



Town of Bridgewater **Budget & Finance Committee**

December 16, 2025

6:00 PM

66 Central Square

Academy Building

Conference Room 301A/2nd Floor

MEETING AGENDA

A Quorum of the Town Council May Be In Attendance

- A. Call to Order**
- B. Approval of Meeting Minutes**
 - a) November 18, 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - b) December 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes
- C. Public Comment**
- D. Discussion**
 - a) FY27 Budget Timeline Discussion
- E. Public Comment**
- F. Adjournment of Meeting**



Town of Bridgewater Budget & Finance Committee

November 18, 2025

6:00 PM

66 Central Square

Academy Building

Conference Room 201A/2nd Floor

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order

Councilor Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. The meeting took place in Conference Room 201A, 2nd Floor of the Academy Building.

Committee members present: Councilor McGrath, Councilor Loreti and Councilor Murphy.

Also in attendance was Town Manager Justin Casanova-Davis, Finance Director Laurie Guerrini, Comptroller Ashley Pires and Chief Assessor Shelley McCauley.

Councilor Linde and Councilor Ellenberg were also in attendance.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a) October 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes
Councilor Loreti made a motion to approve the October 7, 2025 meeting minutes, which was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – Yea.
Motion passed 3-0.

Public Comment - None

Discussion

- a) Review of Audit Process: Don Piatt, Roselli and Clark
Ms. Guerrini introduced Don Piatt from Roselli and Clark.

Mr. Piatt gave a brief update on the purpose of a financial audit: Not designed to detect fraud. Come up with areas that need to be looked at, financial statements themselves. Audits are regulated by several agencies, different standards and compliance needs to be followed.

Perform risk assessments for each (cash, debt) and then perform audit procedures. Update with Finance Director on areas of major transactions (receipts, payroll) from start to finish (ie. How an invoice is paid). Look at control and compliance. Invoice signed by the Department Head on the

signed warrant. Take a look at contracts, projects for disbursements over \$10k. In receipts take a look at tax recap. Mr. Piatt spoke about how they audit the balance sheet.

Mr. Piatt noted that he has been with the firm Roseli and Clark been for 3 ½ years, been doing auditing for 20 years. Roseli & Clark has over 100 municipal clients. 12 to 15 accountants in the office (CPAs).

Councilor McGrath noted that the last audit showed custodial credit \$29M covered out of the \$42k and asked if we should have that all covered? Mr. Piatt noted that they are disclosing what you have covered, what should be covered is a town decision. Not unusual to have accounts that are not insured above the FDIC \$250k. That is more of a town to town decision.

Councilor McGrath asked about the custodial credit risks, the town does not have a procedure, should we? Mr. Piatt noted that they just note that there is not, many communities do the same.

Councilor Lorette asked if there were guidelines for stabilization accounts and Mr. Piatt noted that the DOR recommends 10% to 15% in reserves.

Councilor Murphy asked what the school audit process looks like and Mr. Piatt noted that the Bridgewater-Raynham School District is a separate entity and they come up with an annual assessment, usually it's on the enrollment percentages.

b) Tax Exemptions

Ms. McCauley gave a brief description and impact to the Town of what Hero Act 22I and 22J would be if adopted by the Town Council. She also discussed veterans 5N and SAVE for seniors.

Legislation Referred

- a) Order O-FY26-030: FY2026 Classification Tax Allocation - Adoption of Residential Factor
Ms. McCauley noted that this was a yearly Order, the public hearing would be on 12/2 and she would be doing a presentation then.

Councilor Loreti made a motion to send Order O-FY26-030 back to the full Town Council with no recommendation. This was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – Yea.
Motion passed 3-0.

- b) Order O-FY26-031: Transfer Order for Prior Year Bill - Sewer Fund
Councilor Loreti made a motion to continue Order O-FY26-031 until the next Budget & Finance meeting. This was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – Yea.
Motion passed 3-0.

- c) Order O-FY26-032: Transfer Order - Contractual Payments
Councilor Loreti made a motion to continue Order O-FY26-032 until the next Budget & Finance meeting. This was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – Yea.
Motion passed 3-0.

- d) Order O-FY26-033: Transfer Order – CPC Engineering for Multi-Functional Fields
Councilor Loreti made a motion to continue Order O-FY26-033 until the next Budget & Finance meeting. This was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – Yea.
Motion passed 3-0.

