



Town of Bridgewater

Town Council

September 15, 2026

7:00 PM

66 Central Square

Academy Building

Council Chambers/2nd Floor

The Town Council meeting is being streamed Live via You Tube.

Go to the Town of Bridgewater Facebook Page for the link.

Please note that the in-person meeting will not be suspended or terminated if technological problems interrupt the remote connection.

MEETING AGENDA

Due to Massachusetts Open Meeting Law requirements, discussions will not take place during Public Comment periods. If appropriate, responses to questions and concerns will be given by the Town Manager at a future Town Council meeting.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) August 11, 2026 Meeting Minutes

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

- a) Bridgewater Little League 12U Team Recognition
- b) BSU Update from President Clark

C. PROCLAMATIONS

D. CITIZEN OPEN FORUM

E. APPOINTMENTS

F. HEARINGS

G. LICENSE TRANSACTIONS

H. PRESENTATIONS

- a) Charter Review Update: Chair Scott Pitta

I. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- a) Water Update

J. DISCUSSIONS

- a) Discussion of a Possible Memorial on the Common: Lisa Buzzell Curley
- b) FY27 Town Manager Goals Document Update

K. COMMITTEE REPORTS

L. LEGISLATION FOR ACTION

M. OLD BUSINESS

N. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Order O-FY27-026: Town Manager Goals

O. CITIZEN COMMENTS

P. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Q. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Executive Session - Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(6), to consider the purchase of real property for municipal water supply purposes, the Chair having determined that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Town Council.
- b) Executive Session - Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personal or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.

R. ADJOURNMENT



Town of Bridgewater

Town Council

August 11, 2026

7:00 PM

66 Central Square

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Council Chambers/2nd Floor

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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, August 11, 2026 in the Council Chambers.

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

Also in attendance was Assistant Town Manager Trish Shropshire and Town Attorney Jason Rawlins.

Council President Murphy held a moment of silence for the veterans that passed:

- Gjon Nivica, US Army Vietnam – Passed away on April 28th
- Carole Burnke, US Army, Vietnam ERA – Passed away on May 4th
- Robert Wallace, US Air Force, Korean Era – Passed away on May 19th
- David Carson, US Air Force, Vietnam Era – Passed away on June 16th
- Mark Ronayne, US Air Force, Vietnam Era – Passed away on June 19th
- William Weiler, US Army Vietnam Era – Passed away on July 3rd
- Wendell Newell, US Navy Vietnam Era – Passed away on July 5th
- Robert Harte, US Army Vietnam Era – Passed away on July 15th
- Clarence Hamilton, US Navy Korea – Passed away on July 21st

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a) July 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Councilor Spagone made a motion to approve the July 14, 2026 Town Council meeting minutes which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A Roll Call vote was taken and the results are 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

Council President Murphy updated the residents regarding the inspector generals report and the Town Council review of the matter.

PROCLAMATIONS - None

CITIZEN OPEN FORUM

- Janet Dye, 40 Dickens Street and Library Trustees Board member: thanked the citizens who came and stood out about how important the Library is to Bridgewater.
- Paul Auger, 1 Brookside Drive and Member of BCCR: Read a resolution into the record for Women's Equality Day on 8/26/26.
- Ray Ajamian, Aldrich Road: Also spoke about Women's Equality Day.
- Patrick Dwyer, 25 Fern Hollow Road: spoke about the Bridgewater Arbitration Award noting that the contract should be honored.
- Grace Morrisey, 150 Lakeside Drive: spoke about supporting the Library and staying open to the public.
- Janet Hanson, Pleasant Street: spoke in favor of the Library and needs to be supported; spoke about the Open Meeting Law complaint and do not understand why it is happening; Zoning amendment for the CBD regulations – hope they support; D-FY26-016 would like to see the size decreased from 25k square feet to something else; 014 for this taking out of the District; in support of the restoration of the hand pump and SAVE Program.
- Matt Light, 1160 Vernon Street: spoke about the Firefighters Arbitration Agreement and the town should be funding it.
- Brian Young, Secretary of the Union and also lives in Bridgewater: spoke about education and noted the Police have an education incentive.

