

Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors
County of Rice, State of Minnesota
April 8th, 2026, 5:00pm
Official Minutes

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Glen Castore, Larry Alderks, Andrew Ebling, Nick Bolton, Frances Boehning, Debbie Salaba, Lori Noreen, Mike Groth

Introduction of Guests: Matt Stordahl

Approval of Agenda

- It was requested to add “NTAC Committee Seat and Keepsake Liquor License renewal” under New Business and “Brush/Tree Pile on Edgebrook” under Roads.
- Andrew Ebling made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Larry Alderks seconded, all approved.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: N/A

Approval of Minutes & Claims

- March 11th & April 2nd Meeting Minutes
 - Frances Boehning made a motion to approve the March 11th & April 2nd Meeting Minutes, Andrew Ebling seconded, all approved.
- April Claims
 - It was questioned was the claim for “Google Workspace” was with the answer that it is the monthly fee for the bridgewater.org emails for the Supervisors, Treasurer and Clerk.
 - After review, Larry Alderks made a motion to approve the April Claims, Nick Bolton seconded, all approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer’s Report
 - Debbie Salaba reviewed the Treasurers’ Report with the Board. She noted that the Landfill Host Holding and Operating funds were moved to their respective accounts.
 - There was small interest earned deposits into the accounts.
 - Larry Alderks questioned if the amount the Township has in its operating checking will be sufficient through June. It was discussed that most likely the amount will be enough, but if not, there are in actuality \$654K of operating funds to be used if needed currently. It was suggested to take some of these funds and place in a CD to earn some interest. Discussion was held and determined to leave the funds as is so they are readily available if needed without paying penalty fees but the Treasurer will look into smaller length CD’s if they are available.
- IRS Reporting
 - The Treasurer completed the report and will send a copy to the Chair.

Roads

- Resolution 2026-06 Awarding Contract for Road Improvement Project
 - Andrew Ebling made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-06 Awarding Contract for Road Improvement Project to Crane Creek, Frances Boehning seconded. Discussion was held.
 - Larry Alderks expressed his concerns on proceeding with the Road Improvement Project all together. His thought was to have a better plan in place with all prospective projects before committing to Road Improvement Project and bonding for it.

- Nick Bolton questioned if the Supervisors could tour the roads with the Engineer to better understand the need for the work to be done. He stated it would be beneficial to have a maintenance schedule for the roads in the Township going forward. He questioned if there was the possibility of additional funding for the current project with the response being no.
- Frances Boehning noted that the Supervisors used to take road tours in the past and suggested to begin doing so again so that the roads are being looked at on a more regular basis.
- After discussion, Andrew Ebling, Frances Boehning, Nick Bolton and Glen Castore voted to approve Resolution 2026-06 Awarding Contract for Road Improvement Project, Larry Alderks voted against. Motion Passed.
- Review PASER Ratings
 - The PASER Ratings were reviewed during the discussion of approving Resolution 2026-06.
- LRIP Award
 - Glen Castore stated that the Township has been awarded a \$400K LRIP Grant to work on improving Decker Ave. It was noted that this grant will have the funds flow through Rice County. Dennis Luebbe is aware that grant was awarded to the Township and will be working to help oversee the project.
 - It was noted that there must be a “Kick-Off” meeting scheduled to begin the process. It was suggested to have a very clear understanding of the requirements for the project to proceed before beginning any type of work on the road.
 - It was determined that Glen Castore and the Clerk will work on getting the initial meeting scheduled.
 - Dates for work and steps for Township
 - Potentially summer, but TBD.
 - Financial Commitments by Township
 - Yet to be determined.
 - Material to be used.
 - Yet to be determined.
- 140th Street Survey
 - Glen Castore stated that in order to proceed with any project on 140th St the Township needs to assure that it has all the easements. Due to the fact that the easements are not on all the deeds the Township must have a survey performed. The process would be to announce that the Township performed the survey in the newspaper. The residents along the road would have 1 year to object. If there are no objections the road is deemed the Township’s. If there are objections there could be a need to purchase some areas.
 - It was noted that Stantec quoted a fee of \$3,985 to perform the survey.
 - After discussion Frances Boehning made a motion to Engage Stantec in performing a survey of 140th St not to exceed \$3,985 in cost, Larry Alderks seconded, all approved.
- Date for Noxious Weeds work session
 - Larry Alderks noted that there will be a Bridgewater team meeting on April 14th prior to the April 22nd County meeting to get things on pace for 2026 Noxious Weed Spraying.
 - County April 22 10am-12pm
 - Larry Alderks noted that he will be attending the County Noxious Weed Meeting.
 - Township Meeting for Residents
 - TBD

