



## Town of Bridgewater Town Council

June 2, 2026

7:00 PM

66 Central Square

Academy Building

Council Chambers/2nd Floor

*The Town Council meeting was streamed Live via You Tube.*

### MEETING MINUTES

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum being duly present, Town Council President Paul Murphy called the Town Council meeting to order at 7:00pm on Tuesday, June 2, 2026 in the Council Chambers.

Present: Sean Kennedy, Adelene Ellenberg, Mary McGrath, Michaela Spagone, Dr. Kevin Perry, Dr. Paul Murphy, Marilee Hunt, Timothy Trocchio and Mark Linde.

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

Council President Murphy noted that there were no veteran deaths but held a moment of silence for the veterans and their families.

*Councilor Perry made a motion to take Q. Executive Session out of Order. This was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio - Yea. Motion passed 9-0

Council President Murphy noted that he would entertain a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares; Bridgewater Firefighters' Union and that the Council will come back to open session.

*Councilor Perry made a motion to enter into Executive session, this was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.*

A roll call vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio - Yea. Motion passed 9-0

The Town Council entered into Executive Session at 7:04pm.

The Town Council returned from Executive Session at 7:26pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) May 19, 2026 Meeting Minutes  
*Councilor Spagone made a motion to approve the May 19, 2026 meeting minutes, which were duly seconded by Councilor Perry.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio - Yea.  
Motion passed 9-0

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**PROCLAMATIONS** - None

## **CITIZEN OPEN FORUM**

- Thomas Shea, Tommi Terrace: spoke about concerns about the Library; donated \$1,000 and asked if others could donate \$1,000 maybe could keep it going.
- Nancy Sparo, 75 Legge Street: Library Trustee – spoke about the cuts to the Library and how the past two years the Library has been level funded. This year the Library will be short \$175k to meet State compliance. If the Library does not meet the hours it will be decertified by the State and card holders cannot use other libraries in MA.
- Gina Guasconi, 35 Ball Avenue: noted that Order 006 CPA notes it is for Open Space and Recreation. Also noted that water is important but there are other items in town that are issues and do not stop, the Library being one of them. Also asked everyone to work together and not against each other. Would like Bridgewater to donate to schools like Raynham did.
- Janet Hanson, Pleasant Street: spoke about the FY27 water rates and how their bill increased; slow down on building and water connections; supports the High Density Data Center Ordinance and believes we should support the Library.
- David Moore, 54 Flagg Street: last year the Library Archivist moved on to another position and the position was not funded; Motor Cars International called about a print that they had and Mr. Moore retrieved it; noted that banners are up, teamed up with Al Lacerda who has been very instrumental, thanked Fire for Effect for all of their help. Why has the town not taken advantage of the land of Stiles and Hart?
- Two Juniors from the High School spoke about their civic projects they are doing for their class. They are doing awareness for the Police Department having a Mental Clinician on staff and apply for a grant for a dedicated clinician for Bridgewater. Spoke with Lt. Hile and several other towns and spoke about how beneficial mental health clinicians are to have on staff as police are not fully educated to handle.
- Ray Ajamian, Aldrich Road: noted why BCCR was formed and when; all have equal protection of the law. BCCR received a monetary award from the Eastern Bank Foundation and attended a ceremony on 5/27.
- Melissa Ramondetta, 317 Lakeside Drive: noted that the CED Director said at the 1/20/26 meeting that 3 pre-approved projects need a water impact statement; now they are saying they are not required. When did that change? Why was there no notification to the public. What 26-13 Kennedy/Loreti what is the status? Spagone's water act status? Supports Resolutions to fully fund the library.
- Evan, 74 Paddock Road: supports 017 resolution; schools are underfunded and water is bad. Money is not there.
- Stephanie Burke: spoke about homeschooling and using the Library for their offerings; using books throughout the network and being delivered to Bridgewater is valuable.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

a) Re-Appointments:

- Conant Trust Fund: John Syliva (2026 to 2031)

*Councilor Linde made a motion to approve the re-appointment of John Syliva to the Conant Trust Fund, which was duly seconded by Councilor Perry.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio - Yea.

Motion passed 9-0

- Conservation Committee: Marilyn MacDonald (2026 to 2029)

*Councilor Hunt made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Marilyn MacDonald to the Conservation Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.*

Councilor Ellenberg noted that Ms. MacDonald’s business is near Wells 10a and 10b, does the business or conservation take precedence.

