

Bridgewater City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2025 7:00 pm

The City Council of the City of Bridgewater met in the Council Room for their regular meeting on Monday 08/11/25. 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, Jerry Paweltzki, Margie Peters, Terri Shape, Jan Bothwell, Timothy Gray, Robert Stahl, Nick Palmer-SECOG, Rev. Gary Andrew Woodruff, and Breanne Schmidt.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Burger, second by Strombeck to approve the presented agenda. All voted aye. Motion carried.

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 July 8th regular meeting minutes with a correction due to a typographical error: *Motion by Burger, second by Hofer to approve #134 Richards Development Inc. - haying ditches along south Main Ave. Permit good for 5 years but can be revisited at any time if any complaints are received. All voted aye. Motion carried. All voted aye. Motion carried.*

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

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

Maintenance Report by Letcher: 1) waiting on Commercial Asphalt to come back, 2) been mowing and picking up trees and sticks, 3) starting to think about the replacement of the skid steer due to no a.c., dusty, and doesn't seal.

President Holthaus opened the 7:15 pm Public Hearing for the temporary beer/liquor permit for the Fire Dept for the Fireball on 9/27/25 at the Legion Hall. No one came to express any comments or concerns. Motion by Hofer, second by Burger to grant the temporary 2-day beer/liquor permit # TMB 036 to the Fire Dept for the Fireball on 9/27/25 at the Legion Hall. All present voted aye. Motion carried. At 7:18 Public Hearing was declared over.

Public Input: Robert Stahl thanked the council for pushing through the storm sewer project. He also talked about a couple trees on city alley that might need to be taken down eventually. The trees are producing very few leaves. The trees are close by his sheds and if they fall, they will damage the sheds. He also talked about the culvert & tile on 6th St East, past Walnut. The culvert needs to be lowered so that the water will drain properly on his property and help keep down the mosquitoes. On January 11th 2005, he had brought it up at the city council meeting and at that point they had agreed to it being lowered. Robert said he would be fine with hiring Carl to complete the work. Breanna Schmidt was wondering if the council would waive the fee for the rental of the Legion Hall on October 11th. The Bridgewater Helping Hands group is going to be hosting a family-friendly movie night. The council agreed they would waive the fee. Jerry Paweltzki requested someone from the council go over the easement on his side of the project with him. He would like to go over his concerns. There are multiple rock piles that have gotten left. Travis agreed and said he would like a member of DGR to be there with them as well. Jerry was also wondering if the city could line up a contractor that could do chip and seal for homeowners. Badlands Asphalt was a recommendation that was given to Jerry.

No more input and President Holthaus moved on.

Storm Sewer: Scott LaVoy-DGR gave a project update. Asphalt work is done. Seeding has started. Topsoil is still needing to be filled in in some areas. On the west side of Oak, between 3rd and 2nd, curb hasn't been poured yet, there isn't a schedule yet but it will get done. They are getting signs and mailboxes put back up.

Motion by Anderson, second by Burger to sign Pay Application #15 for H&W Contracting LLC in the amount of \$514650.02 for work completed through August 1, 2025. All voted aye. Motion carried.

A quote of \$9825.00 was given from Weber Concrete to replace the 300' of sidewalk on 3rd Street that had been taken out. Motion by Burger, second by Hofer to approve the quote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

At the 7:45 pm Municipal Ordinance Revision with SECOG (Nick Palmer) was discussed. Nick will begin the Municipal Ordinance Revision. He will be going through the Ordinance Chapters 1 & 2 and emailing information to be discussed at the September 8th meeting. He will be adding the updated Election changes right away. Cities have until the end of the year to decide if they would like to have a June or November election. He will be present at the October 6th meeting.

Parks & Rec: Park bathrooms are getting close to being done. The handicap rails need to be installed, going to put epoxy the floors this week, water fountain should be here this week, the water heater should be here next week. In the future a ceiling should be put in the open area, and the electric panel needs to be walled. The sensor for the outside light needs to be moved, anything going down the street trips the sensor. Exhaust fans and hand dryers need to be installed. Needing to look into getting a changing table station.