- Holding ponds maintenance
 - Glen Castore noted that the holding pond in the Bridgewater Heights development is in need of clearing trees and brush. He stated that the Township can use Jeff Rock's field to access it.
 - Mike Groth stated that both Dan Deutsch and Bill Deutsch are interested in performing the work needed, but Mike suggested that this should be done in the Fall and not Spring. There is standing water in the holding pond at this time. It would be better to perform the work when the pond is dry.
 - It was determined to wait until Fall to hire the work of clearing the holding pond.
 - It was discussed that the outlet on the holding pond at Gates Ave & County Rd 22 has an outlet that is plugged and needs to be addressed. It was determined that Mike Grtoh will work with someone to excavate and clear what is plugging the outlet.
- Deaf Sign
 - It was noted that the Deaf Sign requested is in the Township Shop and will be put up as soon as the weather and elements allow.
- Brush/Tree Pile on Edgebrook
 - Andrew Ebling stated that a resident had numerous trees cut down from her property on Edgebrook and they were placed in the Right of Way.
 - It was questioned how this can be addressed as the trees could block the natural flow of the ditch.
 - It was determined that the Clerk will write a letter stating that the trees/brush needs to be removed from the Right of Way.

Planning & Zoning

- Transfer of Development Rights
 - Glen Castore stated that he has had inquiries again regarding TDRs in the Township.
 - It was discussed as to why the Township removed allowing TDRs when it took over Planning & Zoning. One main reason being that they are very difficult to retain records of them and where they are at any given time.
 - It was noted that the Township Zoning Administrator has discussed on different occasions how difficult it is to manage TDRs.
 - After discussion it was determined to leave the Ordinance regarding TDR's as is at this time.

Old Business

- Budget Projections & Debt
 - Glen Castore provided budgeting & debt projections to the Board for review. It was determined that the Supervisors will use these sheets to continue to complete a capital improvement plan for the Township. The Clerk will keep the most current sheets and distribute when revisited so that the Supervisors are all working on the same numbers.
 - The Road Project Debt Projections were reviewed and it was determined that keeping the levy amount static was the direction to take for a repayment strategy.
 - It was noted that the bond will be through Frandsen Bank & Trust
 - It was decided that a work session to discuss what amount of debt is acceptable for the Township will be scheduled potentially in June.

New Business

- Consider moving Township Election to first Tuesday in November

- Larry Alderks questioned if moving the Township Election to November is something Bridgewater should consider. He noted that Morristown Township approved the move at their March Election this year.
- It was noted that it could save some costs to the Township if the election were to move to November. The process is that it must be a question to the residents first at the next Township Election. If voted in favor the Supervisor Terms must change to either 4-year or 6-year terms.
- After discussion it was determined to leave the Township Election in March.
- Dundas Response to Bridgewater 2-18-26 Response Letter
 - The Board reviewed the response letter from the City of Dundas. It was determined letter in response is not necessary.
- Dundas Planning – Andrew Ebling
 - It was noted that Andrew Ebling replaced Larry Alderks on the Dundas Planning Commission.

Issues for future meetings

- It was noted that the approval of the bond for the road improvement project will be and item on the May meeting agenda, as well as the Public Hearing to assess the residents.
- The Board are looking at performing a Road Survey trip around the Township in early May.
- A work session regarding a Capital Plan for the Township will be scheduled in June.

Adjourn

Chair
Clerk