Councilor McGrath noted that other individuals would have to remove themselves also, so she sees no reason to go after this one.

Councilor Hunt noted that she seconds what Councilor McGrath noted and that Ms. Macdonald has offered her skills for many, many years she has recused herself and most things she does not need to do that.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – No; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio - No.

Motion passed 7-2

- DEIB Committee: Sherley Phillips (2026 to 2027)

*Councilor Perry made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Sherley Phillips to the DEIB Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio - Yea.

Motion passed 9-0

- DEIB Committee: Ashley Hansen-Brown (2026 to 2027)

*Councilor Perry made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Ashley Hansen-Brown to the DEIB Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio - Yea.

Motion passed 9-0

- DEIB Committee: Philips Nichols (2026 to 2027)

*Councilor Perry made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Philip Nichols to the DEIB Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio - Yea.

Motion passed 9-0

- Disability Committee: Lorraine Carrozza (2026 to 2029)

*Councilor Linde made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Lorraine Carrozza to the Disability Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio - Yea.

Motion passed 9-0

- Planning Board: Daniel Greenberg (2026 to 2029)

*Councilor Perry made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Daniel Greenberg to the Planning Board, which was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio - Yea.

Motion passed 9-0

- Tree Committee: Patricia Neary (2026 to 2029)

*Councilor Spagone made a motion to approve the re-appointment of Patricia Neary to the Tree Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Perry.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio - Yea.

Motion passed 9-0

## **HEARINGS** - None

## **LICENSE TRANSACTIONS**

- a) Petition P-2026-023: Transfer of Lodging House License - Pangaea Housing Services, LLC 46 Main Street

*Public Hearing: Advertised in the 5/20/26 Enterprise. Abutter Letters mailed 5/20/26.*

Council President Murphy opened the Public Hearing at 8:09pm and noted that the hearing was advertised in the 5/20/26 Enterprise and the abutters letters were mailed on 5/20/26.

Scott Dabney from Pangaea Housing Services noted that they were purchasing the property and nothing was going to change.

Council President Murphy asked if there were any general questions from the public. No one asked any questions.

Council President Murphy asked if anyone from the public wished to speak in favor. No one spoke.

Council President Murphy asked if anyone from the public wished to speak in opposition. No one spoke.

Council President Murphy asked the councilors if they had any questions:

Councilor Linde asked if all of the paperwork was in order and Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that all of the paperwork was in order and complete.

Councilor Spagone noted that a resident had come in about the lodging house issues and asked if they were corrected. Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that the resident that came in was having issues with a different location.

Councilor McGrath asked if Gene Grady the Resident Manager was going to live at the location and Mr. Dabney noted that Robin and Paul Garrity stay on-site and manage the property.

Council President Murphy closed the Public Hearing at 8:12pm.

*Councilor Spagone made a motion to approve the transfer of the Lodging License at 46 Main Street to Pangaea Housing Services. This was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea.  
Motion passed 9-0

**PRESENTATIONS** - None

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

a) Water Update

Town Manager Justin Casanova-Davis gave an update on the water noting:  
Plymouth Street Treatment System upgrades: significant milestones have been achieved. Construction and equipment installation progress is on schedule at this point. Piping infrastructure, backwash supply lines and oxide water lines have been successfully installed up to the new filter pads. Iron and Manganese filters arrived last week and have been securely mounted onto the concrete pad. Piping installation for the internal components is currently underway.

In terms of PFAs Remediation: concrete pad for PFAs filters is currently being poured. Once that concrete cures filtration units can be put into place.

In terms of electrical and scat integration, collaborating closely with the electrical contractor and configure the internal components.

Councilors are scheduled for site tours this week. The website has the water dashboard where this information is being provided along with pictures. Being as transparent as possible showing the work that we are doing with wells 10a and 10b.

Water Conservation Emergency Enforcement: Water Department crews are actively patrolling the community to actively identify and address non-essential outdoor water use. We have heard we have had Tier 4 water restrictions in town for many years but want to reiterate that we have not had a water emergency in town, state petitioned water emergency. Calling upon our residents and community to adhere to this water emergency. Here for a reason. Know it is difficult to not fill our pools or water our lawns.