Public Comment

- Councilor Ellenberg: would like to see a shift towards businesses for the tax rate.
- Councilor Linde: in agreement that businesses need to be looked at.
- MJ Spagone, Lakeshore Center: noted tax rate needs to be set by 12/31 to send out the bills.

Adjournment of Meeting

Councilor Loreti made a motion to adjourn, which was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – Yea. Motion passed 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.



Town of Bridgewater
Budget & Finance Committee

December 2, 2025

5:30 PM

Joint Meeting with Budget & Finance and Finance Committee

Conference Room 201A/2nd Floor

66 Central Square

and via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81396649428>

Meeting ID: 813 9664 9428

MEETING MINUTES

A Quorum of the Town Council May Be In Attendance

Call to Order

Councilor Murphy called the joint meeting with the Finance Committee to order at 5:30pm. The meeting took place in Conference Room 201A, 2nd Floor of the Academy Building and also via Zoom.

Committee members present: Councilor McGrath, Councilor Loreti and Councilor Murphy.

Also in attendance was Town Manager Justin Casanova-Davis, Finance Director Laurie Guerrini and School Superintendent Ryan Powers.

Councilors Linde and Ellenberg were also in attendance.

Approval of Meeting Minutes - None

Public Comment - None

Legislation Referred

- a) Order O-FY26-035: Transfer Order - General Fund Free Cash Allocation
Ms. Guerrini Laurie noted that this is the amount undesignated balance (free cash), what is leftover in the designated general fund.

Councilor Loreti asked how is this money allocated, target 10% to stabilization and Ms. Guerrini noted that we look at what our capital needs are going to be, like to put at least \$1M in stabilization. There is a formula.

Councilor Loreti made a motion to recommend Order O-FY26-035, which was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – Yea.
Motion passed 3-0.

- b) Order O-FY26-036: Transfer Order - Bridgewater Raynham School District Operational Review
Ms. Guerrini noted that this was Bridgewater’s portion of what has been discussed with the Town Council.

Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that this was put together based on the school committee to review our practices, the Bridgewater portion of the costs. Raynham approved their portion at their Town Meeting.

Councilor Loreti noted that he is confident in what was put together. Operational Review, trying to increase trust among the voters. School District is doing what they can and the voters voted against an override and they don’t think we are doing enough work to identify every ounce of deficiency that we have.

Councilor Murphy noted that he believes that this should already be done and will be voting no.

Councilor Loreti made a motion to recommend Order O-FY26-035, which was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – No.
Motion passed 2-1.

- c) Order O-FY26-037: Transfer Order - Bridgewater-Raynham School District Capital Plan Transfer
Ms. Guerrini noted that this is Bridgewater’s portion of the schools capital plan, voted back in May.

Superintendent Powers gave a brief overview of what the schools are looking to do for capital plans.

Councilor McGrath thanked Mr. Powers for the detail and asked if quotes are received for the sprinkler heads. Mr. Powers noted that they are done on an annual basis and this would be the remaining 20%.

Councilor Loreti noted that he is interested in looking at the landscaping machines and asked if the school has looked into outsourcing the maintenance of the facilities. Mr. Ryan noted that a storm would average \$800 to \$1,500 for overtime costs and a local landscape company for snow removal of the HS would be approximately \$10k.

Councilor Loreti made a motion to recommend Order O-FY26-036, which was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – No; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – Yea.
Motion passed 2-1.

- d) Resolution R-FY26-003: FY2027 Budget Resolution
Councilor Loreti made a motion to recommend Resolution R-FY26-003, which was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – Yea.
Motion passed 3-0.

- e) Order O-FY26-031: Transfer Order for Prior Year Bill - Sewer Fund
Councilor Loreti made a motion to recommend Order O-FY26-031, which was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – Yea.
Motion passed 3-0

- f) Order O-FY26-032: Transfer Order - Contractual Payments
Councilor Loreti made a motion to recommend Order O-FY26-032, which was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – Yea.
Motion passed 3-0.

- g) Order O-FY26-033: Transfer Order – CPC Engineering for Multi-Functional Fields
Councilor Loreti made a motion to recommend Order O-FY26-033, which was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – Yea.
Motion passed 3-0.

Public Comment

- Councilor Linde noted that it was sad that Finance Committee voted down review.

Adjournment of Meeting

Councilor Loreti made a motion to adjourn, which was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Loreti – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Murphy – Yea. Motion passed 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:54pm.