



Town of Bridgewater

Town Council

March 3, 2026

7:00 PM

66 Central Square

Academy Building

Council Chambers/2nd Floor

MEETING MINUTES

Because of major technical problems with the IT equipment, there was zero audio on the livestream and no usable audio for the recording that is typically posted to YouTube.

Prior to calling the meeting to order Town Council President Loreti noted that the meeting was properly noticed but there were a few items of a time sensitive nature that needed to be completed. President Loreti further noted that the water presentation was too important for residents and for the Council to have it delivered without the entire public being able to hear it clearly and access it afterward so he will ask for a motion that the water presentation and the remaining agenda items be continued to Tuesday, March 10 at 7:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being duly present, Town Council President Johnny Loreti called the Town Council meeting to order at 7:25pm on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 in the Council Chambers.

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

Councilor Murphy attempted to attend the Town Council meeting via Zoom but was unable to because of the technical problems.

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

Council President Loreti noted that there were no veteran deaths and held a moment of silence for those that have passed and their families.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a) December 3, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Councilor Hunt made a motion to approve the December 3, 2025 meeting minutes, which 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 – Absent; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 7-0

b) February 17, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Councilor Kennedy made a motion to approve the February 17, 2026 meeting minutes, which 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 – Absent; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 7-0

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Council President Loreti noted that there were still openings on the Charter Review Committee.

Councilor Linde asked that the Charter Review Committee deadline of March 11th be extended by another week.

Council President Loreti reminded the residents that Town Manager Casanova-Davis was holding a Community Budget Presentation on Wednesday at the Senior Center.

PROCLAMATIONS - None

CITIZEN OPEN FORUM

- Janet Hanson, Pleasant Street: spoke about two of the ordinances on the agenda and needing more information on them.
- Greg Martin and Mr. Ferris: spoke about the Vietnam War Memorial at the old Bridgewater High School and Mr. Ferris noted that the project will cost the town any money. Looking to unveil on 3/29 and honor Mr. Ferris and the Vietnam Veterans in town.
- Ed Ivaldi, Boxford Lane: asked about the education plan on the Charter questions received back from the State noting that an option could be to delay the questions to a special election or November. Asked that a Resolution be adopted by the council that the output of the Charter Review Committee is acted upon promptly. Extend sign-ups another month to allow more to consider.
- Melissa Ramondetta, 317 Lakeside Drive: spoke about the water issues and Lakeshore Center and the Planning Boards approval of 100k gallons of water per day.

Councilor Ellenberg made a motion to allow James DuPont of Raynham to speak, 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 – Absent; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 7-0

- James Dupont, 118 Elm St East, Raynham MA: read a statement about Chapter 70 schools and asked the Council to demand that the State legislature change the way Chapter 70 is being funded. *Copy of statement given to Town Council Clerk.*
- Lincoln Andrews, Bridgewater Business owner: Spoke about the document presented to the Town by his attorneys regarding water.
- MJ Spagone, Lakeshore Center: read a statement into the record regarding Finance Committee. *Copy of statement was not given to Town Council Clerk.*
- Donna Jewell, 50 Keith Place: spoke about the School Committee agenda and how the Superintendents contract should be delayed.

Councilor Linde made a motion to continue the 3/3/26 meeting until next, which was duly seconded by Councilor Ellenberg.

Council President Loreti noted that he had to open the public hearing and continue it because it was noticed and that three of the orders for the ballot needed to be read as first readings in order for them to be on the ballot.

Councilor Linde withdrew his motion.

APPOINTMENTS - None

HEARINGS

- a) Order O-FY26-034: Laying Out and Acceptance of a Private Way - Calthrop Drive Extension
Public Hearing: Noticed in the 2/24/26 Enterprise.

Council President Loreti opened the Public Hearing at 8:11pm.

Councilor Perry made a motion to Continue the Public Hearing until March 10, 2026 at 7pm, 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 – Absent; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 7-0.

Councilor Perry made a motion to take N. New Business out of order, which was duly seconded by Councilor Kennedy.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Absent; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 7-0.

LICENSE TRANSACTIONS - None

PRESENTATIONS - None

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Due to technical issues with the IT Equipment as noted above, Town Manager's Report portion of the meeting did not take place.

- a) DPW Storm Response
- b) Water Update
- c) Community Budget Session

DISCUSSIONS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Due to technical issues with the IT Equipment as noted above, the Committee Reports portion of the meeting did not take place.

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION

Due to technical issues with the IT Equipment as noted above, the Legislation for Action portion of the meeting did not take place.

- a) Proposed Ordinance D-FY26-008: Proposed Amendment to Part III – Administrative Code: Chapter 14, Article I, Section 1 Dogs
Rules & Procedures votes 3-0 to recommend at their 2/20/26 meeting.

- b) Proposed Ordinance D-FY26-011: Amend Part II Administrative Code, Chapter 1, Article III.
Multiple Members Appointive Bodies
Rules & Procedures votes 2-1 to recommend at their 2/20/26 meeting.
- c) Proposed Ordinance D-FY26-012: Amend Part II Administrative Code, Chapter 2, Article I. Section
3 D. Department Heads
Rules & Procedures votes 3-0 to recommend at their 2/20/26 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Order O-FY26-053: Charter Change Ballot Question – Bridgewater Town Charter Article II,
Legislative Branch Section 2-13(a) Annual Stipend
*Councilor Linde made a motion to retain Order O-FY26-053 at Town Council, which 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 – Absent; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 7-0.

- b) Order O-FY26-054: Charter Change Ballot Question – Bridgewater Town Charter Article IV, Town
Manager "Temporary Absence"
*Councilor Perry made a motion to retain Order O-FY26-054 at Town Council, 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 – Absent; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 7-0.

- c) Order O-FY26-055: Charter Change Ballot Question – Bridgewater Town Charter Article III, Section
4-3, Elected Officials Powers of Appointment
*Councilor Linde made a motion to retain Order O-FY26-055 at Town Council, which 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 – Absent; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 7-0.

*At this time, Councilor Linde made a motion to continue tonight's meeting with all of the remaining
items that have not been addressed to Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 7:00pm. 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 – Absent; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 7-0.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

*Due to technical issues with the IT Equipment as noted above, this Citizen Comments portion of the meeting
did not take place.*

COUNCIL COMMENTS

*Due to technical issues with the IT Equipment as noted above, the Council Comments portion of the meeting
did not take place.*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Linde made a motion to adjourn, which was duly seconded by Councilor Kennedy.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Loreti – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Absent; Hunt – Yea; Linde - Yea. Motion passed 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

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 10, 2026, to approve the aforementioned minutes, as submitted.