Infrastructure Maintenance: Well 5 has been successfully redeveloped and brought back on-line. Maintenance work that had to be done, pump was entirely replaced, which was under warranty, so that restored critical supply to our water system.

Tuberculation – iron, manganese in the piping: working at undergoing some work to mitigate tuberculation. The team is looking at potential new water transmission main. Potentially talking with East Bridgewater to do some high jetting into those pipes to clear out tuberculation. Doing a lot of work there to add capacity and supply.

In December 2025 the Town petitioned the State for a water emergency and I felt it was the right decision to make so we could try expedite and work as quickly as possible to make the infrastructure improvements that we are doing. These projects were talked about for years to get 10a and 10b to pipe into the treatment plant. We are potentially going to have a new treatment plant entirely in months and we were able to do that in collaboration with Mass DEP under this water emergency. We petitioned for a 6 month water emergency which would be expiring in June so my intention is to petition the State to continue that water emergency so we can continue to do the work that we are doing.

During that period we have been successful in getting a grant for \$2M to help offset the work. The team has applied for additional grants through the One Stop Program. Met with the Secretary of the EOHOC and submitted additional grants for Vernon Street, design and engineering potential, alternative water sources so we are working as aggressively and timely as possible, doing a lot of work in months that was planned for years.

Councilor Linde asked if this information was on the water dashboard and Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that the progress reports are on the water dashboard. The grants are not because we may not get them. A Water Forum is being scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm, it will be recorded by BTV.

Council President Murphy noted that a brief presentation should be included on how Enterprise Funds work and what our current status is and where we are going with that. Then opening it up to the public to ask questions so that we can provide those answers.

Councilor Ellenberg read two emails sent to her into the record: 1<sup>st</sup> email was dated 3/24/26 from Troy Clarkson to Justin Casanova-Davis and 2<sup>nd</sup> email was not dated, no recipient noted on email, from Winthrop Farwell, Brockton City Council.

Councilor McGrath noted that it was her understanding through the conversations that she has had, that the land was not free from Lincoln Andrews, there would be a cost.

Town Manager Justin Casanova-Davis noted that the only indication we have had from Lincoln Andrews team directly to me has been there was a desire for a purchase of property

Councilor Spagone asked why the email that Councilor Ellenberg noted was not shared with the Town Council back in March.

Council President Murphy noted that it has been discussed openly during meetings to ask the Town Manager to pursue every option for the town. It was not withheld from us. It was 3 months ago and there still is no agreement. We discussed this in open forum as an option.

Councilor Ellenberg noted that she is not saying things are being withheld, she is saying that there has not been equal treatment with Brockton and Lincoln Andrews.

Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that he has said multiple times during council meetings and at venues talked about that option. I have talked to each councilor individually, part of operational updates, several presentations which are on the website, mentioned on the podcast with Mary and Paul. I try to get it into as many venues as possible as understand not everyone can attend a council meeting. Disagree with the notion about equal, my job is to present as much information as possible

to the council. I have stood by that, I continue to do that and I will continue to do what I said I would do.

Councilor Kennedy noted that we have spoken about this topic in a meeting and I have spoken with other councilors about this. Part of the process is the Town Manager doing his due diligence before bringing to a public meeting.

Councilor Kennedy asked Town Manager Casanova-Davis through the Town Council President, if there was any movement would it go through the town council and Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted absolutely.

Town Attorney Rawlins noted that in terms of a legal prospective discussions regarding bargaining of real property cannot take place during an open meeting because it is detrimental to the town, must be discussed in executive session and none of that would be discussed outside of executive session. The government allows that exemption. The town needs to be in the best possible position.

Councilor Kennedy noted that the Lincoln Andrews property continues to come up and the transitions surrounding this property have been that there is a well readily available for us to hook up to, to it is not actually a municipal well certified and residents asking why we can't just hook up a hose to it and pump right into our water supply. That well has double the manganese that our Plymouth Street wells have. And now it has shifted to a separate property and now it is shifted to that property and being given to the town for free. So if anyone is following along, this has been shifted a lot on-line and it has been brought to the council multiple times. The council has discussed this property and I am just going to propose this question again even though it was already asked to the Town Manager "have we been offered any parcel over there for free".

Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted no.

