Town of Bridgewater

Town Council

February 17, 2026
7:00 PM
66 Central Square
Academy Building
Council Chambers/2nd Floor
The Town Council meeting was streamed Live via You Tube.
The link was on the Town of Bridgewater Facebook Page

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being duly present, Town Council President Johnny Loreti called the Town Council meeting to order at 7:01pm on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 in the Council Chambers.

Present: Sean Kennedy, Adelene Ellenberg, Mary McGrath, Johnny Loreti, Dr. Kevin Perry, Paul Murphy, Marilee Hunt and Mark Linde.

Also in attendance was Town Manager Justin Casanova-Davis and Town Attorney Jason Rawlins.

Council President Loreti noted that the following veteran deaths and a moment of silence was held:

- Edward Clem, US Air Force, Passed away on January 18th
- Delano Cain, US Army Korean Era, Passed away on January 21st
- William Nee, US Army Paratrooper, Grenada, Passed away on January 29th
- Thomas Griffin, US Navy Korea, Passed away on February 1st

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a) January 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes from the Joint Meeting with Bridgewater Town Council, Bridgewater Town Manager, Bridgewater Finance Committee, Bridgewater-Raynham School Committee, Raynham Board of Selectmen and Raynham Town Administrators.

Councilor Kennedy made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the January 21, 2026 General Public meeting, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

b) February 3, 2026 Meeting Minutes
Councilor Perry made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the January 21, 2026 General Public meeting, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Town Council President Loreti reminded that the Charter Review Committee appointments are still in process, accepting applications until March 11th.

PROCLAMATIONS - None

CITIZEN OPEN FORUM

- Janet Hanson, Pleasant Street: gave a statement regarding FY26-028 appointment to vacant district 1 councilor seat and noted that she does not want the Town Council to appoint, they should be elected by the residents in April, 66 days away.
- Scott Pitta, 118 Pine Street: noted that Town Council should appoint a District 1 Councilor even if it's only 66 days. Someone should be in that seat. Noted that the Charter says "shall" appoint.
- Bob Cormier, 65 Grange Park: thanked Senator Bill Driscoll for co-sponsoring a bill to oversee a bill about smoke detectors in rental properties. This was by sending a note via Facebook. Encourage residents to send notes to legislation.
- Timothy Trocchio, 16 Cassidy Place: thanked Dennis Gallagher for securing over $500k in infrastructure for the downtown area. We should continue to be involved.
- Janet Hanson, Pleasant Street: if appoint someone to the vacant chair is there a waiting period and are they allowed to vote on something that has been in place before the council.
- Eric Christianson, South Drive: noted that there should be a special election or wait until the next election for filling the vacant seat.

Councilor Linde made a motion to take F. Hearings out of order. This was duly second by Councilor Kennedy.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

APPOINTMENTS

The interviews did not take place because Order O-FY26-048: Appointment To A Vacant District 1 Councilor Seat did not pass. The District 1 seat will remain vacant until the April Town Election.

a) Potential Vacant District I Interim Town Councilor Interviews
   - Robert Cormier, 65 Grange Park
   - Michaela Jessie Spagone, 5 Lakeshore Center
   - Derek Silvia, 70 Old Willis Farms Road

   Mr. Silvia sent an email to the Town Council Clerk on February 16th noting that he will not be interviewing for the vacant position due to scheduling change.
   - Scott Pitta, 118 Pine Street
   - Timothy Trocchio, 16 Cassidy Place
   - Joel Thomas, 25 Alverona Road

   Mr. Thomas sent an email to the Town Clerk on February 17th noting that he was withdrawing his name for consideration.

b) Board of Health:
   Kevin Bloomquist (2026 - 2028)

Councilor NAME made a motion to ratify Kevin Bloomquist for the Board of Health, which was duly seconded by Councilor NAME.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

HEARINGS

a) Petition P-2026-016: Multiple Amendment Application for An Alcohol Establishment – Kotak LLC dba Pages III Beer and Wine, 233 Broad Street
Public Hearing: *Noticed in the 2/3/26 Enterprise*

Council President Loreti opened the public hearing at 7:17pm.
Jay Kotak, owner of Pages III noted that the current manager is moving away from the business so he will be taking full control of the business and these are the documents required by the ABCC.
Council President Loreti asked if there were any questions form the public. No questions were asked.
Council President Loreti asked if there was anyone that wished to speak in favor. No one spoke.
Council President Loreti asked if there was anyone that wished to speak in opposition. No one spoke.
Council President Loreti asked if there were any questions from the councilors:
Councilor Perry asked if the store was staying inside Roche Bros at this time and Mr. Kotak noted that changing, just changes to inside the corporation.
Council President Loreti closed the hearing at 7:19pm