Councilor Linde made a motion to allow Mr. Young to speak an additional 3 minutes, which was seconded by Councilor Kennedy.

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

Mr. Young spoke further about the Firefighters Arbitration Agreement and how it should be supported. Noting negotiations have been going on since 2023.

- Representative Dennis Gallagher: spoke in favor about the funding of the Firefighters contract.
- Senator Bill Driscoll: also spoke in favor about the funding of the Firefighters contract.
- Jimmy Reid, President of Firefighters Union: thanked those involved in the Arbitration process, noting that the Town can afford to pay it.
- Matthew Gerritsen, Plymouth Street: spoke about the funding for the residents and employees and funding the next year.
- Grace Lawson: spoke about the Town Manager issue and wants communication before the next meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

- a) Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Committee: Francis Jeffries (2026 - 2027)

Councilor Linde made a motion to appoint Francis Jeffries to the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Committee. This was seconded by Councilor Spagone.

A Roll Call vote was taken and the results are 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) Housing Authority: Stacy Driscoll (2026 - 2029)
Councilor Linde made a motion to appoint Stacy Driscoll to the Housing Authority. This was seconded by Councilor Spagone.

A Roll Call vote was taken and the results are 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) Board of Registrars of Voters Democratic Appointment: Michael Mischley
Councilor Spagone made a motion to appoint Michael Mischley to the Board of Registrars. This was seconded by Councilor Kennedy.

A Roll Call vote was taken and the results are 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-2027-003: Granting of the Change of Category for Kotak LLC, Pages III - 233 Broad Street (Inside Roche Bros.)
Public Hearing: Advertised in the 7/31/26 Enterprise. Abutter Letters mailed 7/31/26.

Council President Murphy opened the Public Hearing at 7:40pm and noted that the Public Hearing was advertised in the July 31, 2026 Enterprise and the Certified Letters were mailed on July 31, 2026.

Attorney Thomas Miller spoke on behalf of Kotak, LLC noting that this is a request to change Malt and Beer license to an All Alcoholic License.

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

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

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

Council President Murphy asked if any of the councilors had any questions. None were asked.

Council President Murphy closed the public hearing at 7:43pm.

Councilor Spagone made a motion to approve Petition P-2027-003, which was duly seconded by Councilor Kennedy.

A Roll Call vote was taken and the results are 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) Petition P-2027-004: Granting of the Transfer of the Class II Used Auto Dealers License –Northeast Motor Sales & Services
Public Hearing: Advertised in the 7/31/26 Enterprise. Abutter Letters sent 7/31/26.

Council President Murphy opened the Public Hearing at 7:44pm and noted that the Public Hearing was advertised in the July 31, 2026 Enterprise and the Certified Letters were mailed on July 31, 2026.

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

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

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

Council President Murphy asked if any of the councilors had any questions. None were asked.

Council President Murphy closed the public hearing at 7:46pm.

Councilor Spagone made a motion to approve Petition P-2027-004, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A Roll Call vote was taken and the results are 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) Petition P-2027-005: Request to Amend Common Victualler License Hours - Smit Bev Inc. dba Tropical Smoothie

Councilor Spagone made a motion to approve Petition P-2027-005, which was duly seconded by Councilor Hunt.

A Roll Call vote was taken and the results are 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) Marilyn's Landing

Assistant Town Manager Shropshire gave an update on Marilyn's Landing noting where it is located and what they will be seeking approval for from the State.

Councilor Spagone noted she was asked by a resident if any revenue was received and Assistant Town Manager Shropshire noted that yes approximately \$40k to \$50k per year and it goes into free cash.

Councilor Spagone further asked how the town calculated the municipal costs associated with Marilyn's Landing and Assistant Town Manager Shropshire noted that they would need to get back to her with that information.

b) Water Update

Water Superintendent William Young updated the Town on the water and gave an update on the project being built.