Councilor Kennedy further noted that this has gone on for months and months and every step of the way it hasn't been quite right and now apparently the property is for free, the properties tax status has changed multiple times during this discussion. So if that is truly for free then I would hope that Lincoln Andrews would send that information to our Town Manager, who will then give that to the Town Council and we can take a serious look at taking property over for free. But at the moment, it is not free and anyone getting that information from where we sit is not accurate. So we have shifted from a municipal well readily available to pump into our water supply to separate land locked parcel of land that we cannot readily access except through power lines and the power company to take this land over. So is it maybe wise for the town to collect land in certain areas that may make sense for the town, absolutely. Is it appropriate for the town to plan in advance for these things, absolutely. We have done that, we have wells on Vernon Street that need to be hooked up and paid for, which we don't have the funding for. But to buy land for some amount of money or even if for free, is kind of irrelevant right now because it is at least 8 to 10 years out. It is not going to make any difference to our current water supply situation. A lot of us want the water supply to stay in Bridgewater, want it to stay in our control, conversations about outside water sources, in my opinion, would hopefully be to bridge the gap to be able to maintain our own destiny on water. But our current situation is pretty tough and we are trying to deal with it the best we can. But that property continues to come up and I would hope that people following along with how much that conversation shifted in the last 5 months or so, because it has been quite a bit. And at this point it is landlocked land and if that is offered to us

I hope we have that discussion. I know we have a resolution on the agenda to discuss further and I hope that is part of the process you look into.

Councilor Linde thanked Council Kennedy for his remarks and noted it is his understanding that if he believes what he reads, the offer for free has been withdrawn. We are also asking the Town Manager to explore all possible water sources with the Resolution that is being voted on tonight. He further noted that Brockton was discussed in public because he noted how strongly he does not agree with getting water from Brockton.

Councilor Perry noted that he echoed Councilor Kennedys' sentiments, well said. Asked the Town Manager, extending the water emergency for another 6 months and if the Town does not need to full 6 months can it be pulled? The Town Manager noted yes for both of those questions.

Councilor Trocchio asked if there were still vacancies on the water board and Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that there are still vacancies on both water boards.

Council President Murphy noted that it was a good discussion this evening, appreciated the Town Manager giving the update. Council President Murphy also noted that we all have the opportunity to get involved in town government; it's an awful feeling to see the comments when people say they are moving to town and comments say don't. Give back to the town and stop fighting with each other and come together to solve the problems.

## **DISCUSSIONS**

### **a) Council Training**

Council President Murphy noted that there were several council training over the past year. One being on line and no councilor signed up for it.

Councilor Linde noted that he went to MMA webinars and those are free of charge. He asked that the Attorney Generals office come in and do an Open Meeting Law Training and volunteered to reach out to the Attorney General's office to schedule.

Councilor Kennedy noted that some of the training last year was beneficial. Maybe see what the council is looking for and then schedule something. Open discussions so residents can understand.

### **b) Admin Code**

Councilor Spagone noted that residents reached out to her about how long the meetings are. Thinks meeting twice a month is not working and to be fair to the residents we should consider going to a weekly schedule, 4 meetings per month.

Councilor Spagone also noted that residents reached out about the 3 minute rule – not everyone can finish in 3 minutes, deprives them of their right to speak. Should remove or increase the timeframe.

Councilor Linde noted that he does not think there should be a summer break, should not just meet once a month, should look at options. He also noted that he does not think removing the 3 minute rule would work, other towns do not even include public comments.

Councilor Trocchio noted that perhaps presentations could be limited to 30 minutes which would include the presentation and Q&A.

Councilor Kennedy noted that when you do not have a 3 minute rule you are giving people time to go off on talking; we can call special meetings if needed.

Councilor Hunt noted that she thinks it is good that we have the standards we have, 3 minutes is good amount of time and tonight the president allowed people to go over the 3 minutes.

Councilor Perry noted that the timeframe between meetings is important; up to the Council President to give a little bit more time if needed. Council President controls the agenda. Suggest keeping the agenda to one presentation. Feel we are set up appropriately.

Councilor McGrath noted that she does not want 4 meetings a month, needs the extra time to research what is on the agenda to come prepared for the meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** - None

**LEGISLATION FOR ACTION**

- a) Order O-FY26-065: Acceptance of Grant– Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) Program and senior SAFE Program in FY26  
*Budget & Finance meeting 6/2/26. Finance Committee meeting 6/1/26.*

*Councilor Spagone made a motion to approve Order O-FY26-065, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea.  
Motion passed 9-0

- b) Order O-FY26-066: Transfer Order - Capital Leasing Obligations  
*Budget & Finance meeting 6/2/26. Finance Committee meeting 6/1/26.*

*Councilor Kennedy made a motion to approve Order O-FY26-066, which was duly seconded by Councilor Perry.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea.  
Motion passed 9-0

- c) Order O-FY26-067: FY27 Water Rates  
*Budget & Finance meeting 6/2/26. Finance Committee meeting 6/1/26.*

*Councilor Perry made a motion to approve Order O-FY26-067, which was duly seconded by Councilor Kennedy.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – No; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea.  
Motion passed 8-1

- d) Order O-FY26-068: FY27 Sewer Rates  
*Budget & Finance meeting 6/2/26. Finance Committee meeting 6/1/26.*

*Councilor Murphy made a motion to amend Order O-FY26-068 by changing “100” to be “30”, which was duly seconded by Councilor Kennedy.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea.  
Motion passed 9-0

*Councilor Perry made a motion to approve Order O-FY26-068, which was duly seconded by Councilor Kennedy.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – No; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea.  
Motion passed 8-1

- e) Order O-FY26-069: Bridgewater Police Relief Assoc, MCOP Local 397 Collective Bargaining Agreement Contract Appropriation Transfer  
*Budget & Finance meeting 6/2/26. Finance Committee meeting 6/1/26.*

*Councilor Spagone made a motion to approve Order O-FY26-069, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

- f) Order O-FY26-070: Rescind Plymouth Street Wells Project Loan Order  
*Budget & Finance meeting 6/2/26. Finance Committee meeting 6/1/26.*

*Councilor Spagone made a motion to approve Order O-FY26-070, which was duly seconded by Councilor Perry.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

- g) Order O-FY26-071: Loan Order - Water System Improvments  
*Budget & Finance meeting 6/2/26. Finance Committee meeting at 6/1/26.*

*Councilor Perry made a motion to refer Order O-FY26-071 to advertising, which was duly seconded by Councilor Ellenberg.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

- h) Resolution R-FY26-015: Exploration of Additional Water Supply Sources  
*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 Kennedy made a motion to approve Resolution R-FY26-015, which was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.*

Council Kennedy noted that he agreed with this resolution and thanked Councilor Murphy for putting this together.

Councilor Murphy noted that all options to improve water situation will be explored. All 9 councilors are on the same page.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Order O-FY26-072: Water Enterprise Fund Year End Budget Transfer  
*Councilor Linde made a motion to refer Order O-FY26-072 to Budget & Finance and Finance Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

- b) Order O-FY26-073: Sewer Enterprise End of Year Budget Transfer  
*Councilor Spagone made a motion to refer Order O-FY26-073 to Budget & Finance and Finance Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Hunt.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

- c) Order O-FY26-074: Transfer Station Enterprise Fund Year End Budget Transfer  
*Councilor Spagone a motion to refer Order O-FY26-074 to Budget & Finance and Finance Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

- d) Order O-FY26-075: General Fund End of Year Transfers  
*Councilor Spagone made a motion to refer Order O-FY26-075 to Budget & Finance and Finance Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

- e) Order O-FY26-076: Contractual Buyouts  
*Councilor Spagone made a motion to refer Order O-FY26-076 to Budget & Finance and Finance Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

- f) Order O-FY26-077: Transfer Order - Sewer Capital Fund Transfer

*Councilor Spagone made a motion to refer Order O-FY26-077 to Budget & Finance and Finance Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Hunt.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

- g) Budget Order O-FY27-006: CPA Reserve Accounts - FY2027  
*Councilor Linde made a motion to refer Budget Order O-FY27-006 to Budget & Finance and Finance Committee, which was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.*

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

- h) Ordinance D-FY26-016: Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment - High Intensity Data Centers  
*Councilor Linde made a motion to refer Ordinance D-FY26-016 to Planning Board and CEDC, which was duly seconded by Councilor Perry.*

Councilor Murphy noted that he put this together because of the high intensity data centers that are being built.

Councilor Trocchio noted that he fully support this, started to see these pop up across the country. Mansfield was the first town to ban AI data centers. Should look at Mansfield and look at their legislation to see how they did theirs.

