

Bridgewater City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2025 7:00 pm

The City Council of the City of Bridgewater met in the Council Room for their regular meeting on Monday 05/05/25. 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, Scott LaVoy-DGR, Breanne Schmidt, Cody Northern, Karen Ford, and Jerry Paweltzki.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of last month's meeting were sent to the council for reading prior to the meeting. Motion by Anderson, second by Burger to approve the April 7th regular meeting and April 23rd special meeting minutes. All voted aye. Motion carried.

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

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

As there was no old business, a motion was made by Anderson, second by Burger to adjourn as old council. Motion carried. Time 7:08 pm.

Oaths of Office were taken by Tony Hofer–Ward III, and Travis Holthaus–Ward I. Mayor & council person for Ward II seats are currently vacant. The meeting was called to order at 7:09 by Travis Holthaus. Answering roll call were: Bob Anderson, Luke Burger, Tony Hofer, Travis Holthaus, and Alicen Strombeck.

Motion by Strombeck, second by Burger to nominate Travis Holthaus for Council President. Roll call vote – all voted aye. Motion carried. Motion by Strombeck, second by Hofer to nominate Burger for Vice President. Roll call vote – all voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson, second by Burger to approve 2025-2026 Council Committees as discussed. All voted aye. Motion carried.

2025-2026 Council Committees:

Law enforcement: Entire council

Health & Landfill: Entire council

Ambulance: Hofer-chair, Anderson, Burger

Government Buildings/Liquor store: Holthaus-chair, Hofer, Burger

Parks & Recreation: Strombeck-chair, Holthaus, Anderson

Streets & Alleys: Anderson-chair, Burger, Hofer

Water & Sewer: Anderson-chair, Holthaus, Strombeck

Code Enforcement: Entire council

Other Boards:

Firehall Board: Anderson, Burger

Planning & Zoning: Strombeck, vacant seat

Motion by Hofer, second by Burger to approve Resolution 25-0505. Roll call vote – all voted aye. Motion carried.

CITY OF BRIDGEWATER

Resolution #25-0505

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BRIDGEWATER,
TO APPROVE MAYORAL/COUNCIL PRESIDENT APPOINTMENTS OF
FINANCE OFFICER and MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT**

WHEREAS, President Travis Holthaus, of the City of Bridgewater appoints Joan M. Julson as Finance Officer and Todd Letcher as Maintenance Superintendent, from May 2025 to the first regular meeting in May 2026; and

WHEREAS, Joan M. Julson and Todd Letcher have accepted each respective appointment until the appointment and qualifications of successors;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Bridgewater approves the appointments by President Travis Holthaus of Joan M. Julson as Finance Officer and Todd Letcher as Maintenance Superintendent all pursuant to Section 1.0101 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Bridgewater South Dakota.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 5th day of May, 2025, by the City Council of the City of Bridgewater, South Dakota by the following vote:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

City of Bridgewater
By: Travis Holthaus
Its Council President

ATTEST:

Joan M Julson
City Finance Officer
(SEAL)

Maintenance Report was read by President Holthaus: 1) getting Poplar ready for asphalt, 2) street light needs new wire at 3rd st & Main, 3) project work 4) Jerico has started mowing 5) on vacation May 22-23.

Public Input: Karen Ford visited on the café. Breanne Schmidt -Bridgewater Helping Hands group visited with the council about the spring clean-up which will be June 7th. Roll-off dumpsters will be available at the intersection of Hwy 262 & Hwy 42. Signs should be going up soon. Jerry Paweltzki asked about the curb & gutter policy & missed opportunities for street grants from years ago. No more input and President Holthaus moved on.

Storm Sewer: Scott LaVoy-DGR gave a project update. Walnut Ave is pretty much complete except for a few manhole installs. Ash Ave will be getting torn up and discussed with Strombeck her way of getting to & from her property. Curb & gutter should be getting started shortly. Still looking at the end of June for completion as long as no unforeseen issues come up.

Motion by Strombeck, second by Burger to sign Pay Application #12 for H&W Contracting LLC in the amount of \$110,629.26. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Streets & Alleys: Street light outage on Main between 2nd & 3rd street was disussed. The underground wire is broken and since this is not in conduit, the wire will run overhead at the intersection of 3rd & Main. Motion by Burger, second by Anderson to accept the estimate from Bob Berg Electric, LLC in the amount of \$1559.98 to run an overhead wire at the 3rd & Main intersection on the west side. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Water & Sewer: 2024 Quality Water Report is done & filed with the State.

Govt' Bldgs & Liquor Store: Bar operating agreement was discussed. Council agreed to increase the rent back to the \$800. Cody Northern asked if it couldn't stay at the \$600. Council asked Cody to stay until after an Executive Session.

Law Enforcement: April report not received in time for meeting.

Parks & Rec: The underground plumbing has been done at the city park bathrooms. Cement will be getting poured next.

Building Permit: Motion by Burger, second by Anderson to approve permits for Steven Svancara and PTS. All voted aye. Motion carried. Motion by Burger, second by Anderson to have Breanne Schmidt sit on the Planning & Zoning filling a vacant seat. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Burger, second by Hofer to allow Finance Officer to attend FO workshop in Pierre on June 11-13. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Burger, second by Anderson to go into Executive Session for SDCL 1-25-2.4. All voted aye. Motion carried. Time 8:17 pm. Cody Northern was asked to join during the session. President Holthaus declared executive session over at 8:48 pm. Motion by Anderson, second by Burger to extend the current contract until May 31st 11:59 pm with no other changes. All voted aye. Motion carried. Cody was asked to let the council know within the next few days if he doesn't plan on continuing the agreement.

Motion by Burger, second by Anderson to enter into Executive Session for SDCL 1-25-2.4. All voted aye. Motion carried. Time 8:58 pm. President Holthaus declared executive session over at 9:15 pm. Motion by Burger, second by Anderson to hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, May 20th at 7:00 pm to interview prospective finance officer applicants in Executive Session. All voted aye. Motion carried. Finance Officer will call these applicants to set up times.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Anderson, second by Burger to adjourn. Motion carried. Time 9:17 pm.

Next regular meeting is Monday, June 9, 2025.

Travis Holthaus – Council President

Joan M Julson – Finance Officer

Claims:

Payroll by Dept.: Ambulance 7137.72; Council 6025.00; Finance Office 1284.32; Fire 38.97; Gov't Bldg 12.99; Liquor 298.02; Parks 194.86; Sewer 1423.84; Storm Sewer 1357.46; Streets 1652.98; Water 1112.08; EFTPS-April payroll taxes, 4521.27; SD Retirement System-employee & city match, 951.52.

Supplies: Auto Value Salem–mower filters, 19.83; City of Emery–1/3 cost of water valve exerciser, 900.00; Colonial Research–shop cleaner, 159.50; Hofer, Robin-ambulance gas reimbursement (credit card statement), 175.00; Julson, Joan–shop gas (credit card statement), 365.84; McKesson Medical-Surgical–amb supply, 117.57; Matheson–amb oxygen & tank rental, 138.23; Post Master–WSG billing stamps, 112.00; Riteway–laser utility bills, 208.84.

Repairs & Maintenance: Anderson Trucking-hauling out chip & seal on Poplar & 2nd St, 975.00; Bob Berg Electric LLC–street light repair, 697.35; Fisk's Heating & Cooling LLC–Legion Hall furnace labor to replace heat exchanger, 290.82; Meyer Motor–amb battery & install, 392.90; T-Rex Plumbing LLC-city park bathroom remodel plumbing rough-in, 3612.25.

Beer and Liquor (paid in April & reimbursed by The North 40): Dakota Beverage, 322.50.

Miscellaneous: A&B Business Inc–copier lease agreement & extra copies, 101.09; Bridgewater Development Corp–monthly donation, 500.00; Julson, Joan-internet security renewal, 53.09; McCook County–Contracted Law Enforcement monthly payment, 2600.00; Nordwald Rentals–June rent (Payable 6/01/25), 400.00; Public Health Laboratory-water testing, 15.00; RBS Sanitation-April garbage pick-up, 3420.00; RBS Sanitation-dumpster fees (Legion Hall, firehall, shop), 195.00; SD State Treasurer–April garbage, etc. sales tax, 225.26; SD 811-11 faxed locates, 12.32; Solem American Legion Post-annual payment, 300.00; The Special/New Century Press-April publishing, 378.54; Two Way Solutions-radio licensing renewal, 299.00; US Bank-2 SRF Water, 2 Storm Sewer loans & new storm sewer loan interest, 45058.48.

Utilities (Paid in April mid-month): Golden West, 305.09; Hanson Rural Water, 4862.33; Xcel Energy, 2065.50.

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 March, 10193.70; Eich Law Office-April services, 60.00.

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