest Area Water Supply project (19.43 mills). The estimated mill value is \$205,920.

Collections for NAWS through the City's sales tax was halted in 2011 after Minot residents voted overwhelmingly to temporarily discontinue the collection for the project and move the future collections to a Community Facilities Grant, Property Tax Relief, and Infrastructure Improvements until the project resumed following litigation. Work on NAWS can now continue and the previous \$30 million collected is no longer sufficient to fund the local share of the project due to new requirements set forth by the court.

"We need to now shift our sales tax dollars back to NAWS," said Barry. "That's going to impact the amount we were using to reduce property taxes."

The members of the Committee of the Whole, which is also the entire City Council, will hold a budget questions and answers session on Aug. 28 at 4:15 p.m. in Room 201 of the Auditorium. City Council President Mark Jantzer will present his budget message on Sept. 4. The City Council will hold a special

public hearing at 6:30 p.m. in Council chambers on Sept. 18 for the budget's first reading. Another special Council meeting will be held Sept. 25 at 6:30 p.m. in Council chambers to approve the 2019 budget on second reading. All meetings are open to the public.

To read more on the preliminary budget, [click here](#).

### **Minot State receives largest donation in university history**

Minot State University, along with the Minot State University Development Foundation, is



pleased to announce a \$4.6 million gift bequeathed by the late Janis Dislevy. This endowed gift is the largest single donation in Minot State's history and is designated toward the Janis Ann Dislevy Endowed Chair, which will support faculty positions in the Minot State College of Business.

"Today is a remarkable day in the history of Minot State University and the Minot State Development Foundation thanks to the wonderful generosity and foresight of our special alumna Ms. Janis Dislevy," MSU President Steven Shirley said on July 23. "Her belief in MSU's mission has already benefitted campus and our College of Business in so many ways, and that benefit will now continue in perpetuity due to the kindness of this historic gift."

Dislevy, who completed a bachelor's degree at Minot State in education in 1960, passed away in June of 2016. She served on the Minot State College of Business Dean's Advisory Board and was a member of the MSU Old Main Society.

### **Recovery and resiliency strategies part of IEDC report**

In fall 2017, the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) was retained by the City of Minot to assess the community's economic recovery needs and assist with developing revitalization goals, focused primarily on



the city's downtown. As part of the contracted agreement, a panel of four experts, including three Certified Economic Developers, conducted a site visit in March 2018 to complete an in-depth analysis, gather data, and begin formalizing their

report. The final report was received by the City of Minot in early July. The full 57-page technical assistance report provides suggested goals for the Magic City as well as an action plan and can be accessed on the news page of the Minot Area Development Corporation's website at [www.minotusa.com](http://www.minotusa.com). The report was paid for by the city's U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development National Disaster Resilience Grant.

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### **Annual B to B seminar slated for September**

The Minot Area Development Corporation is proud to once again collaborate with Minot State University to host the sixth annual "Bridging the Atlantic" Business to Business (B2B) seminar. The theme for 2018 is "Economic Development Entrepreneurship: Local, National, and International" and will specifically focus on commonalities and opportunities between Minot and foreign businesses. Save the date for Tuesday, September 25 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Grand Hotel.

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### **Highway 52 Committee convenes in Minot**

Members of a Highway 52 Committee recently met in Minot to discuss the safety of U.S. Highway 52 and the possibility of twinning or converting to a four-lane highway. The



meeting was held on the heels of Canada's recent announcement to spend \$109 million on improvements to infrastructure including Highway 39, the roadway that starts in Canada and meets U.S. Highway 52 at the border. Attendees included City of Minot's Mayor Shaun Sipma, North Dakota State Representative Dan Ruby, Kenmare Community Development Corporation Board Member Jamie Livingston, and Ward County Engineer Dana Larsen. The group discussed holding a public forum this fall in Minot.

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### **Second-highest attendance at 2018 ND State Fair**

The North Dakota State Fair (NDSF) was a great success this year in Minot! Attendance was up by almost 20,000 from 2017, and hit the second-highest record with 318,248 people coming through the gates. There was beautiful weather, new food, and new entertainment. One of the biggest hits in the free entertainment was the 9/11 Never Forget Mobile Exhibit. The most attended concert was Nickelback, at almost 17,000 people. With two concerts already announced for 2019, Rascal Flatts and Tim McGraw, the NDSF is looking for an even better year. You can visit the North Dakota State Fair in Minot, July 19-27 of 2019.

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### **\$3.5 million grant to help reading at Minot Public Schools**

Minot Public Schools (MPS) has received a grant award of nearly \$3.5 million for the Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy Program. This federal grant, managed by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (DPI), will provide professional development and interventions to support striving readers. Emphasis will be placed on preschool and early elementary interventions with the intent of increasing literacy for all students. The district will hire a coordinator to administer the grant over the next three years. MPS is pleased to partner with the U.S. Department of Education and the North Dakota DPI to meet the needs of striving learners in our district.




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### **Broadway Bridge girder placement marks project milestone**

The first set of girders are being placed in early August on the west Broadway Bridge, as the contractor anticipates this work taking 10 days to finish. In total, 40 girders will be placed on



top of the piers and abutments on the site, forming the bottom layer of the roadway for this portion of the bridge on the U.S. 83 Broadway Viaduct Project.

“The placement of the girders takes a good deal of pre-planning in coordination with our crews, the railroad officials and others,” said Project Manager Brian Bee of Lunda Construction. “Each girder varies in weight and length, depending on the spacing between the piers and the requirements of the engineering design. Getting to this point in the job marks an important milestone as we are making final plans to be pouring deck concrete – the driving surface – in about four weeks.”

The U.S. 83 Broadway Viaduct Project is a North Dakota Department of Transportation and City of Minot joint project, with the bulk of the funding coming from the Federal Highway Administration.

The bridge, counting both approaches, will be nearly 1,000 feet long when finished. The project is anticipated to reach substantial completion in late October.

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### **A view inside Minot's regional water treatment plant**

Mark Paddock, superintendent at Minot's water treatment plant, has a simple message when discussing the city's municipal water supply.



"Our water is very safe to drink," Paddock said. "We follow every state and federal standard for treatment and every guideline set up by the Environmental Protection Agency. We have a very good system here."

The Minot facility, capable of treating between 12 million and 13 million gallons of water per day, is staffed and operated 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year. During peak usage times, especially during hot summer weather, users can use nearly as much water as the facility treats every day. That could be problematic if there was a large fire in the city or if the water treatment plant had equipment failures. It's difficult to keep storage tanks filled when the treatment capacity and daily usage needs are approximately the same at 13 million gallons.

The original Minot Water Treatment plant was built in 1951 and has undergone several expansions and renovations. In 1951, the plant could treat 6 million gallons of water per day.

For more on the treatment process and the various steps needed to turn raw water from Minot's wells into the clean, safe water that flows from faucets, [click here](#).

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### **TeleSitter prevents falls in hospital settings**

A video system that can monitor patients at risk of falling is having a positive impact on patient safety at Trinity Hospital. To help prevent patient falls and injuries, the hospital installed a new technology, the AvaSys® TeleSitter®



system, in June of last year to provide nursing staff the ability to monitor and converse remotely with patients who are at high risk for falls or have other safety monitoring needs. Danaka Walz, director of Clinical Excellence and Patient Safety, says data from the first year of usage show that TeleSitter has been a key factor in achieving 97 fewer patient falls this past year – a reduction of 46 percent. Nearly 1,000,000 hospitalized patients in the U.S. experience a fall each year, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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