Councilor Kennedy noted that data center are electrical and water issues at the moment but maybe in the future it might be something Bridgewater will want to bring in tax revenues to the town.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

- i) Resolution R-FY26-016: Library Emergency Allocation of Resources Now (LEARN) Resolution  
Councilor Spagone noted that she had heard from residents about the Library and wanted to offer up a resolution, noting she would support the of meshing of both of the resolutions together.

Councilor Kennedy noted that he would like to postpone both resolutions until the next meeting and have 3 councilors on one resolution.

Councilor Linde noted that he thinks the urgency is now and the promise is to mesh them together for the next meeting.

Councilor Ellenberg noted that we need to act on this and July 1<sup>st</sup> is when the fiscal year starts and have very little time for the Town Manager to find funds to keep our library certified.

Councilor Perry noted that we should pull Councilor Spagone's resolution back and edit the other resolution.

Councilor McGrath noted that she knows the Library is important but I think giving back to the senior citizens is important too. Senior Center is opening every day but less hours, the library director should try to do the same. I think we should leave the budget as it is and do the best with what we have.

Councilor Spagone withdrew her Resolution.

j) Resolution R-FY26-017: Resolution Regarding Full Funding of the Bridgewater Public Library Budget

Councilor Linde noted that he has always supported the Library and noted how to work towards finding a way to keep the Library opened.

Councilor Trocchio noted that the Library is not just a building, it has spirit. Spoke in March about the funding for the Library.

*Councilor Spagone made a motion to retain Resolution R-FY26-017 at Town Council, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.*

Councilor Hunt asked if there was anyway to see if there is full funding for the Library and Town Manager Casanova-Davis noted that he will have the Library Director available at the next meeting to discuss.

Councilor Kennedy noted that his biggest concern is what other department do we take the money from.

Councilor Linde noted some kind of stabilization fund and then we put it back into the stabilization fund. I got comments that we voted the budget too fast. I am asking the Town Manager to find the money. We have free cash.

Councilor Perry noted that with our current Budget Resolution we have a tight budget; concerned about where this money is coming from. We don't know if we are going to have free cash to put it back. What other department are we taking it from; could cost someone a job. It is a difficult ask.

Councilor McGrath noted that we received the budget on 4/27 and we had 45 days to approve the budget. We met every week and pulled the budget apart so for anyone to say we rushed the budget that is not fair.

Councilor Trocchio noted that is a tough decision, this resolution is asking the Town Manager to find the funds.

Councilor Kennedy noted that we do not have a revolving fund so until the state wakes up and gives the towns money and until an override passes we do not have the money to fund the library. We cannot fund the library from the stabilization funds because that has a trickle down effect for bond ratings. I do not like any of this. Not everyone in town uses the Library.

Councilor Linde noted that the Library has taken a 20.8% cut over the past 7 years.

Councilor Trocchio noted that this is asking for information to make a decision and then plan an attack.

Councilor Murphy noted that Bridgewater has a revenue issue. Effects schools, library, roads, water. We are now living within our means. We have to find a long term solution or we will have to make significant cuts. We need to come together and find a way.

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

- Gina Guasconi, 35 Ball Avenue.: great discussions tonight, people sometimes leave because they hear their agenda item and leave, it is not always because the meeting is long. Open meeting law training is a great idea, suggest to do it for all Boards and Committees. Thanked MJ for working with the other councilors on the resolution.
- Carlton Hunt, Austin Street: great meeting; feel the pain with the Library, thanked Co uncilor Kennedy for explaining what is going on with the water situation and explaining those steps. Thanked Councilor Murphy for setting up the water forum, Concerned about the limitation of a 30 minute presentation.
- Nancy Sarno, Trustee of Library: Library budget is 2% of the town budget. Library has not been cut like the other budgets.
- Janet Hanson, Pleasant Street: Concom is still working on wells 10a and 10b and there is an NOI so work will stop when it gets there. Meeting comments should be 5 minutes, have one presentation at a meeting and not two.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

