



# CITY OF KINDRED

Where Kindness is a Way of Life



## Kindred Days 2018

Fri, August 10th -  
Sun, August 12th

Take part in activities throughout all 3 days including:

- ◆ Fire Hall Open House
  - ◆ Pancake Feed
  - ◆ Community Parade (Still time to join in the parade! Registration not required)
  - ◆ Craft and other Vendors at City Park,
  - ◆ Free inflatable games
  - ◆ Free face painting
  - ◆ Barrel Train and Carriage Rides
  - ◆ Petting Zoo
  - ◆ Car Show 'n' Shine
  - ◆ Softball Tournament
- ◆ Free Swimming at Pool
  - ◆ Art in the Park Painting Party
  - ◆ and so much more!

Visit the City website for a full list of events and registration info.

**BIG THANK YOU** to all the sponsors and volunteers for making Kindred Days possible!

### Water Tower Project Update

It wouldn't be a project without hiccups. Progress was halted on the water tower when excavation began and an old abandoned well was discovered, along with contaminated (diesel fuel) soil. With the federal funding for the project, there were many agencies and regulations involved to remedy the issues. However, we are pleased to announce that both of these hiccups have finally been taken care of and the project is set to begin again!! Completion is estimated for next Summer!

### Explaining New Water Rate Structure

The City applied and was successful in receiving a 60% state grant for our new water tower project. Many of you saw an increase in your utility bill beginning with the month of June and that is because we need to begin paying for the remainder 40% of the project. We'd like to take a moment to explain details of this rate increase. **In a nutshell, we are moving to a system where you pay for the exact amount of water you use.** We have not increased your base rate amount or the cost per 1,000 gallons. What you pay is a base rate of \$28.23 plus \$6.61 per 1,000 gallons used. The base rate of \$28.23 prior to June *included 2,000 gallons of water.* Now, after the bill change, you are paying for that first 2,000 gallons of usage. This means if you use more than 2,000 gallons in the month you can expect to see a \$13.22 (\$6.61x2) increase. We understand that this rate increase poses a problem for those on fixed incomes, but please know that our current water rates are still lower than many of the towns around us. If you continue to have questions or see an increase more than \$13.22 in your bill that *does not* coincide with increased water usage, please contact Kindred City Hall.

### From the Desk of the Cass County Sheriff's Office

To sign up for Cass County Emergency (**CodeRED**) Notifications:  
<https://www.casscountynd.gov/our-county/emergency-management/cass-county-code-red>

Non-Emergency Dispatch Phone Number: 701-451-7660

The Annual Drinking Water Quality (Consumer Confidence) Report for the City of Kindred is available for viewing at Kindred City Hall or online at  
[http://www.cityofkindrednd.com/files/2017 Kindred CCR.pdf](http://www.cityofkindrednd.com/files/2017%20Kindred%20CCR.pdf)

## Mayoral Update

Hello Kindred!

I want to take this opportunity to thank Julie, Jeff, and the entire Wanner family for all they have done and continue to do for our community. The Wanners were a class-act all throughout the mayor race and that is much appreciated. Thank you!

I also want to thank everyone who supported me over this last year. It was wonderful to see so many people willing to fly a sign in their yard and outwardly showing you're interested in the future of our community. We have a special place here, this you know, and it's extremely important you're invested in what we do moving forward.

With that said, I'd like to foster a more transparent effort in what we as a City Council are doing to progress our fine town. To put it simply, our vision is to update our town's infrastructure to match our growing needs as a community. We plan to do this by updating policies, equipment, systems and utilities. Frankly, I wish we had a more exciting/flashy vision that included building theme parks and rec centers, but the near future calls for us to fortify Kindred to match our growing needs.

The following are some of our current efforts we're applying to this vision:

- **New Water Tower** - this project should be functional in the spring/summer of 2019.
- **New Water/Sewage Regulatory Computer System** - this system is needed to regulate our new water tower and our current/future sewage systems.
- **New Updated Water Billing Software** - this software allows greater options for test scenarios as we adapt our water rates and opens the door for more user options.
- **New Budgeting Software** - we're transitioning from QuickBooks to Banyon Fund Accounting software, which allows us to create a budget adaptable to using multiple funds. This software is also much easier to understand and opens the door to more productive budgeting.
- **New City Tractor, Truck, and Snow Plow** - we were able to get 30+ years out of our last tractor and we're hoping our new tractor will give us the same. The prior work truck/plow was not meeting our needs and so an upgrade to a more agile set up should produce better productivity.
- **Balancing the City Budget** - Kindred has done well to stay in the black through its conservative spending and bare bones work force. As we venture towards meeting growing needs, the City Council will be structuring an intentional budget geared towards intentional saving and intentional spending.

