

Bridgewater City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2024 7:00 pm

The City Council of the City of Bridgewater met in the Council Room for their regular meeting on Monday 01/08/2024. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Travis Holthaus. Answering roll call were Bob Anderson, Luke Burger, Travis Holthaus, Tony Hofer, Alicen Strombeck, and Mark Vondra. Others present: Finance Officer-Joan Julson, Maintenance-Todd Letcher, Sheriff Mark Norris, and Jim Julson.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of last month's meetings were sent to the council for reading prior to the meeting. Motion by Burger, second by Vondra to approve the December 6th regular meeting minutes. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The December Financial statement was sent out to the council for reviewing prior to the meeting. After discussion, a motion was made by Anderson, second by Hofer to approve the December Financial Statement. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The bills for the month of December were reviewed. A motion was made by Anderson, second by Vondra to approve the December bills for payment. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Maintenance Report by Letcher: 1) his health update 2) snow removal and the amount of cars, pkups, trailers not removed from the sides of the streets for snow removal. Ticketing & towing for this was discussed with Sheriff Norris.

Public Input: No one here with input, President Holthaus moved on.

Storm Sewer: Trent Bruce-DGR (by phone due to the weather) went over the Storm Sewer Project Phase 2 progress. Talked about the boring under the highway and dealing with the railroad. Motion by Vondra, second by Burger to approve and sign Application 1 for \$718,632.00 for payment. All voted aye. Motion carried. This will be sent in for reimbursement.

Ambulance: Motion by Strombeck, second by Vondra to sign Mitchel ALS Intercept Agreement. All present voted aye. Motion carried. Discussed shortage of help.

Law Enforcement: December Sherriff report noted. Sheriff Norris was here to answer any questions.

Motion by Anderson, second by Hofer to set election date for April 9th. All voted aye. Motion carried. Seats up this year: 2 yr – Mayor, Ward I, II, III & 1 yr Ward III Council seats (Strombeck, Anderson, & Burger)

Motion by Vondra, second by Burger to designate The Special as the official newspaper for 2024. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Strombeck, second by Hofer to designate Rivers Edge Bank as the official depository for 2024. Motion carried.

Motion by Hofer, second by Strombeck to continue the Bridgewater Development monthly donation of \$500. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, second by Burger to sign the 2024 Agreement with Eich Law for city attorney. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Burger, seconded by Vondra to set aside in reserves - \$500 to sewer repair & maintenance, \$5000 for ambulance and \$5000 for firetruck retroactive back to Dec 2023. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Vondra, second by Hofer to go into Executive Session for SDCL 1-25-2.4 for employee reviews & negotiations. All voted aye. Motion carried. Time 8:05 pm. President Holthaus declared executive session over at 8:23 pm.

Motion by Vondra, second by Strombeck to give a \$1.00 per hour increase for Julson and Letcher effective 1/1/24. All voted aye. Motion carried. On the recommendation of the auditors to clarify the payment of Julson's Medicare. A motion was also made by Vondra, second by Burger that the City of Bridgewater does provide group health coverage for their eligible employees and Medicare eligible employees are given the option to sign up for that group health coverage. The eligible employees can choose to waive the group health coverage and the City of Bridgewater can reimburse the eligible

employees for Medicare Part B, Medicare Part D, and Medicare Supplement Insurance Premiums. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Hofer, second by Vondra to hire Matt Anderson as temporary part time/as needed for \$25 per hour. All voted aye with Anderson abstaining. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, second by Hofer to hire Jerico Shape as temporary part time/as needed for \$17 per hour effective 1/1/24. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Burger, second by Hofer to pass Resolution #24-0108 – 2024 Salary List. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

**City of Bridgewater
Resolution #24-0108**

WHEREAS, in compliance with SDCL 6-1-10, which states that a complete list of all salaries paid to all city officials and employees be established by resolution and published in the minutes of the first meeting of the fiscal year and thereafter published monthly by department;

WHEREAS, all volunteers of the ambulance and the fire department are covered under the City of Bridgewater’s work comp;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following is a list of all said salaries:

FISCAL YEAR 2024

GROSS ANNUAL WAGE:

NAME	Position	Salary	Per Meeting Attended
	Mayor	\$850.00	\$100.00
Bob Anderson	Councilperson	\$700.00	\$100.00
Mark Vondra	Council Vice-President	\$700.00	\$100.00
Tony Hofer	Councilperson	\$700.00	\$100.00
Travis Holthaus	Council President (Mayor pay)	\$850.00	\$100.00
Alicen Strombeck	Councilperson	\$700.00	\$100.00
Luke Burger	Councilperson	\$700.00	\$100.00

HOURLY WAGE:

NAME	Position	Per Hour
Julson, Joan	Finance Officer	\$22.12
Letcher, Todd	Utility/Maintenance Supervisor	\$24.98
Jerico Shape	Temporary Part Time/As Needed	\$17.00
Matt Anderson	Temporary Part Time/As Needed	\$25.00
Eich Law Office	Attorney & Assistant	\$200.00 / \$100.00

AMBULANCE:

NAME	Position	Per Trip	Carrying Pager per Hour
Hofer, Roger	EMT	\$100.00	\$1.50
Rinehart, Susan	EMT	\$100.00	\$1.50
Gilbert, Doug	EMT	\$100.00	\$1.50
Julson, Jim	EMT	\$100.00	\$1.50
Hofer, Robin	EVOC	\$75.00	\$1.50
Johnston, Roger	EVOC	\$75.00	\$1.50
Pollman, Jeff	EVOC	\$75.00	\$1.50
Sorenson, Dan	EVOC	\$75.00	\$1.50

Both EMT’s & EVOC drivers are paid \$15.00 for No Transport w/ No Treatment calls and \$30.00 for No Transport w/Treatment calls.

