

**BRIDGMAN CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
March 9, 2026
6:00 PM**

The regular meeting of the Bridgman City Council was held on March 9, 2026, and called to order by Mayor Trapani at 6:00 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Boyd, Blackwell, Trapani, D’Agostino, Bonkoske, Hahaj, Stine

COUNCIL ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Lambrix, Clerk Fisher, Attorney Senica, Treasurer Wishart, Assessor Baumann, Building/Zoning Official Mattner, Police Chief Unruh, DPS Lead Adkerson, Parks Director Pendergast, Water/Sewer Director Mottl,

Mayor Trapani led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVE/AMEND THE AGENDA:

Motion by Council Member Hahaj, seconded by Council Member Blackwell to approve the agenda for March 9, 2026

Motion carried unanimously.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

No one wishing to be heard.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

6A – Consideration of approving the minutes of February 9, 2026, regular meeting.

6B - Consideration of approving the bills in the amount of \$138,660.63.

6C - Consideration of approving the appointment of Lauren Baker and Thomas (TJ) Davis to the Planning Commission with terms ending April 2029

6D – Consideration to approve a 3-year contract with Gabridge & Company to provide auditing services in the amount of \$17,500 per year for fiscal years 2026-2028.

6E – First Reading and Introduction of Ordinance 2026-226 to Vacate a Portion of the Oak Street Public Right – of – Way.

6F – Consideration to approve the purchase of a pre-owned truck for the Parks Department in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.

Motion by Council Member Bonkoske, seconded by Council Member Stine to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION ITEMS AND REPORTS:

7A – Police Chief’s monthly report

Report as presented.

7B – Water and Sewer Department Director’s monthly report.

Report as presented.

7C - Assessor’s Monthly Report

Report as presented.

7D - Department of Public Services’ Monthly Report

Report as presented.

7E – City Attorney’s Report

Attorney Seneca gave a brief overview of several pending bills in the Michigan House that may affect the City’s zoning ordinances, including proposals related to minimum parcel sizes, study requirements, duplexes by right, parking requirements, and mobile homes.

7F - City Manager’s Report

The City Manager reported that infrastructure work is ongoing, including installation of a backup generator at the lift station and upcoming sewer lining work on Lake Street to address infiltration and inflow. She also shared information from a recent Medic 1 meeting where communities discussed potential changes to the ambulance service funding model and noted that Council feedback may be helpful as discussions continue. The Planning Commission has launched a public survey as part of the Master Plan update process. Student banners for the Community Banner Program are expected to arrive in mid-March, and the Parks Department recently received recognition from Camp Spot for its work maintaining the City’s parks.

Parks Director Report:

Parks Director Pendergast provided a verbal update, noting she recently attended the MPARKS Conference in Lansing. She reported the sewer line replacement project is on track and that the park is scheduled to open May 1, 2026. Hiring is underway for summer parks staff, with outreach to area schools and postings on the City’s website. The beach clean-up is scheduled for April 25. She also shared that she is participating in the Leadership Accelerator Program at Lake Michigan College.

7G – Greater Bridgman Area Chamber and Growth Alliance (CGA) report

Report as presented.

7H – Medic 1 report

Report as presented.

7I – Bridgman Public Library report

The Library Director Terri Hebert thanked Council for allowing a monthly written report to provide updates on library activities. She also noted that several adult programs are offered at 6:00 p.m., including a book group, creative journaling, and an upcoming birding presentation by Sarett Nature Center.

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

No one wishing to be heard.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Blackwell asked if there was anything the city could do regarding the previous Drain Commissioner and the Tanner Creek Drain. After discussion, Council agreed that a letter should be prepared. Commissioner D’Agostino recommended the letter outline the actions the city has taken regarding the Tanner Creek Drain assessment, so residents understand the efforts that have been made

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Council Member Hahaj, seconded by Council Member Bonkoske to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 pm

Motion carried unanimously.

Jan Trapani, Mayor

Christine Fisher, City Clerk