Councilor Spagone asked Mr. Young a few questions:

- How much is the green sand going to cost and Mr. Young noted that they still have to determine when the start takes place.
- Asked about the Lagoon and what size line would be installed and Mr. Young noted that off the top of his head, it was 242 x 74 feet
- Are there any changes to the hardware system to turn off or on and Mr. Young noted that each system comes with its own panel; new program so that we can talk to the system with our old system.
- Have things been going on well or have there been any issues to delay this and Mr. Young noted that they were just waiting on parts from a manufacturer, preparing for things that could go wrong.

Councilor Spagone thanked Mr. Young and his group for their hard work and nice to hear that moving forward to a solution.

Mr. Young noted that it has been a journey for the team and he thanked all on the team.

Councilor Trocchio asked a few questions of Mr. Young:

- Asked if the cyber security program is the same as we are buying to pump the water. And Mr. Young noted that the cyber security is internal data system and how we utilize those. They talk to each other but cannot access remotely. Not connected to the internet at all.
- Asked do we need to continue to have a timeline with Middleboro so our systems are operational and Mr. Young noted that the more water we have the better for the community.
- Asked how long would you like to see that to ensure the project meets the timeline and Mr. Young noted that it is about the emergency situations.

Council President Murphy noted that he spoke with Chair Farley and the intention is to work on a draft of the IMA, Middleboro will be putting on their agenda and will continue the discussions with the Chair. The Chair further noted that there has been no complaints about the discussions between the water supers.

Councilor Kennedy asked about the pipes at Carvers Pond and Mr. Young noted that they are bringing in someone to do an analysis on Carvers Pond, beneficial to the town to do a full assessment, there are some things working on internally for September/October.

Councilor Ellenberg asked if the backwash be contaminated material and Mr. Young noted that this is why we have the DEP liner and those solids will not get released back into the Aquaphor.

Councilor Kennedy noted that the Council asked the Town Manager to look into other water sources and Assistant Town Manager Shropshire responded that the Town Manager was in fact looking into other sources.

Councilor Kennedy further noted that the town council does not negotiate contracts for the town, it is the Town Manager that does that. The Town Manager's office drafts the contract and then it submits it to the Town Council for approval.

Council President Murphy noted that the intention was to have they system up and running by end of June and then July can you summarize what has caused the delay and Mr. Young noted that shipping, back order on parts, pipes 4 to 6 lead time; weather delays; contractors cannot work side by side together doing certain things.

DISCUSSIONS

- a) Discussion on Open Meeting Law Complaint Received July 14, 2026
Councilor Kennedy made a motion to allow the Town Attorney to respond to the Open Meeting Law Complaint. This was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

LEGISLATION FOR ACTION

- a) Order O-FY26-079: Acceptance of Gift - Lopieke's Family Trust
Budget & Finance voted 3-0 to recommend and Finance Committee voted 5-0 to recommend at a joint meeting held on 8/4/26.

Councilor Linde made a motion to approve Order O-FY26-079, which was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.

A Roll Call vote was taken and the results are 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-FY27-007: Acceptance of Gift - Bridgewater State University
Budget & Finance voted 3-0 to recommend and Finance Committee voted 5-0 to recommend at a joint meeting held on 8/4/26.

Councilor Spagone made a motion to approve Order O-FY27-007, which was duly seconded by Councilor Hunt.

A Roll Call vote was taken and the results are 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-FY27-009: Transfer Order - Library Budget Reallocation
Budget & Finance voted 3-0 to recommend and Finance Committee voted 5-0 to recommend at a joint meeting held on 8/4/26.

Councilor Linde made a motion to approve Order O-FY27-009, which was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.

A Roll Call vote was taken and the results are 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-FY27-010: Transfer Order - Finance Budget Reallocation
Budget & Finance voted 3-0 to recommend and Finance Committee voted 5-0 to recommend at a joint meeting held on 8/4/26.

Councilor Spagone made a motion to approve Order O-FY27-010, which was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A Roll Call vote was taken and the results are 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-FY27-011: Transfer Order - Funding of Fire Arbitration
Budget & Finance voted 3-0 to not recommend and Finance Committee voted 5-0 to not recommend at a joint meeting held on 8/4/26.

