

**RESOLUTION 2024-006
CITY OF VERGAS, MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF OTTER TAIL
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF VERGAS
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MINNESOTA GREENSTEP CITIES PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, Minnesota GreenStep Cities is a voluntary challenge, assistance and recognition program to help cities achieve sustainability and quality-of-life goals. GreenStep is a free, continuous improvement program, managed by a State agency non-profit partnership and based upon 29 best practices. Each best practice can be implemented by completing one or more actions at the 1,2 or 3 star level, from a list of four to eight actions. These actions are tailored to all Minnesota cities, focus on cost savings and energy use reduction, and encourage civic innovation; and

WHEREAS, steps taken toward sustainable solutions aim to improve community quality of life, building community capital and increasing government efficiency, accountability, and transparency; and

WHEREAS, local governments have the unique opportunity to achieve both energy use and greenhouse gas reductions and cost savings through building and facilities management; land use and transportation planning; environmental management; and through economic and community development;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Vergas, Minnesota does hereby authorize the City of Vergas (the City) to participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities program that offers a free, voluntary continuous improvement framework. Passage of this participation resolution allows the City to be recognized as a Step One GreenStep City by the League of Minnesota Cities. Be it further resolved that the City:

1. Appoints Julie Bruhn to serve as the City's GreenStep coordinator for best practice documentation/implementation; and
2. Will facilitate the involvement of community members and other units of government as appropriate in the planning, promoting and/or implementing of GreenStep Cities best practices; and
3. Grants to the GreenStep program staff review access to the City's B3 Benchmarking Database so as to facilitate analysis and cost-saving technical assistance to the City regarding its buildings' energy use; and to share information with the City; and
4. Will provide feedback once a year on how well the GreenStep program is serving the city and on city needs from the program; and
5. Will claim credit for having implemented and will work at its own pace toward implementing any GreenStep best practices that will result in energy use reduction, economic savings, quality of life improvement, reduction in the City's greenhouse gas footprint, and recognition by the League of Minnesota Cities as a Step Two GreenStep City. An on-going summary of the City's implementation of best practices will be posted by the City on the Minnesota GreenStep Cities web site.

Passed and Adopted by the Council on this 9th day of July 2024

CITY OF VERGAS

ATTEST: _____

By: Julie Lammers
Its City Clerk-Treasurer

By: Julie Bruhn
Its Mayor