Volunteer Fire Dept: Chief – Chad Addy, Asst. Chief – Doug Weber, Sec./Treas. – Kenny Erickson, Training Officer – Scott Hofer, 2nd Training Officer – Keith Heiberger. Other members: Ed Meyer, Craig Meyer, Todd Letcher, Brian Cable, Matt Kroger, Zach Guenther, John Paweltzki, Jalen Weber, Troy Hofer, Kenny Weber, Matt Anderson, Doug Gilbert, Ryan Watters, Mike Weber, Anthony Jaeger, Landon Hofer, Jeb Olsen, Aguer VanSickle, Brenden Watters, and Ready Reserve (Roger Hofer, Chuck Addy & Bob Anderson).

Planning & Zoning Committee: Mike Damm, Alicen Strombeck, Steve Prater, Mark Vondra, and 1 vacant seat.

Dated this 8th day of January 2024 in Bridgewater, South Dakota.

Travis Holthaus
Council President

ATTEST:

Joan M Julson
Finance Officer
SEAL

There being no further business, a motion was made by Burger, second by Strombeck to adjourn. Motion carried. Time 8:30 pm.

Next regular meeting is Monday, February 5, 2024.

Travis Holthaus – Council President

Joan M Julson – Finance Officer

Claims:

Payroll by Dept.: Ambulance 5047.77; Dump 143.88; Finance Office 1201.73; Fire 59.95; Govt Bldg 365.70; Liquor 283.43; Parks 762.57; Sewer 1327.06; Storm Sewer 365.69; Streets 1175.50; Water 1243.12; EFTPS-Dec payroll taxes, 3616.28; SD Retirement System-employee & city match, 881.14; SD Unemployment Ins Div – 4th Q Unemployment, 53.84.

Supplies: CHS-shop & firehall propane, 1738.49; Fastenal–shop wipes & bathroom paper, 315.64; Hofer, Robin-ambulance gas reimbursement (credit card statement), 166.00; Julson, Joan–shop gas & furnace blower fan reimbursement (credit card statement), 999.86; Mid-American Research Chemical–mostly lagoon chemical supply, 6574.71; Menards– mostly shop garage door & supply, 1356.66; Post Master–WSG billing stamps, 102.00; Riteway–WSG utility bill forms, 202.81; Stern Oil–Legion Hall propane, 394.20; Sturdevant’s Auto Value–shop supplies & mostly maintainer batteries, 777.45.

Beer and Liquor (paid in December & reimbursed by The North 40): Beal Distributing Inc, 939.00; Dakota Beverage, 355.10; Republic Nat’l Dist. Co, 484.27.

Miscellaneous: A&B Business Inc–copier lease agreement & extra copies, 108.33; Bridgewater Development Corp–monthly donation, 500.00; Liberda, Eleanor J–project 3 yr crop damage payment, 9719.01; Liberda Sr, Ronald J–project 3 yr crop damage payment, 9719.01; McCook County–Contracted Law Enforcement monthly payment, 2356.25; Nordwald Rentals–Feb rent (Payable 02/01/24), 400.00; Public Health Laboratory-water testing for Nov, 15.00; RBS Sanitation-Dec. garbage pick-up, 3420.00; RBS Sanitation-dumpster fees (Legion Hall, firehall, shop), 195.00; SD 811-5 faxed locates, 5.60; SD Amb Assoc-conference registration for 2 people, 300.00; SD State Treasurer–Dec garbage, etc. sales tax (We received a 1.5% allowance for timely payments - \$3.32), 217.78; Stern Oil Co-LP tank annual lease, 50.00; Thaler, Barb-EMT training & mileage, 133.00; The Special/New Century Press-Dec publishing, 128.49; US Bank-SRF Sewer loans #2 & #3, 8834.09.

Dues & Fees: Bridgewater Development Corp–2024 annual dues, 100.00; SD Amb Assoc–2024 dues, 75.00; SD Assoc of Rural Water Systems–2024 dues, 445.00; SD DANR–2024 Wastewater fee, 550.00; SECOG–2024 Dues, 997.00; SD Municipal League–2024 Dues, 838.56; SD Governmental Finance Officers Assoc–2024 Dues, 40.00.

Utilities (Paid in December): Golden West, 304.39; Hanson Rural Water, 3688.20; Xcel Energy, 2185.06.

Insurance: AFLAC-reimbursed by employees, 311.46; Health Pool of SD, 2286.39, Julson, Joan-monthly Medicare, Supplement & Part D reimbursement, 650.66.

Professional: DGR Engineering–project expenses, 21430.01; DGR Engineering–professional services through September, 21437.19; Eich Law Office- Nov/Dec statement, 200.00.

Published at the approximate cost of \$114.74