Councilor Trocchio made a motion to suspend the rules and allow Union President Jimmy Reedy to speak. This was duly seconded by Councilor Ellenberg.

A Roll Call vote was taken and the results are 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 Trocchio asked Mr. Reedy what would be the consequences for the Town if the council did not approve.

Mr. Reedy noted that they would confer with legal counsel and go from there. Further noting that they are simply asking the town to honor the process. They have a no strike law in their contract and this is how they get things done. If not approved, it would be a bad black mark on the town, they have gone 700 plus days without a contract and have dealt with two town managers and an interim town manager. Mr. Reedy encouraged the town to approve.

Councilor Kennedy noted that as a retired Firefighter is to support the fire department and his role as Town Councilor is to do what is best interest for the Town. Councilor Kennedy looked at what was awarded and the Town was favored in the Arbitration. Police and Fire contracts are very similar. Costly process for both and it should be awarded to the Fire Department, we owe it to the Firefighters to support them.

Councilor McGrath asked about education and can they go to any college. Councilor Kennedy added that to get the pay it has to be associated with the job, not paying for the college, paying a percentage on the degree the Firefighter received based on their pay.

Councilor Linde made a motion to suspend the rules and allow Union President Jimmy Reedy to speak. This was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.

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

Union President Mr. Reedy explained that the 80/20 for health insurance was approved by arbitration based on the ability of the town to pay.

Councilor McGrath asked Mr. Reedy if the department is understaffed and Mr. Reedy responded that the town needs 3 ambulances because of the run volumes. Need 15 to 17 and we are at 11. Modest and fair offer; not a lot of paramedics in Mass and if we send a signal that we are not compensating why would anyone come to Bridgewater.

Councilor Linde thanked the Firefighters financial person for the information received, it was very helpful.

Councilor McGrath noted that after hearing from the Fire Department it made a difference.

Council President Murphy noted major concern for him was the education and insurance aspect. Not a sustainable practice to offer percentage for education.

Councilor McGrath noted that this contract is good until 2027 and then another negotiation.

Councilor Kennedy made a motion to approve Order O-FY27-011, which was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.

A Roll Call vote was taken and the results are 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 called for a brief recess at 9:00pm.

The Town Council came back from the brief recess at 9:06pm.

- f) Zoning Ordinance D-FY26-014: Amendments to Central Business District Regulations
Voice vote to refer to Advertising. Community & Economic Development voted 3-0 and Planning Board voted 5-0 to recommend with amendments at a joint meeting held on 6/24/26.

Councilor Perry made a motion to amend Ordinance D-FY26-014 with the amendments attached. This was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.

A voice vote was taken on the amendment and the results are 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 refer Ordinance D-FY26-014 back to the Planning Board and CEDC. This was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.

A voice vote was taken on the motion to refer to Planning Board and CEDC and the results are 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) Ordinance D-FY26-016: Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment - High Intensity Data Centers Refer to Advertising. CEDC and Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend at a joint public hearing held on 8/5/26.
Councilor Perry made a motion to amend Ordinance D-FY26-016 by changing 25,000 to 5,000. This was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.

A Roll Call vote was taken on the amendment and the results are as follows: Kennedy – Yea; Ellenberg – Yea; McGrath – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Perry – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Linde – Yea; Trocchio - Yea. Motion passed 9-0.

Town Attorney Rawlins noted that since there is a significant amendment to the Ordinance that it should be referred back to the Planning Board and CEDC.

Councilor Perry made a motion to refer Ordinance D-FY26-014 back to the Community & Economic Development Committee and Planning Board. This was duly seconded by Councilor Hunt

Councilor Hunt asked if this could just be referred back to Planning Board since CEDC is already here and Attorney Rawlins noted yes but the way it has been procedurally done is a joint meeting.

Councilor Spagone noted that she had a separate ordinance and would love to submit as amendments.

Town Attorney noted that if you wait until it goes back through the committees and came back you would have to send it back. You could make a motion to continue to the next date, bring the amendments and then send it back to Planning and CEDC.

Councilor McGrath noted that this is a good foundation but Lowell is dealing with issues; should really define and should keep amending this.