Councilor Linde made a motion to approve Petition P-2026-016, which was duly second by Councilor Perry.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

b) Ordinance D-FY26-007: Ordinance Establishing the Process for Filling a Vacant Town Councilor Role
Public Hearing*: Noticed in the 2/3/26 Enterprise.*

Council President Loreti opened the public hearing at 7:27pm.
Councilor Kennedy noted that this changes the current process being used to fill a vacant town council role. Allows council to vote on multiple candidates if they choose multiple candidates, to avoid not having enough people.
Council President Loreti asked if there were any questions form the public. No questions were asked.
Council President Loreti asked if there was anyone that wished to speak in favor:

- Eric Christianson, South Drive: in favor of rank choice voting in general.

Council President Loreti asked if there was anyone that wished to speak in opposition. No one spoke.
Council President Loreti asked if there were any questions from the councilors:

Councilor Kennedy made a motion to amend Ordinance D-FY26-007 by removing "Council" after Town and before Clerk in Section 4. This was duly second by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

Councilor Loreti made a motion to amend Ordinance D-FY26-007 by removing Section 3 all together. This failed for a lack of a second.

Council Linde notes that the Rules & Procedures Committee should be discussing that, should not be wordsmithing at the meeting.

Councilor Loreti noted that he was not going to vote to approve this when there is vague language.

Councilor Murphy noted that they followed the process outlined up until Section 6 which would trigger a special election which would require a special election.

Councilor Loreti noted that his concern was the we do not even get to section 6 unless we vote yes.

Councilor Kennedy noted that there is no changes in the Charter from this, has the same vague language. You could add the 90 day requirement in there as well.

Councilor Perry noted that the Charter gets into specifics about the seat involved. The line is saying if the seat is not voted it will remain vacant until the next election if the next election is close or a special election. Leaving a little bit of room for the Council to make that call gives the council the ability to make that call. But goes back to the vote if the council wants to fill the seat or not.

Councilor Loreti asked if Section 6 #2, is this a majority of those present or the full council and Councilor Perry noted as long as there is a quorum of the council.

Councilor Kennedy noted that if we have a situation where there are two out at a time it still allows this process to move forward, still need to reach a majority of who is present.

Councilor Ellenberg noted that maybe add special election cannot be called 120 days prior to an election.

Councilor Perry noted that say something happened in May we could add to a November election. The council would be more inclined to fill the seat so it is not empty for a long period time. The only issue is when it is right after an election. 90 days would be sufficient time for a special election.

Councilor Linde asked about the Charter and the next candidate in line and Councilor Perry noted it all depends on when the councilor vacates the seat.

Council President Loreti closed the public hearing at 7:44pm.

Councilor Kennedy made a motion to approve Ordinance D-FY26-007, which was duly second by Councilor Ellenberg.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – No Perry – Yea Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 7-1

Councilor Linde made a motion to take L. Legislation for Action out of order. This was duly second by Councilor Perry.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

LICENSE TRANSACTIONS

a) Petition P-2026-017: Change of Manager of an Alcohol Establishment – Bridgewater Citizens Club, 60 Hale Street
Voice Vote for Approval

Councilor Perry made a motion to approve Petition P-2026-017, which was duly second by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

PRESENTATIONS

a) Tree Committee Presentation
Ray Ajamian, Chair of the Tree Committee gave an update on the Tree Committee. Money coming to the Tree Committee is through mitigation, there is no budget for the tree committee.

Tree Warden Brian McMahon also gave an update on the different tree ordinances in town.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

a) Grant Opportunities
Town Manager Casanova-Davis gave an update on the grant opportunities to the Town and whether the Town needs a grant committee. People are not aware of the grants that the town has applied for. We will start publicizing some of the grants that we receive. Every single department is hands on applying for grants. Since FY21 the town has received over $48M in grants and low interest loans. We are very aggressive in going after grants. The Town just received $500k for a grant applied for by the DPW/CED.

Councilor Ellenberg asked if it would it be possible to provide a list to the public of the grants we received and the amounts we did in each year.

Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that is what they are working on doing at the moment with the Finance Department.

b) Water Update
Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that nothing too significant to report, continue to receive water from Middleboro. Plan on having Apex come to a March meeting for a robust presentation on where we are at. During this period of receiving water from Middleboro, well redevelopment has been done on Well 3. Water department is being proactive.

Councilor Murphy noted that they get asked on a daily basis if the Blue Drop system is working. What should we communicate to folks.

Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that the DPW has a Facebook page and we also post on the Town Facebook page. Weather and usage plays a big part of this. We are looking at another systems outside of Blue Drop and other sites.

Councilor Murphy asked if the council could get the statistics on the usage of Blue Drop. Will this be included in the water presentation in March, what is the process for the future.

Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that we looked at the Senior Center but it will not work there. We now have information about another system and looking into that.

c) FY27 Budget/Community Budget Sessions
Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that the preliminary budget forecast has been submitted and what is important is to inform the community of our budget. Will be having the first Community Budget Session on March 4th at 10:30am at the Senior Center to hear from the community and get feedback. Will be having night sessions also. Scheduling one on one meetings with each councilor to talk about the budget.

d) Downtown Streetlights
Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that the Town Center lights were having issues last week and the infrastructure there is from the 80s, lot of water and rodent damage which will require significant repairs. Feel that the repair done last week is suitable for the moment but will require getting quotes on getting quotes on the intersection.

Councilor Murphy asked if a police detail could be there directing traffic during high traffic times.

Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that he has spoken with the Police Chief and there will be a detail directing traffic if this should happen again.

Councilor Linde noted that he does not believe that one detail is enough for the intersection.

Councilor Perry asked if the cost is completely on the town or if there is state money that can help and Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that there are grant opportunities and we will be exploring those. If we need to fix like last week then it is on us. Major intersection but we will look for anything to help with the costs.

Councilor McGrath spoke about page 27 of the 104 Corridor Study –Lake Nip provided water to surrounding communities and asked if maybe we can look at grants for this.

Councilor Murphy asked if the MBTA could come to a future meeting to discuss safety, signals, etc.

J. DISCUSSIONS

K. COMMITTEE REPORTS

<u>LEGISLATION FOR ACTION</u>

a) Order O-FY26-048: Appointment To A Vacant District 1 Councilor Seat
This measure was not referred to committee. 14 days has elapsed per Section XVII of the Council Rules & Procedures, therefore this measure may be finally considered this evening.

Councilor Linde noted that he received many calls and not one person said they favored filling the seat. They want to elect a councilor in the town election. The councilor would serve during the budget process and did not decide to stay or get re-elected would not get to vote on the budget.

Councilor Perry noted that it is two months away from an election. Happy with the people that put their names in for this and hope they put their names on the ballot. This close to an election it should be up to the residents of the district.

Councilor Hunt noted that she also received many emails from people asking that residents vote for a representative themselves and not be appointed by the Council.

Councilor Loreti noted that he likes having a full council and when he sat out there he heard that if this was a district appointment we should vote to fill. We should have representation, we have a number of items coming up, water, budget and many others, would like to see a full council and the Charter requires us to do it.

Councilor McGrath noted that we received some great resumes and hopes they put in for April election; many comments from residents that it should not be filled by the council.

Councilor Ellenberg noted that we should let the people decide.

Councilor Kennedy noted that he is in favor of representation, know it is short time frame but representation is important.

Councilor Kennedy made a motion to approve Order O-FY26-048, which was duly second by Councilor Loreti.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – No; McGrath – No; Loreti – Yea; Perry – No; Murphy – No; Hunt – No; Linde - No. Motion failed 2-6

b) Proposed General Ordinance D-FY26-004: Amendment to Chapter 3, Article II, Section 1 - Business Ethics and Conduct
Voice Vote - Refer to Advertising

Councilor Linde made a motion to refer Ordinance D-FY26-004 to advertising, which was duly second by Councilor Kennedy.

Councilor Kennedy made an amendment to add page 129 and the first two paragraphs on page 130 of the agenda to Ordinance D-FY26-004. This was duly seconded by Councilor Loreti.

Councilor Perry noted that this ordinance was already referred to Rules and voted then and it should be sent back to Rules. I vote to support the amendments but request it be send back to Rules.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

Councilor Kennedy made an amendment to replace page 136 with what is noted on Ordinance D-FY26-004. This was duly seconded by Councilor Loreti.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

Councilor Perry made a motion to refer Ordinance D-FY26-004 back to Rules and Procedures. This was duly seconded by Councilor Hunt.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

c) Resolution R-FY26-007: An Assessment of the Reuse of the Former Town Hall aka TOWN HOUSE
Voice Vote for Approval

Councilor Ellenberg made a motion to amend Resolution R-FY26-007 with page 151. This was duly seconded by Councilor Kennedy.

Councilor McGrath noted that is has been 6 years since an assessment and before we spend money on re-use we should get a thorough assessment. Would like to see a cost assessment to bring the building up to code.

Councilor Ellenberg noted that the town has already invested money in it, shingling of the roof. Would like the CPC to get on board and get going on this.

Councilor Loreti asked if we have already applied for this grant and Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that we have.

Councilor McGrath asked if the grant could be used for assessment on the structure of the building and Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that it could not, grant is for mechanical, electrical and plumbing only.

Councilor Ellenberg noted that CPC receives tax payer funds and has a fund for historic preservation and we have funds that could be put into the old Town Hall.

Councilor Linde noted that those funds have to be applied for, there is a process that goes along with it. There needs to be a procedure and a process going forward.

Councilor Perry noted that we need to have a plan for the building first. Putting the cart before the horse, all for getting the funds but we need to come up with what are we going to do with the building, it needs a lot of work inside and out.

Councilor Murphy asked what we are voting on for the amendment and if the grant is a matching grant where is the money coming from.

Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that we need to have to look at the Town Hall. The grant was applied for because it is on an annual basis. If we are not ready to proceed we should not accept the grant.

Councilor Ellenberg noted that this is ahead of having a plan but wanted to make the deadline and not wait for a year. The Townhouse Reuse Committee is now defunct. We would need to make a new committee or have the council have CPC take on the advancement of this cause.

Councilor Hunt noted that is not what CPC does. She suggested that the CED Committee do some research and work on this. Have done the exterior and the roof and now we need to look at the interior. CPC is not going to do that kind of work, they will give you funds but will not come out and figure out what to do with those funds. Our town is not in good financial shape and we should be cautious making this a big project right now.

Councilor Kennedy made a motion to call the question which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

Councilor Kennedy asked if this is the first step on what the work will be in the future.
Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that it is a resolution and we have already applied for a grant for specific uses, that is it. We are not in a position financially to do much. Believe the resolution is mute.

Councilor Linde noted that he did some research and was told that the CPC has voted for an interior assessment. Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that they are looking at procurement for that.

Councilor Kennedy noted that he would like there to be a larger discussion on how the facility will be used, more of a plan.

Councilor Linde asked if we can forward to CED for discussion.

Councilor Loreti suggested that he add it as a discussion on a CED agenda.

Councilor Ellenberg made a motion to approve Resolution R-FY26-007, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A roll-call vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – No; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – No; Loreti – No; Perry – No; Murphy – No; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion failed 3-5

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

a) Order O-FY26-050: Acceptance of Grant: Old State Farm Trail Phase 4 Readiness

Councilor Perry made a motion to refer Order O-FY26-050 t0 Budget and Finance and Finance Committee. This was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

b) Order O FY26-051: Declares the downtown corridor of Bridgewater a blight area
Councilor McGrath noted that this is to declare two areas as blight to try to get community block grants.

Councilor McGrath made a motion to amend Order O-FY26-051 by adding "as shown on Exhibit A" at the end of the paragraph starting with Therefore. This was duly seconded by Councilor Perry.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that there is some work that needs to go into this Order and expect it will be sent to a few committees.

Councilor Hunt recommended that it go to the CED Committee.

Councilor McGrath noted that she would like it to come back to Downtown Revitalization because they have been working on it and then forward it to CED.

Councilor Linde noted that he would like to see two committees work on it together. What is the public relations issue with declaring a blighted area. One side of the common to me looks like it is in good shape and then another side that looks bad. Broad Street with the blighted building and boarded up windows.

Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that this is what the Council will need to consider.

Councilor Linde asked if there was significant grant money available and Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted the he thinks every grant is worth applying for, they exist but are not guaranteed.

Councilor Ellenberg noted that there is legal implications to the term blight and when researching it came out that blight would be handled by a town that would be doing eminent domain. Thniks this is walking down the primrose path of turning it into a metropolis in the center of town and very unwise for labeling our town blight. Would bring the town down as a whole. It's a bad name for the town, potentially very divisive if we do the root of eminent domain.

Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that he just wanted to be clear that this is a conversation for the council and it is a determination that the council makes. It's an opportunity to explore additional funding, we are not advocating for it. Decision for the council. There has been no discussion about eminent domain.

Councilor Perry noted that he would refer to subcommittee, the Downtown Revitalization has been doing some legwork on this. My intent would be for it to ultimately go to CED before it goes back to the Council as a whole. There is no intent for the town do any eminent domain.

Councilor Kennedy noted that he agrees with Councilor Perry, should be discussed in both committees. Any legal ramifications we should be made aware of. Not against but would like to know as much information as possible.

Councilor Perry made a motion to refer Order O-FY26-051 to Downtown Revitalization Ad Hoc Committee which was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

Councilor Linde made a motion to refer Order O-FY26-051 to the Community and Economic Committee. This was duly seconded by Councilor Ellenberg.

Councilor Perry noted that two different committees working on the same document could create conflict or more work down the line. Usually send to one subcommittee at a time.

Councilor Kennedy asked if a member who is on two committees can hold seats at a joint meeting.

Town Attorney Rawlins noted that it is a really good question because it has never come up, we would have to look into that. Not sure why not. They could post a joint meeting.

Councilor Linde noted that he is asking that after the Downtown meeting takes place he wants the order referred to CED.

Councilor Ellenberg noted that both committees should be looking at it simultaneously because we need more eyes on what is going on downtown and more input.

Councilor McGrath noted that there is no reason why the order would not be referred to CED. Councilor Linde withdrew his motion.

c) Order O-FY26-052: CPC Additional Funds - Restoration of Parthenon Frieze
Councilor Perry made a motion to refer Order O-FY26-052 to Budget and Finance and Finance Committee. This was duly seconded by Councilor Hunt.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

d) Proposed Ordinance D-FY26-011: Amend Part II Administrative Code, Chapter 1, Article III. Multiple Members Appointive Bodies

Councilor Kennedy noted that this ordinance changes a few items in the Administrative Code as noted on the Ordinance.

Councilor McGrath noted that she disagrees with taking away the agricultural commission. Would like to keep that.

Councilor Linde made a motion to refer Ordinance D-FY26-011 to Rules and Procedures. This was duly seconded by Councilor Perry.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

e) Proposed Ordinance D-FY26-012: Amend Part II Administrative Code, Chapter 2, Article I. Section 3 D. Department Heads

Councilor Perry made a motion to refer Ordinance D-FY26-012 to Rules and Procedures. This was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

f) Order O-FY26-040: Establishing a Downtown Façade Improvement Program and Requesting Community Preservation Act Funding

Councilor Loreti noted that bring forward because of the work the Downtown Revitalization Committee is doing, will take a few committees and town department but wanted to get it going.

Councilor Perry made a motion to refer Order O-FY26-040 to Downtown Revitalization. This was duly seconded by Councilor McGrath.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0

CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Carlton Hunt, Austin Street: spoke about CPC and would like the CPC Committee to come before the Town Council. CPC can recommend bonding for the Town House.
- Janet Hanson, Pleasant Street: thanked the council for the vote not filling the District 1 seat. The candidates should put in for the election and have an interesting race.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilor Linde: thanked the residents for attending and those who called and sent emails.
- Councilor Hunt: thanked the residents who reached out to her.
- Councilor Murphy: no comments tonight.
- Councilor Perry: we voted the way we did because it was so close to the election. Want to thank those that came out tonight that put their names down, hope each put their name on the ballot. Going forward there will be lots of talk about the budget. Encourage councilors to dig deep, look at the numbers and be prepared to discuss.
- Councilor Ellenberg: thanked the residents who came out and the constituents who called her and the candidates who put their names in.
- Councilor Kennedy: thanked the public for coming out to the meeting and the candidates for taking the initiative to apply for the position.
- Councilor McGrath: no comments tonight.
- Councilor Loreti: thanked those who put their name in for the appointment and those that pulled papers. Recognized the students at Bridgewater-Raynham who sent 1,500 valentine cards to the Sr. Center.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Perry made a motion to adjourn, which was duly seconded by Councilor Hunt.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 8-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55pm.

In accordance with the applicable provisions of the Town of Bridgewater Home Rule Charter and Town Council Rules and Procedures, the Town Council assembled voted, at their meeting on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, to approve the aforementioned minutes, as submitted.