- Councilor Ellenberg: no comments made.
- Councilor Spagone: noted proposed legislation for the water act has made some progress, met with town attorney; hoping to have it before the council in the near term. Stem the tide of of water issues and over building of the community. Great attendance at the Memorial Day events last week. Thanked those who came out to the Pride flag raising.
- Councilor Hunt: thanked Council President Murphy for his speech at the Pride Flag Raising; this morning the Town Manager spoke at the South Coast Rails Review at BSU; noted that Boundless Bean opened at the YMCA in East Bridgewater.
- Councilor Trocchio: this is what democracy looks like; debates; honored to be here.
- Councilor Perry: thanked all that came out for Memorial Day; rain did not discourage people from attending. Thanked Fire for Effect for helping out with the Veterans Banner program; congratulations to all the graduating seniors; great banter tonight; if I could write a check I would but there are limitations in our budget and if there was extra money the Town Manager would fully fund the Library. We are not getting federal or state funding and it trickles down to us and we need to look at possibly stepping up and contributing more.
- Councilor Linde: appreciate the residents that were here and the spirited discussions. Pride event was wonderful yesterday. I also share Councilor McGrath’s concerns with the Senior Center also. People need to know we take this seriously.
- Councilor McGrath: Also attended the South Coast Rails Review at BSU; we should work together to solve the towns problems and not criticize town employees.

- Councilor Kennedy: thanked Fire for Effect for the banners; a lot of the funding issue is with the state.
- Councilor Murphy: thanked our veterans agent, veterans council for putting together the Memorial Day event. Great event at Town River Landing. 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee out there collecting donations so if you can help out. 6/23 Water Forum, please attend. Ask citizens to be mindful and to be kind to the staff.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a) Executive Session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares; Bridgewater Firefighters' Union.

The Executive Session was held at the beginning of the Town Council meeting. See above for details.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

A voice vote was taken with the results as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio – Yea. Motion passed 9-0

Meeting adjourned at 10:16pm

**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, June 16, 2026, to approve the aforementioned minutes, as submitted.**

**A TRUE COPY ATTEST:**

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**Debra Ward, Town Council Clerk**

**From:** Troy Clarkson  
**To:** Casanova-Davis, Justin  
**Cc:** Patrick Hill; James O'Brien; Moises Rodrigues; Hogan, Mike; Rulli, Robert  
**Subject:** Water  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 24, 2026 12:42:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Justin:

We are working on finalizing a proposed intermunicipal agreement (IMA) to provide 1,000,000 gallons per day (1M GPD) of water to the Town of Bridgewater.

We anticipate providing you a draft sometime next week and intend to bring it to the City Council as soon as we have agreed to the details. Because we have had extensive discussions to date, we anticipate the draft agreement will align with the priorities of both the Town of Bridgewater and the City of Brockton.

I'm writing to provide a general update so you can inform interested stakeholders.

TBGC

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**Troy B.G. Clarkson, PhD**

*Chief Financial Officer*  
Finance Office

City of Brockton

(508) 580-7165

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Councilor:

A constituent here in Brockton sent a copy of a meeting where the Bridgewater Town Council discussed water sources. You spoke on the issue in a very clear and professional manner.

With respect to the Aquaria Water Plant which some officials in our city wish to purchase, the current pumping limitation is 3.8 mgd. If Brockton is required to reserve 2.0 mgd, that leaves only 1.8 mgd which might help a neighboring community.

The issue is even more complex. Aquaria Water was determined to be an "inter-basin transfer" by the state. Unless that decision has been reversed, many requirements are triggered with inter-basin transfers.

I believe there is a state document indicating that any community other than Brockton which desires to tie into Aquaria Water must first demonstrate all reasonable conservation efforts with that town's current water source AND all potential future sources were examined within that community.

If Bridgewater proceeds with a desire to purchase water from Brockton/ Aquaria, I strongly recommend a thorough examination of all permitting costs, costs for infrastructure, and the capacity of the plant itself given the current water permit under which the plant operates.

Good luck and best wishes.

I still favor pulling all interested communities together where additional water sources are needed, pool our financial resources, and perhaps develop well(s) which could sustain regional water needs.

The figure floated for Brockton to purchase Aquaria is \$55 million. Even half that figure might provide water sources in a more cost-effective and environmentally friendly way working collaboratively with other towns.

Winthrop Farwell, Jr. (Win)

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**Winthrop H. Farwell, Jr., B.S., M.Ed.**  
**Councilor at Large - Brockton City Council**  
**City Hall - 45 School Street, Brockton, MA 02301**  
**Home - 94 Braemoor Road, Brockton, MA 02301**  
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(Complacency is the architect of failure.)