Councilor Perry noted that this start is a good basis, amending the table of uses for no in all zoning areas. Is there much difference with what you have written up to what is here.

Councilor Murphy noted that this will always be a working document, evolving over time. The town is very vulnerable at the moment, would like something to be in place and then be worked upon.

Councilor Kennedy noted it would be good to have a foundational piece in place, a lot of this in the news and other parts of the country are having issues and they are pushing it through. Want to be cautious that we don't limit smart commercial use, there are some data centers that do not use water.

A Roll Call vote was taken on the motion to refer back to Planning Board and CEDC and the results are 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) Proposed Zoning Ordinance D-FY26-018: Zoning Ordinance to Amend Words Pertaining to 'Town Council'
Refer to Advertising. CEDC and Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend at a joint public hearing held on 8/5/26.

Councilor Perry made a motion to refer Ordinance D-FY26-018 to advertising. This was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken on the motion to refer to Planning Board and CEDC and the results are 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) Proposed Ordinance D-FY27-001: Amend Part II Administrative Code Chapter 2, Article II. Section 24, Order of Business & Agenda
Refer to Advertising. Retained at Town Council.

Councilor Spagone made a motion to refer Ordinance D-FY27-001 to advertising. This was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.

A voice vote was taken on the motion to refer to Planning Board and CEDC and the results are 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-FY27-013: Town Council Acceptance of Proposed Traffic Ticket Fee Increases
Councilor Spagone made a motion to refer Order O-FY27-013 to Budget & Finance and Finance Committee. This was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken on the motion to refer to Planning Board and CEDC and the results are 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-FY27-014: Order Establishing a Financial Feasibility Study Regarding the Potential Withdrawal of Pre-Kindergarten Through Grade 8 from the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District

Councilor McGrath noted that capital funding is being given and not being used for what it was intended for; plus Raynham gave a gift, look at it to see what we can do.

Councilor Murphy made a motion to refer Order O-FY27-013 to Rules & Procedures. This was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

Dr. Perry noted that this sends a bad message; will end up costing the Town more money. Very rare that a regional town pulls back from a regional school system. Special Education, transportation, everything across the board would change. Discussion would create a negative, not in favor of following through with this.

Councilor Linde noted that he thinks we should look into it, do our due diligence.

Councilor Kennedy also noted that he thinks we should look in to it; transportation costs is quite a bit and we are required by the State, leaves the High School which is joint at the moment. Large undertaking but it needs to start somewhere.

Councilor Murphy noted that the first step would be to send to Rules and then Budget & Finance for cost; long way away from a withdrawal but would like to have the conversation.

A voice vote was taken on the motion to refer to Rules & Procedures and the results are 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-FY27-015: Laying Out and Accepting a Private Way - Whispering Wood
Councilor Kennedy made a motion for the intent to take the way on Order O-FY27-015. This was duly seconded by Councilor Murphy.

A voice vote was taken on the motion and the results are 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 Kennedy made a motion to refer Order O-FY27-015 to the Planning Board. This was duly seconded by Councilor Murphy.

A voice vote was taken on the motion and the results are 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-FY27-016: Transfer Order - CPC Restoration of Ousamequin Hand Pumper and Historic Pictures
Councilor Linde made a motion to refer Order O-FY27-065 to Budget & Finance and Finance Committee. This was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.

A voice vote was taken on the motion and the results are 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) Ordinance D-FY27-002: Community Against "Flock" Encroachment (CAFE) Act of 2026

Councilor Spagone noted that this is not the correct version of the Ordinance, has concerns of the use of the cameras, may be an important tool for the law enforcement but would like to put guardrails in place.

Town Attorney Rawlins noted that since this is not the version Councilor Spagone wanted, she could make amendments tonight and it gets referred to Rules and Procedures or it can be referred to

Committee and the amendments made there. Or it can be voted to be retained at Town Council and the amendments voted at the next meeting.

Councilor Perry noted that since there is a more complete writing of the Ordinance, he would prefer continuing it to the next meeting.

