

**Bridgewater City Council Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**March 10, 2025 7:00 pm**

The City Council of the City of Bridgewater met in the Council Room for their regular meeting on Monday 03/10/25. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Travis Holthaus. Answering roll call were Bob Anderson, Tony Hofer, Travis Holthaus, and Alicen Strombeck. Absent was Luke Burger. Others present: Finance Officer-Joan Julson, Maintenance-Todd Letcher, Merlin Wollman & Ross Glanzer-BRFD, Trent Bruce-DGR, John Butz, Jim Julson, and Jerry Paweltzki.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

No letters of interest were received for the vacant Ward II position or Mayor position.

The minutes of last month's meeting were sent to the council for reading prior to the meeting. Motion by Anderson, second by Hofer to approve the Feb 10<sup>th</sup> regular meeting and Feb 19<sup>th</sup> special meeting minutes. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The February Financial statement was sent out to the council for reviewing prior to the meeting. After discussion, a motion was made by Strombeck, second by Anderson to approve the February Financial Statement. All voted aye. Motion carried. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading of Supplemental Budget Ordinance A-123 was done.

After reviewing the bills for the month of February, a motion was made by Anderson, second by Strombeck to approve the February bills for payment. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Maintenance Report given by Letcher: 1) burned tree pile at dumpsite, 2) cleaning gutters 3) firehall storage work for fire dept.

Fire: Bridgewater Rural Fire District Board was here to extend the Contract for another year and approve the 2026 Budget. Motion by Anderson, second by Strombeck to extend the contract with the Bridgewater Rural Fire District for another year and approve the 2026 Fire Dept Budget with the Bridgewater Rural Fire District. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Input: John Butz visited with the council on behalf of the new Community Group. He had questions about the city clean-up and how they could help. Finance Officer read the information received from SD Landfill last year about how they are transitioning away from the city-wide clean-up events to offering a one-time annual landfill free pass for homeowners in the area counties. The city will not be having the dumpsters for clean-up as the SF Landfill will not allow them any longer. No more input and President Holthaus moved on.

Storm Sewer: Trent Bruce-DGR gave a project update on projected start up date which, depending on weather, will be March 24<sup>th</sup>. They have 10-12 blocks yet to finish which is about 10 weeks of work. Another item discussed was the council's frustration with how the streets were left for the winter here. Finalizing the outfall work and liquidated damages for not completing work within the contract timeline schedule were also discussed.

Streets & Alleys: Motion by Strombeck, second by Anderson to surplus 2 of the unused street light poles. All voted aye. Motion carried. Several areas that need some tree clean-up was discussed.

Water & Sewer: Motion by Hofer, second by Strombeck to have rock delivered to the lagoon berm for maintenance work on the berm per recommendation from Letcher. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Government Buildings: Letcher reported that the Legion Hall furnaces are being repaired. Also talked about painting the outside of the Legion Hall this summer. Letcher will get the cost for new doors front & back also.

Law Enforcement: February report was noted.

Ambulance: Jim Julson reported to the council that he has gotten all the EMT's certified with the Dept of Health. The EVOC's (drivers) except for 1 are also all certified.

Parks & Rec: Strombeck presented architectural designs for the city park bathroom updates. Costs for concrete, plumbing, electrical & framing will run under \$35,000. Plans include using the old bathroom areas for storage and then framing the rest of the area into 2 areas for ADA compliant bathrooms and an area for storm protection. Motion was made by Anderson, second by Hofer to authorize to spend up to \$35,000 for concrete, plumbing, electrical & framing for the city park bathrooms. All voted aye. Motion carried. More trees for the city park were also discussed.

Building Permit: Motion by Strombeck, second by Anderson to approve an updated fencing permit from Domanowski. All voted aye. Motion carried.

City will not have an election this year. Hofer and Holthaus took out petitions and are unopposed. They will continue in their seats with oaths being done in May. Open seat for Ward II council person and Mayor.

Local Board of Equalization meeting will be March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Appeals need to be in by Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Strombeck, second by Hofer to sign the Frontline warning siren agreement for 2025. All voted aye. Motion carried.

President Holthaus read a formal notice of retirement on Dec 31, 2025 for Finance Officer Julson.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Anderson, second by Strombeck to adjourn. Motion carried. Time 9:10 pm.

Next regular meeting is Monday, April 7, 2025.

Travis Holthaus – Council President

Joan M Julson – Finance Officer

**Claims:**

Payroll by Dept.: Ambulance 6947.75; Finance Office 1330.56; Fire 441.67; Gov't Bldg 610.53; Liquor 303.80; Parks 248.11; Sewer 1265.67; Storm Sewer 136.41; Streets 1840.69; Water 1265.67; EFTPS-February payroll taxes, 4279.12; SD Retirement System-employee & city match, 960.30.

Supplies: Alexandria Ace Hardware–shop supply, 36.60; Anderson Trucking–gravel at 3<sup>rd</sup> & Ash & for stockpile, 1502.76; CHS–firehall & shop propane, 2099.99; Colonial Research–chemical, 233.40; Core & Main–4 meters, 660.00; Hofer, Robin–ambulance gas reimbursement (credit card statement), 91.20; Julson, Joan–mileage to Salem, 24.79; Julson, Joan–shop gas & Legion Hall furnace parts (credit card statement), 544.57; Menards–mostly supply for firehall, 359.43; Meyer Motor LLC–fire & plow truck supply, 106.96; ODP Business Solutions LLC–paper & ink, 175.25; Post Master–WSG billing stamps, 168.00; Runnings–fire tanker supply, 151.97; Stern Oil–Legion Hall propane (Feb 4, 18, 28), 1229.36; Total Stop–fire dept diesel & premium gas, 326.70; Two Way Solutions–firedept radio, 932.09.

Repairs & Maintenance: Anderson Trucking–2/10 & 11 snow removal, 1662.50; Fisk Heating & Cooling LLC–Legion Hall furnace repair & parts, 568.09.

Beer and Liquor (paid in February & reimbursed by The North 40): Beal Distributing Inc, 625.80; Dakota Beverage, 414.50.

Miscellaneous: A&B Business Inc–copier lease agreement, 92.67; Bridgewater Development Corp–monthly donation, 500.00; Erickson, Dawn–return of unused firehall rent, 100.00; McCook County–Contracted Law Enforcement monthly payment, 3087.50; Nordwald Rentals–April rent (Payable 4/01/25), 400.00; Petty Cash, 2.69; RBS Sanitation–Feb garbage pick-up, 3420.00; RBS Sanitation–dumpster fees (Legion Hall, firehall, shop), 195.00; SD State Treasurer–Feb garbage, etc. sales tax, 253.92; SD 811-2 faxed locates, 2.24; The Special/New Century Press–Feb publishing, 139.44.

Dues & Fees: Core & Main–annual support, 3482.35; Frontline Warning Systems–annual siren contract service agreement, 350.00.

Utilities (Paid in February mid-month): Golden West, 300.39; Hanson Rural Water, 4733.28; Xcel Energy, 2293.45.

Insurance: AFLAC–reimbursed by employees, 311.46; Health Pool of SD, 2354.86, Julson, Joan–monthly Medicare, Supplement & Part D reimbursement, 740.29.

Professional: DGR Engineering–professional services through January, 2953.10; Eich Law Office–Jan & Feb services, 380.00.

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