Code Enforcement: Zac Appletoft is interested in being our eyes in the community for code enforcement. Strombeck discussed the city signing up for the Beacon site. The council agreed signing up would be beneficial. The area on the SW corner of 4th & Walnut was discussed. Motion was made by Anderson, second by Burger to have city attorney take whatever action is necessary for cleanup on SW corner of 4th & Walnut. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Building Permit: Motion by Burger, second by Anderson to approve the permit for Serge Rivera – creating additional room in the house they are renovating. All voted aye. Motion carried.

1st reading of 2026 Budget Ordinance A-124 was done.

The Legislative Mandate requiring the annual review of the Open Meeting Laws by the council was completed.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Hofer, second by Strombeck to adjourn. Motion carried. Time 8:37 pm.

Next regular meeting is Monday, September 8, 2025.

Travis Holthaus – Council President

Joan M Julson – Finance Officer

Claims:

Payroll by Dept.: Ambulance 8461.19 Clean-up (12.75); Finance Office 2311.40; Dump 38.97; Liquor 499.91; Parks 1373.27; Sewer 1573.60; Storm Sewer 1545.81; Streets 3914.32; Water 1443.70; Mosquito 110.42; EFTPS-July payroll taxes, 6072.33; SD Retirement System-employee & city match, 1348.52.

Supplies: CHS – propane 1314.39; Hofer, Robin - ambulance gas reimbursement (credit card statement) 202.00; Julson, Joan – shop gas (credit card statement) 738.87; Julson, Joan – self-addressed stamped envelopes (credit card statement) - 856.20; McKesson Medical Surgical Inc – Amb supply 387.17; Meyer Motor – F700 tanker tires & misc, 1624.00; Post Master – Additional stamps due to price increase 868.00; Quill - time cards, hole punch, ink 106.22; Stern Oil – Legion Hall propane 299.00; Total Stop – fire dept gas/diesel 243.41.

Repairs & Maintenance: Anderson Trucking – push up trees at dump ground after June/July storms 1050.00; CMC Excavation Inc. – connect sewer from park bathroom into service line 1988.96; Heiman Fire Equipment – Fire truck - main pumper testing & repairs 3811.31; T-Rex Plumbing LLC – city park bathroom plumbing & fixtures 8428.59; Two Way Solutions Inc – Amb pager repair 125.98; Weber Construction – labor & materials for bathroom at city park 5596.61.

Beer and Liquor: (paid in July & reimbursed by The North 40) Beal Distributing, Inc. 530.65; Johnson Brothers of SD 429.48.

Miscellaneous: A&B Business Inc – lease agreement for copier 113.05; Bridgewater Development – donation 500.00; CCS LTD – SiteLock, Web Hosting, & Domain for 2023-2025 1047.00; Commercial Asphalt – Omega Mix 2743.80; EMC Ins Co – Repay of amb work comp claim 1107.00; McCook County – Contracted Law Enforcement monthly payment 2600.00; Nordwald Rentals – September rent

(Payable 9/01/25) 400.00; Public Health Laboratory – water testing 15.00; RBS Sanitation Inc – July garbage pickup 3420.00; RBS Sanitation Inc – July dumpster fees (Legion Hall, Firehall, Shop) 195.00; SD EMS Association – 2 memberships 80.00; SD State Treasurer– July garbage, etc. sales tax 287.62; SD 811 – 6 faxed locates in July 6.72; The Special/New Century Press – July publishing 95.66; United States Postal Service – PO Box fee 126.00; US Bank 4 SRF Loans 32841.58.

Utilities: (paid in July midmonth) Golden West 307.70; Hanson Rural Water 6936.33; Xcel Energy 1940.34.

Insurance: AFLAC – reimbursed by employees (ACH) 311.50; Health Pool of SD – health ins 4707.62; Julson, Joan – monthly Medicare, Supplement & Part D reimbursement 740.29.

Professional: DGR – professional services through 6/30/25 44678.45; Eich Law Office – Professional Services June thru August 1005.69; GeoTek – Mobilization & concrete testing 3484.50; H&W Contracting LLC – Storm Sewer Project Phase 2 – 342454.45.

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