Councilor Spagone made a motion to retain Ordinance D-FY27-002 at Town Council. This was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken on the motion and the results are 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) Proposed General Ordinance D-FY27-003: An Ordinance Amending Part III of the General Ordinances by Establishing a New Chapter Entitled "Municipal Surveillance Technology"

Councilor Perry made a motion to suspend the rules and allow Chief Delmonte to speak. This was seconded by Councilor Linde.

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

Police Chief Delmonte noted that this is not just a Bridgewater issue, there are many technologies out there and not all are useful or valuable. Was concerned about License plate reader but as time has gone on I think it has proven itself. Not solving crimes, but it a tool. Demonstrated privacy given up is outweighed by the value of this tool. Can give more information at a committee meeting. Technology that I strongly believe in, did not start there. We are asked to ensure the safety of the community and this is the best tool that we have to ensure that, oppose to restricting that because we have guardrails in place.

Councilor McGrath asked if they are only on the on and off ramps would that be useful instead of being in the neighborhoods and Chief Delmonte noted that there are only 6 in the town, chose the busier locations.

Councilor McGrath then asked who wrote and who oversees any safety issues and Chief Delmonte noted that a Detective has been assigned to the auditing; data is deleted after a certain amount of time.

Councilor Kennedy made a motion to suspend the rules and add 30 minutes to the meeting time. This was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken on the motion and the results are 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 Kennedy made a motion to suspend the rules and add 30 minutes to the meeting time. This was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken on the motion and the results are 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 Kennedy made a motion to refer Ordinance D-FY27-003 to the Rules & Procedures Committee. This was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.

A voice vote was taken on the motion and the results are 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) Ordinance D-FY27-004: Save Volunteer Services Program (Work-Off) Rules of Eligibility & Administrative Policies & Procedures

Councilor Linde made a motion to refer Ordinance D-FY27-003 to the Rules & Procedures Committee. This was duly seconded by Councilor Spagone.

A voice vote was taken on the motion and the results are 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) Proposed General Ordinance D-FY27-005: Chapter 220, Article V Water Impact Studies and Town Council Notification

Councilor Kennedy noted he submitted a water impact study previously that had some issues with it and it is in Rules Committee. This requires the Town to do Water Impact Studies, captures specific developments. The Council does not approve or deny, the intent is for notifying the Council when they are done so we are informed when asked questions.

Councilor McGrath noted that it is important to have water impact studies and it is based on the amount of water used not pipe size.

Councilor Spagone made a motion to refer Ordinance D-FY27-005 to the Rules & Procedures Committee. This was duly seconded by Councilor Linde.

A voice vote was taken on the motion and the results are 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, Ball Ave: noted that the hand pumper will all be accessible for anyone to see. Pictures will align the hall. Noted tonight's council meeting was a good meeting.
- Janet Hanson, Pleasant Street: thanked for decreasing the square footage; do not need data centers here; comments at committee meetings – some of the committees do not have it on their agenda. Conservation does not have it on their agenda and do not allow it.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilor Ellenberg: no comments
- Councilor Spagone: no comments

- Councilor Hunt: no comments
- Councilor Trocchio: apologized to Finance Director Laurie Guerini for his line of questioning at the last meeting.
- Councilor Perry: thanked the council and the Firefighters that came out tonight; wished the 12 Year Old Bridgewater little league team the best of luck. They look like the team to beat.
- Councilor Linde: noted the Little League game is 7pm Thursday night; nothing good gets accomplished in a 3 hour meeting, suggested weekly meetings.
- Councilor McGrath: no comments
- Councilor Kennedy: thanked everyone for staying to the end; congratulated the firefighters for completing their contract.
- Councilor Murphy: no comments

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) Executive Session - Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(6), to consider the purchase of real property for municipal water supply purposes, the Chair having determined that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Town Council.

Councilor President Murphy noted that he would entertain a motion to move into Executive Session Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(6), to consider the purchase of real property for municipal water supply purposes, the Chair having determined that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Town Council.; and to adjourn from Executive Session.

Councilor Linde made the motion to enter into Executive Session. This was duly seconded by Councilor Hunt.