The following are some future efforts we are "exploring" to apply toward our vision:

- **Additions to Our Lagoons** - we have reached capacity with our current lagoon system. The city has recently applied for a federal grant to pay for a majority of our needed lagoon expansion. To buy us time we are currently adding special insects that eat down the waste (interesting and very cool). Without federal aid this will be an expensive project, so while we wait for partial federal funding, we plan to add to our savings for the City's portion of the project.
- **Update/Replace City Sidewalks** - many of you know that our older sidewalks have become dilapidated, broken, and unsafe. We are moving forward in getting bids on this project for the safety of our children, to lower liabilities, and to make Kindred more presentable. It is important to note that financial responsibility for sidewalks falls on the property owner.

## Mayoral Update

- **Paving Pool and Memorial Building Parking Lot** - numerous (justified) complaints have been made about the gravel parking lot to the south of the pool and Memorial Building. Sadly, this area turns into a soupy mess after any type of precipitation. We have retrieved multiple bids on the project and are currently weighing said bids against budget priorities like lagoons.
- **Providing Loan Aid for Residents with Utility Failures** - currently, any sewage/water issues that arise are the homeowners' responsibility (water lines from your home to the curb stop and sewer lines from your home to the connection to the sewer main). We understand that not everyone has savings to cover the high costs of utility failures. As such, we are exploring the option to provide low-interest loans to home owners as a way to lessen potential financial burden.

The summer is always busy, so I thank you for taking a moment to read this newsletter to better understand the efforts of the Kindred City Council. Please feel free to attend our monthly council meetings on the first Wednesday of each month (7pm at Kindred City Hall).

### Enforcement of City Ordinances

The Kindred City Council has decided to update and enforce city ordinances in response to multiple complaints regarding dog waste and broken-down vehicles in front yards. Currently, we have city ordinances on the books but no details in place on how to enforce said ordinances. Casselton recently went through a similar effort and we have chosen to shadow their process and procedure. We will be working with local law enforcement to regulate and enforce said ordinances. As a heads-up, here are some city ordinances that will receive immediate focus:

- All animal waste must be picked up immediately, both on private and public property. The accumulation of animal waste will result in fines and if not cleaned up, city intervention at the homeowner's expense.
- A combined 5 dog/cat maximum is allowed for each property.
- No junk/broken down vehicles can be stored on a property unless covered by a permitted/permanent structure. Exposed junk vehicles will result in fines and if not removed will involve city intervention at the homeowner's expense.

The second and final reading of the updated Kindred animal waste and junk ordinances was approved at the Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> City Council meeting. Enforcement will occur once the ordinances have been published. An official complaint must be filed with the city in order to initiate the ordinance enforcement process, so please contact Kindred City Hall with any/all concerns.

Thank you again for your support and your continued effort to grow Kindred forward!

~Mayor Jason DuBord~

### Yard Waste

The yard waste roll-off dumpsters are located on Elm St., West of the railroad tracks by the City Shop/Cass County Electric building. Look for signs!!

This is for grass clippings, leaves, and small branches (no larger than a soda can).

No tree stumps or logs please!

No plastic bags please. There is a garbage can there for you to place your used trash bags.

**DO NOT deposit clippings on the ground if the dumpster is full. Please wait for an empty dumpster to arrive.**



## Permit FAQ

### A permit is NOT needed to:

Paint a house, shingle a roof, or erect a shed having a floor area of 120 sq. ft. or less.

### When do I need a permit?

Permits are required for any *structural* changes, repairs, or additions, decks, porches, finished basements, wood stoves, masonry fireplaces, window replacements of different size, demolition work, accessory structures, new roofs, re-siding, and fences.

### Where do I obtain a permit?

Visit with Moore Engineering's Building Inspections Department at 800 4th Ave. E., West Fargo or call 701-433-5480 for all building permits EXCEPT fence permits.



**You can obtain a fence permit at City Hall.**

For more information, contact us!

Phone: (701)428-3115 Email: [cityofkindred@msn.com](mailto:cityofkindred@msn.com)



Office Hours: 8:30am-3:30pm Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. Closed on Wednesdays.

**Would you like to receive City email notices, updates, and newsletters via email??!  
Email us at [cityofkindred@msn.com](mailto:cityofkindred@msn.com) with "Email List" in the subject line to register!**

## **POSTAL CUSTOMER**

US Postage Paid  
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Kindred, ND 58051

**CITY OF KINDRED  
P.O. BOX 158  
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