

Bridgewater City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2025 7:00 pm

The City Council of the City of Bridgewater met in the Council Room for their regular meeting on Monday 06/09/25. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Travis Holthaus. Answering roll call were Bob Anderson, Luke Burger, Tony Hofer, Travis Holthaus, and Alicen Strombeck. Others present: Finance Officer-Joan Julson, Maintenance-Todd Letcher, Scott LaVoy-DGR, AJ & Breanne Schmidt, Mike Damm, Sydney Becker, and Jerry Paweltzki.

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 Hofer, second by Burger to approve the May 5th regular meeting and May 20th special meeting minutes. All voted aye. Motion carried.

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

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

Maintenance Report by Letcher: 1) working on streets getting ready for asphaltting , 2) project work 3) lagoon work 4) planting trees at city park.

Public Input: Sydney Becker (Daycare Board member) asked if the city had any interest in owning & running the daycare. Council asked her to bring financials. Breanne Schmidt reported that the clean up day went well and also asked about council person qualifications. Mike Damm had complaint on the southwest corner of 4th & Walnut property. A person is hauling in all kinds of items and driving over the new curb & gutter cement just poured. Forrest Richards asked about who would give permission to mow the south Main Ave roadway by his fields. They have been hayed previously and now someone has mowed down the center of the ditch. Council asked him to get apply for a conditional use permit for haying. No more input and President Holthaus moved on.

Storm Sewer: Scott LaVoy-DGR gave a project update. Concrete is getting poured for curb & gutter and sidewalks. Council discussed with him the meaning of "Liquidated Damages" and how it will apply to our project. Also discussed was the north end of Walnut between 5th & 6th St, Oak Ave between 3rd & 4th St and Ash Ave.

Motion by Burger, second by Strombeck to sign Pay Application #13 for H&W Contracting LLC in the amount of \$205,860.42. All voted aye. Motion carried.

At 7:55 Public Hearing was held for the Conditional Use Permits. Motion by Strombeck, second by Anderson to recess council and reconvene as Board of Adjustment. Roll call vote – all voted aye. Motion carried.

The following conditional use permits were discussed. A motion was made by Anderson, second by Hofer to approve permits #125 Ethan Roebuck & Rose Bickett – ag activities (chickens); #126 James M Clarey – ag activities (chickens); #127 Jan Bothwell – ag activities (chickens); #128 Tami Klyaic – ag activities (chickens); #129 Luke Burger – ag activities (chickens); #130 Mary Johnston – ag activities (chickens); #131 Mike McCart – ag activities (chickens); #132 Jason Jaeger – ag activities (chickens); #133 Jamie Schryvers – ag activities (chickens); to allow up to 10 chickens (no roosters, ducks or other fowl), clean and enclosed pen, food stored in an enclosed container to not attract any rodents, and any complaint, the permit will be revisited. Permits will be good for only 1 year if these conditions are met. All voted aye with Burger abstaining. Motion carried.

Motion by Burger, second by Hofer to adjourn as the Board of Adjustment and reconvene as Council. Motion carried. Time 8:00 pm

Streets & Alleys: Anderson stated that he would like to see the remainder of Walnut Ave to 6th St and Ash Ave to 1st St. finished if we have extra money left on the project.

Health & Landfill: discussed hauling some of the extra dirt out to the landfill to use for grading there

Govt' Bldgs & Liquor Store: Bar operating agreement was discussed. Motion by Anderson, second by Strombeck to continue bar operating agreement with Cody Northern as offered until the May 2026 regular council meeting. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Ambulance: Motion by Anderson, second by Burger to write off Medicare/Medicaid/Insurance assignment balance of \$40,604.51. All present voted aye. Motion carried. (Total charges were \$92198.40 less payments of \$51593.89 leaving an assignment/uncollectable balance of \$40604.51. This does include a few old balances that have been deemed uncollectable. (It was noted that in accepting payment from Medicare or Medicaid we must accept what Medicare or Medicaid says the bill should be. In turn for getting paid by Medicare and/or Medicaid, we must also agree not to charge these amounts to the patient and consequently must write these amounts off.)

Law Enforcement: April & May report received and noted.

Parks & Rec: The inside framing will be getting done next on the city park bathrooms.

Code Enforcement: The vacant lot at 4th & Walnut full of miscellaneous items was discussed. Motion by Anderson, second by Burger to have attorney proceed with clean-up letter. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Building Permit: Motion by Burger, second by Hofer to approve permits for Audrey Schrag-fence and Robert Stahl-shed. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Burger, second by Anderson to purchase the \$3000 package from RKM fireworks for 4th of July fireworks. All voted aye.

Finance Officer reported that the auditors will be coming on July 14th to begin the 2023-2024 audit.

Motion by Burger, second by Strombeck to enter into Executive Session for SDCL 1-25-2.4. All voted aye. Motion carried. Time 8:26 pm. President Holthaus declared executive session over at 9:12 pm. Motion by Burger, second by Strombeck to hire Kendra Julson as full time Deputy Finance Officer at \$18.00 per hour starting on June 23, 2025. All voted aye. Motion carried. After the 6 month training/probationary period and the retirement of current Finance Officer on Dec. 31st, 2025, she will become the Finance Officer.

Due to a council conflict, a motion by Burger, second by Strombeck to change the July meeting to Tuesday, July 8th. All voted aye. Motion carried.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Hofer, second by Burger to adjourn. Motion carried. Time 9:19 pm.

Next regular meeting is Tuesday, July 8, 2025.

Travis Holthaus – Council President

Joan M Julson – Finance Officer

Claims:

Payroll by Dept.: Ambulance 8728.88; Finance Office 1939.77; Fire 111.94; Liquor 447.84; Parks 2545.31; Sewer 1679.29; Storm Sewer 1649.71; Streets 2763.64; Water 1594.85; EFTPS-May payroll taxes, 6702.52; SD Retirement System-employee & city match, 1426.06.

Supplies: Auto Value Salem-Pkup battery & cables, 210.32; CHS-shop propane, 418.00; Colonial Research-Marker flags, 86.35; Hofer, Robin-ambulance gas reimbursement (credit card statement), 121.00; Julson, Joan-shop gas (credit card statement), 741.40; Matheson-amb & fire oxygen tank rental, 90.91; McCook Conservation District-trees for park, 660.00; Office Max-shop printer ink, 63.27; Post Master-WSG billing stamps, 112.00; Total Stop-fire dept gas, 169.68; Zabel Steel-shop metal, 254.32.

Repairs & Maintenance: Anderson Trucking-house tear down, city dump work, payloader work on Poplar & Walnut, stock pile gravel, hauling patch mix, Ash Ave gravel, riprap for lagoon, 9954.82; Weber Concrete-city park restroom project cement, 4819.50.

Beer and Liquor (paid in May & reimbursed by The North 40): Beal Dist, 473.95; Johnson Brothers of SD, 487.23.

Miscellaneous: A&B Business Inc-copier lease agreement, 96.47; Bridgewater Development Corp-monthly donation, 500.00; Humboldt Fire & Amb-ALS assist, 150.00; McCook County-Contracted Law Enforcement monthly payment, 2600.00; Nordwald Rentals-July rent (Payable 7/01/25), 400.00; Petty cash-FO supply, 2.69; Public Health Laboratory-water testing, 15.00; RBS Sanitation-May garbage pick-up, 3420.00; RBS Sanitation-dumpster fees (Legion Hall, firehall, shop), 195.00; Rivers Edge Bank-

safe deposit box rent, 30.00; Schleich, Lisa-return of unused firehall rent, 100.00; SD DANR-drinking water annual fee, 220.00; SD Gov Finance Officer's Assoc-school registration, 75.00; SD State Treasurer-May garbage, etc. sales tax, 262.85; SD 811-11 faxed locates, 11.20; The Special/New Century Press-May publishing, 221.18.

Utilities (Paid in May mid-month): Golden West, 310.37; Hanson Rural Water, 6940.48; Xcel Energy, 2001.09.

Insurance: AFLAC-reimbursed by employees, 311.50; Health Pool of SD, 2354.86, Julson, Joan-monthly Medicare, Supplement & Part D reimbursement, 740.29.

Professional: DGR Engineering-services thru April, 27972.85; GeoTek-earthwork tests/inspection/reporting, 837.50; H&W Contracting LLC-Storm Sewer Project Phase 2 ARPA & GOED payments, 110629.26.

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