

**Bridgewater City Council Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**February 9, 2026 7:00 pm**

The City Council of the City of Bridgewater met in the Council Room for their regular meeting on Monday 02/09/26. 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-Kendra Julson, Maintenance-Todd Letcher, Jerry Paweltzki, Roger & Mary Johnston, Doug Weber, Breanne & AJ Schmidt, Nick Palmer -SECOG, and Tim Gray.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Strombeck, second by Anderson to approve the agenda as presented. All present 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 Hofer, second by Anderson to approve the January 7<sup>th</sup> regular meeting minutes. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

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

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

Maintenance Report by Letcher: 1) Painted the inside of the Legion and firehall, 2) started sweeping streets and gutters, 3) the materials to wax the Legion floor are \$1200, the guy said he would show Todd how to do it, 4) need to get a new floor scrubber for the Legion, 5) wondering if we could get a quote from Blackburn to get rid of the mildew/musty smell in basement.

Public Input: Jerry Paweltzki brought up the street light at HWY 262 & 42 being out. Wondering if the City would consider contracting out mowing of south main, the railroad tracks, and highway ditches. He says it would eliminate a lot of payroll taxes. He also questioned the old maintainer at the Lagoon. Wondered if we could bring it to Weiman's to sell it. He thought it had been surplus. Anderson let him know it wasn't declared surplus. Jerry also brought up the contract with the rural fire department. Breanne Schmidt said that the Bridgewater Helping Hands in conjunction with the Legion will be putting on another movie night, February 21<sup>st</sup>. All proceeds will go to the Legion. They are raising money for flags and sending kids to state. No more input and President Holthaus moved on.

Streets & Alleys: Strombeck said that Mike Damm mentioned the gravel on Cherry that was graded is muddy and has water sitting. Letcher let her know that things need to dry before he can get more gravel brought in. Anderson mentioned he got excess mud on 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Letcher said he would use the broom on it.

Water & Sewer: Julson informed the council we are needing to purchase a tablet for reading/activating new water meters. Going forward the handheld device, that Letcher currently uses, will not be able to connect to any new meters. Motion by Strombeck, second by Hofer to approve the purchase of a tablet for the water meters, not to exceed \$500. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Law Enforcement: January Law Enforcement report was received and noted.

Code Enforcement: Anderson mentioned that an individual complained about a few properties owned by various people. Some things mentioned in the complaint were branches, vehicles, tires, and trailers.

Building Permit: Motion by Hofer, second by Anderson to approve the building permit for Ethan Rogich & Keesha Letcher. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Strombeck, second by Hofer to approve the signing of the revised SDPAA Intergovernmental Contract. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

Municipal Ordinance Revision with SECOG: Nick Palmer discussed Ordinance Title 7. He will be present at the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Motion by Anderson, second by Strombeck to enter into Executive Session SDCL 1-25-2.3. All present voted aye. Motion carried. Time 8:29 pm. President Holthaus declared executive session over at 8:49 pm.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Strombeck, second by Anderson to adjourn. Motion carried. Time 8:58 pm.

Next regular meeting is Monday, March 9, 2026.

Travis Holthaus – Council President

Kendra K Julson – Finance Officer

**Claims:**

Payroll by Dept.: Finance Office 1261.80; Water 1321.14; Sewer 1287.12; Liquor 281.04; Streets 1401.23; Parks 445.91; Fire 270.00; Government Buildings 1100.25; Ambulance: 7177.95; EFTPS – January payroll taxes 3997.79; SDRS – employee & city match of retirement 919.46;

Supplies: Ace Hardware – legion supply 27.32; Auto Value – legion, fire, & shop supplies 93.86; CHS – pumphouse/shop/fire station propane 2098.83; Hofer, Robin - ambulance gas reimbursement (credit card statement) 109.00; McCook County Highway – 15T salt/sand mixture 1297.05; Menards – legion, firehall, & shop supplies 599.10; Meyer Motor – Keys 6.00; Post Master – WSG stamps 366.00; Quill – FO supplies (paper & time clock ink) 64.69; Stern – propane & tank lease 1114.51; Total Stop – shop gas 130.00;

Repairs & Maintenance: Bob Berg Electric, LLC – street light pole work 1043.17; Pye-Barker Fire & Safety (Justice & Fire) – fire dept, shop & Legion Hall fire extinguisher inspections 647.00;

Beer and Liquor: (paid in January & reimbursed by The North 40) Beal Distributing, Inc. 474.80;

Miscellaneous: A&B Business Inc – lease agreement for copier & extra copies 110.88; Bridgewater Development – donation 500.00; Bridgewater Fire Dept – grant from SF Area Comm Foundation (Darly Hofer Charitable Fund) 1000.00; Humboldt Fire & Amb – 1 amb ALS assist 150.00; McCook County – Contracted Law Enforcement monthly payment 2675.40; Nordwald Rentals – March rent (Payable 03/01/26) 400.00; Petty Cash – WSG postage 61.00; Public Health Laboratory – water testing 40.00; RBS Sanitation Inc – January garbage pickup 3420.00; RBS Sanitation Inc – January dumpster fees (Legion Hall, Firehall, Shop) 195.00; SD State Treasurer– January garbage, etc. sales tax 235.78; SD 811 – 1 faxed locates in January 1.12; The Special/New Century Press – January publishing 152.83; US Bank (ACH) Water & Storm Sewer SRF Loans 32841.58;

Dues & Fees: Banyon Data Systems – Annual Support for Utility Billing, Direct Payment, Meter Device 1455.00;

Utilities: (paid in January midmonth) Golden West 308.06; Hanson Rural Water 5159.60; Xcel Energy 2137.05;

Insurance: AFLAC – reimbursed by employees (ACH) 355.18; Health Pool of SD – health ins 5194.96; Madison National Life Ins – life ins (Jan & Feb) 8.00;

Professional: DGR – services through December 31, 2025 11063.10; Eich Law Office – Professional Services Dec & Jan 220.00; Presuhn Agency – 1099 e-filing 49.00.

Published at the approximate cost of \$77.70 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com).