A Roll-call vote was taken and the results were as follows: Ellenberg – Yea; Spagone – Yea; Hunt – Yea; Kennedy – Yea; Murphy – Yea; Trocchio – Yea; Perry – Yea; Linde – Yea; Mcgrath – Yea
Motion passed 9-0.

The Town Council went into Executive Session at 10:33pm

ADJOURNMENT



Bridgewater Town Council

Introduced By:

Date Introduced:

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Amendments Adopted:

Third Reading:

Date Adopted:

Date Effective:

Charter Review Update: Chair Scott Pitta

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
•	•
•	•
•	•

Attachments:

None



Bridgewater Town Council

Introduced By:

Date Introduced:

First Reading:

Second Reading:

Amendments Adopted:

Third Reading:

Date Adopted:

Date Effective:

Discussion of a Possible Memorial on the Common: Lisa Buzzell Curley

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
•	•
•	•
•	•

Attachments:

None



Bridgewater Town Council

Introduced By: Paul Murphy, Councilor
Date Introduced: 9/15/2026
First Reading: 9/15/2026
Second Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Order O-FY27-026: Town Manager Goals

WHEREAS; the Town Council recognizes that establishing priorities for the Town and the Town Manager is critical to ensuring that resources are directed toward Bridgewater's highest-priority initiatives;

NOW THEREFORE, the Town Council prioritizes the following goals for the Town of Bridgewater and instructs the Town Manager to complete these goals prior to the end of FY27:

TCG-001 Exemplary Town Operations

- Develop and adhere to a balanced budget for FY28, DATE
- Conduct multiple meetings with BR School District/Superintendent in preparing FY28 budget and recommendations of budgetary solutions for funding of BR school district by DATE
- Conduct a Town wide Resident Satisfaction Survey to baseline opinions on key town services, projects and communications by DATE
- Deliver a Town Manager Operational Report to the Town Council every 4 weeks

TCG-002 Drinking Water Improvement

- Develop and publicly present, in conjunction with water dept/DPW, an updated multi-phase improvement plan to address water quality, identifying new water sources and expanding system capacity, with estimated timelines and funding sources to accomplish this plan by DATE, with initial report/review by DATE.

TCG-003 Roadway Improvement Plan

- Complete/update road condition assessment, in conjunction with DPW, and update priority repair list of town roadways and multi-phase improvement plan with potential funding strategies by DATE

NOT FOR ACTION - FIRST READING

VOICE VOTE TO REFER TO STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Once developed, update town website with posting of priority street repair list and roadway improvement plan, pending availability of funding, for public information. (possibly on home page, DPW FAQ pg)

TCG-004 Community Engagement and Communication

- Improvements to Town website, existing or new design, for easier public access to information, documentation, scheduling and communication to town officials and departments by DATE
- Expanding public engagement by hosting at least 4 public forums/listening sessions by DATE with updated quarterly reports to TC via operational reports with results of those forums.
- Engage with the public by attending at least one community event per quarter (Autumnfest, Christmas on the Common, etc.) and report results during TM report at council meeting.

TCG-005 Economic Development Strategy

- In conjunction with V2R, and working with the CED department and director, identify our current economic strengths and weaknesses, develop and implement short term and long term funding strategies and a timeline to improve the town’s economic development, which include improvements to the Downtown Business District, supporting existing local businesses, and working to expand Bridgewater’s commercial tax base, with this plan to be presented to the Town Council by DATE

TCG-006 Operational Efficiency

- Conduct an operational review of Bridgewater’s organizational structure to identify and report to the TC by DATE:
 - Areas of inefficiency and duplication
 - Opportunities for shared services, regional partnerships or outsourcing of non-core functions.
- If funding is available, procure independent consultant and conduct operational efficiency assessment during FY26 and report results to TC by DATE to prepare for FY28 budget season.

Explanation:

This Order represents the Town Council’s formal communication of its priorities to the Town Manager. It is designed to align the Town Manager’s work with the Council’s goals and to provide a framework for measuring performance and progress.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
•	•
•	•
•	•

Attachments: None

NOT FOR ACTION - FIRST READING
VOICE VOTE TO REFER TO STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE