

Bridgewater City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2025 7:00 pm

The City Council of the City of Bridgewater met in the Council Room for their regular meeting on Tuesday 07/08/25. 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 Officers-Joan Julson & Kendra Julson, Maintenance-Todd Letcher, Scott LaVoy-DGR, AJ & Breanne Schmidt, Jason Jaeger, Margie Peters, Jerry Paweltzki, Anne Richards, Craig & Kay Mensink, Brian & Rhonda Gerving, and Zac Appletoft.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

No interested person came forward to apply for the Ward II or the Mayor position.

The minutes of last month's meetings were sent to the council for reading prior to the meeting. Motion by Anderson, second by Burger to approve the June 9th regular meeting. All voted aye. Motion carried.

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

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

Maintenance Report by Letcher: 1) working on extra streets getting ready for asphaltting, 2) project work 3) sewer line in alley west of Oak St & south of Iowa St.

Public Input: Jason Jaeger asked about sidewalks not being replaced on the south side of 3rd St. Jerry Paweltzki requested the street light get fixed at Walnut & 262nd. Anne Richards requested a letter of support from the city on Jake breaking that she can bring to the McCook County Commissioners. Zac Appletoft had a complaint on the overgrown grass & weeds as well as various lots with accumulated items. He wished people would just show pride in their property without having to be told to clean up. Craig & Kay Mensink asked about obtaining a liquor license. They are wanting to purchase the Café and open a bar & grill. Breanne Schmidt thanked the council for all their hard work. She has learned a lot since she has attended the meetings and takes the information back to the Bridgewater Helping Hands group. Margie Peters would like to see more documentation in the minutes for items being worked on. She doesn't see any progress on issues discussed. Brian & Ronda Gerving introduced themselves as the new owners of the property on the northwest edge of Bridgewater just outside of city limits. They were impressed as to the people showing up to a meeting, as he had served on boards prior. He understood what the board is going through and felt they were doing a good job. Where they came from (Lead/Deadwood area) had the same issues with homeowners not keeping up their properties. No more input and President Holthaus moved on.

Storm Sewer: Scott LaVoy-DGR gave a project update. Concrete work is done. Due to rain, asphaltting is moved to Friday. Tentative completion date of July 28th. Also discussed change order #4 which included: Walnut from 5th to 6th – curb, gutter, & asphalt; Oak from 2nd to 3rd – curb, gutter & asphalt; Ash Ave 1st to 2nd – asphalt; 4th St from Walnut to Oak & Oak from 3rd to 4th – asphalt. Motion by Anderson, second by Burger to approve Change Order #4 with the following changes: Walnut from 5th to 6th – curb, gutter, & asphalt; Oak from 2nd to 3rd – curb, gutter & asphalt; Ash Ave 1st to 2nd – asphalt; 4th St from Walnut to Oak & Oak from 3rd to 4th – asphalt at an additional cost of \$72,024.12 plus any reduction in liquidated damages due to the time extension for this work. All voted aye. Motion carried. DGR will speak to H&W Contracting about these changes and what it will do to the cost & timeline.

Motion by Strombeck, second by Burger to sign Pay Application #14 for H&W Contracting LLC in the amount of \$342,454.45 for work completed through June 27, 2025. All voted aye. Motion carried.

At 8:31 the 8:00 pm Public Hearing was held for the Conditional Use Permit. Motion by Burger, second by Anderson to recess council & reconvene as Board of Adjustment. Roll call vote – all voted aye. Motion carried. The following conditional use permit for haying ditches was discussed. Motion by Burger, second by Hofer to approve #134 Richards Development Inc. - haying ditches along south Main Ave. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Burger, second by Anderson to adjourn as the Board of Adjustment and reconvene as Council. Motion carried. Time 8:33 pm

Streets & Alleys: Motion by Burger, second by Anderson to write a letter of support to the county concerning a jake braking ordinance. All voted aye. Motion carried. Council also discussed the project sidewalks on the south side of 3rd street that were taken out and not replaced. Council agreed that these sidewalks should be replaced. Anderson will talk with Jerry Weber to see if he'd be able to do this and what the cost would be.

Water & Sewer: The sewer main in the alley west of Oak Ave & south of Iowa St is not in the best of shape and may need replacing. A quote for mobilization, tie into main on Iowa St, replace approx. 120' of 6" clay tile with 6" PVC and tie onto 4" service line in the alley at a cost of \$5750.00 from CMC Excavation was received. Motion by Strombeck, second by Burger to replace when/if it gives us trouble. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Property & Liability Insurance – no changes.

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

Code Enforcement: Property clean up issue was discussed. It has been sent to city attorney to be handled.

Building Permit: Motion by Anderson, second by Burger to approve permits for Brian Weber-shed, Sergey Sazonova-house remodeling, Roger Johnston-move/relocate & remodel house, Trudi Nelson-shed & deck. All voted aye. Motion carried. Motion by Burger, second by Anderson to approve permit for Steve Prater-pole barn. All aye except Hofer nay. Motion carried.

No executive session needed.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Anderson, second by Burger to adjourn. Motion carried. Time 8:52 pm.

Next regular meeting is Monday, August 11, 2025.

Travis Holthaus – Council President

Joan M Julson – Finance Officer

Claims:

Payroll by Dept.: Ambulance 8352.41; Clean-up 12.75; Finance Office 1541.15; Fire 162.94; Liquor 328.60; Parks 1642.37; Sewer 1380.35; Storm Sewer 1636.73; Streets 2373.90; Water 1068.59; EFTPS-June payroll taxes, 5314.69; SD Retirement System-employee & city match, 1038.52; SD Unemployment Ins Div-2nd Q Unemployment, 55.07.

Supplies: Auto Value Salem – oil & hose 44.97; Hofer, Robin - ambulance gas reimbursement (credit card statement) 144.47; Julson, Joan – shop gas (credit card statement) 315.40; Julson, Joan – mileage to Pierre & meal for FO workshop 262.89; MARC – Bathroom Supplies 82.21; Matheson –fire oxygen tank 105.82; Menards – mostly firehall supply 54.65; Meyer Motor – antifreeze 29.98; Post Master – WSG billing stamps 168.00; RKM Fireworks Co – fireworks 3000.00; Todd Letcher – Recoil Starter for saw 19.06.

Repairs & Maintenance: Bob Berg Electric, LLC – Street Light Repairs 1501.52; CMC Excavation Inc – Vac & jet manholes & sewer main 5-6-25, Unplug sewer line S Oak, 5593.16.

Beer and Liquor: (paid in June & reimbursed by The North 40) Beal Distributing, Inc. 354.60; Republic National Distributing Co 522.75.

Miscellaneous: A&B Business Inc – lease agreement for copier 96.47; AmericInn – FO Room for Convention 112.00; Bridgewater Development – donation 500.00; Horvath, Aaron – water deposit return 250.00; McCook County – Contracted Law Enforcement monthly payment 2600.00; Nordwald Rentals – August rent (Payable 8/01/25) 400.00; Petty Cash – FO, fire hall & WSG supply 27.42; Public Health Laboratory – water testing 15.00; RBS Sanitation Inc – June garbage pickup 3420.00; RBS Sanitation Inc – June dumpster fees (Legion Hall, Firehall, Shop) 195.00; SD State Treasurer– June garbage, etc. sales tax 256.25; SD 811 – 20 faxed locates in June 22.40; SEFP – Annual Contributions 2229.50; The Special/New Century Press – June publishing 108.97; US Bank 2 SRF Loans 8834.09.

Utilities: (paid in June midmonth) Golden West 308.41; Hanson Rural Water 6246.28; Xcel Energy 2036.05.

Insurance: AFLAC – reimbursed by employees 311.50; Health Pool of SD – health ins 2354.86; Julson, Joan – monthly Medicare, Supplement & Part D reimbursement 740.29; SD Public Assurance Alliance – Liability & Property Insurance, 23077.45.

Professional: DGR – professional services through 5/31/25 38927.25; H&W Contracting LLC – Storm Sewer Project Phase 2 – ARPA payment #17 & GOED funds Payment #13 205860.42.

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