

**BRIDGER TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA**  
**MEETING TIME IS TUESDAY APRIL 2, 2024 AT 7:00 PM,**  
**BRIDGER TOWN HALL, 108 S D STREET**

Tuesday April 2, 2024

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CALL TO ORDER:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

- 03-05-2024 Public Hearing
- 03-05-2024 Regular Meeting
- 03-12-2024 Work Session

APPROVE CLAIMS:

APPROVE PAYROLL SUMMARY:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Area Parks & Recreation District Report
- Planning Board
- Historic Preservation Commission Board
- Carbon County Conservation District
- Beartooth RC & D

SPECIAL EVENTS APPLICATION:

- Yellowstone Region SCCA
- Billings Barrel Racing Series (BBRS)

APPROVE TIMELINE SCHEDULE FOR BULK WATER RATE INCREASE:

RESOLUTION #276: Resolution of Intent to Raise Bulk Water Rates

DISCUSSION REGARDING WIND FARM IMPACTS:

DISCUSSION REGARDING A NEW TOWN HALL:

TOWN ATTORNEY: Ray Kuntz

TOWN JUDGE: Bert Kraft

LIBRARY DIRECTOR: Krystal Zentner

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR: Randy Novakovich

POLICE REPORT: Mike Buechler

TOWN CLERK: Kirstin Sweet

MAYOR / TOWN COUNCIL:

- This is a time when the Mayor or the Council members can bring a concern before the council that is not otherwise listed on the agenda. No action can be taken at this time. If action is necessary, the item will be put on the next meeting agenda.

### **Conduct at Public Meetings**

The public is invited to speak on any item under discussion by the Council, after recognition by the presiding officer.

The speaker should stand, and for the record, give his/her name and address, and, if applicable, the person, firm or organization he/she represents. Comments should be limited to three (3) minutes unless approval by the presiding officer, and citizens requesting to speak shall limit him or herself to matters of fact regarding the issue of concern.

Prepared statements are welcomed and should be given to the Clerk of the Council. Prepared statements that are also read, however, shall be deemed unduly repetitious. All prepared statements shall become part of the hearing record.

While the City Council is in session, those in attendance must preserve order and decorum. A member shall not delay or interrupt the proceedings or the peace of the Council, nor disturb any member while speaking or refuse to obey the orders of the Council or its presiding officer.

Any person making personal, impertinent or slanderous remarks or who shall become boisterous or disruptive during the Council meeting shall be forthwith barred from further presentation to the Council by the presiding officer, unless permission to continue be granted by the presiding officer or a majority vote of the Council.

The Bridger Town Council reserves the right to amend these rules of procedure as deemed necessary.

**BRIDGER TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR A PUBLIC HEARING  
HELD ON MARCH 5, 2024**

The March 5, 2024 public hearing of the Bridger Town Council was held at 108 South D Street in Bridger. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the meeting was brought to order by Mayor DeRudder at 6:30 pm. Council members present were Dustin Taylor, Shala Cullum, Cliff Shultz and Doug Asbury. Others present were Judge Bert Kraft, Police Chief Mike Buechler and Clerk Kirstin Sweet.

Mayor DeRudder asked for public comment regarding House Bill (HB) 355 funding. Clerk Sweet explained the bill and how the funds can be spent. Discussion was had regarding the need for repair of several streets in town. No other comment was offered.

There being no further business Councilman Shultz motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Taylor. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye. Meeting adjourned at 6:41 pm.

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Mark DeRudder, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kirstin Sweet, Town Clerk

**BRIDGER TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR A REGULAR MEETING  
HELD ON MARCH 5, 2024**

The March 5, 2024 meeting of the Bridger Town Council was held at 108 South D Street in Bridger. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor DeRudder. Other council members present were Shala Cullum, Dustin Taylor, Cliff Shultz and Doug Asbury. Others present were Dana Zier, Bill Kampf, Sgt. Codi Peters, Police Chief Mike Buechler, Judge Bert Kraft, Public Works Director Randy Novakovich and Clerk Kirstin Sweet.

The first item on the agenda was public comment. No public comment.

Next on the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the February 6, 2024 regular meeting. A motion to approve all the minutes was made by Councilman Shultz, seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

The next item of business was the approval of claims. The department heads answered questions regarding the claims. Councilwoman Cullum made a motion to approve the claims including check #34600 to #34629. Also, electronic checks #-98078 to #-98072. The motion was seconded by Councilman Shultz. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Next on the agenda was the Payroll Summary. Councilwoman Cullum motioned to approve the payroll summary including check #34564 and #34597 to #34599. Also, electronic checks #-85333 to #-85282. Councilman Taylor seconded the motion. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Next on the agenda was the committee reports. No committee reports.

Next on the agenda was the property renewal schedule. Discussion was had regarding the changes made since the last meeting. A motion to approve the schedule was made by Councilman Asbury and seconded by Councilwoman Cullum. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

The next item on the agenda was Resolution #275 House Bill 355 Priority Project. Mayor DeRudder reviewed the resolution. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman Shultz, seconded by Councilman Asbury. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye.

The next item was a discussion regarding the need for a new town hall building. Clerk Sweet explained what she learned in a phone call with Craig Erickson from Great West Engineering. Discussion was had regarding different grants that may be available to help with a town hall build. Dana Zier spoke about the Tourism Grant again. Clerk Sweet will keep checking into all of this.

Attorney Kuntz updated the council on items he has been working on.

Judge Kraft presented his stats from February and updated the council on the service notices for the potential jurors for this cycle.

Library Director Zentner was not present.

Public Works Director Novakovich updated the council on projects on which the public works crew is working.

Chief Buechler presented his stats from February for the council to review.

Clerk Sweet had nothing to report.

Mayor and Town Council: None.

There being no further business Councilman Shultz motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye and Councilman Asbury – aye. The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 pm.

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Mark DeRudder, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kirstin Sweet, Town Clerk

**BRIDGER TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR A WORK SESSION  
HELD ON MARCH 12, 2024**

The March 12, 2024 work session of the Bridger Town Council was held at 108 South D Street in Bridger. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the meeting was brought to order by Mayor Mark DeRudder at 1:00 pm. Council members present were Dustin Taylor, Shala Cullum, Cliff Shultz and Doug Asbury. Others present were Carbon County Commissioner Scott Blain, Carbon County Commissioner Scott Miller, Carbon County Commissioner Bill Bullock, John Jordan, Eleanor Guerrero, Steven Fendler, Krystal Zentner, Dillon Thomas, Public Works Director Randy Novakovich, Chief Mike Buechler and Clerk Kirstin Sweet.

Mayor DeRudder started the discussion by asking the County Commissioners to give their insight on the wind farm impact money. Then discussion commenced regarding the needs that the Town of Bridger has for infrastructure and the difficulty many local governments face in funding infrastructure. Specifically, the Town Campground is in desperate need of an overhaul. A large amount of wind farm workers used the campground while the wind farm was under construction. The extended use of that campground by the workers revealed several deficiencies of the campground. Those deficiencies include but are not limited to the electrical, lack of gravel/concrete, lack of spacing between the pedestals. As well as not enough spots for large events such as workers being in the area for extended periods of time.

Discussion was had regarding the Bridger Volunteer Fire Department and Clarks Fork Valley Ambulance service. The fire department has built trucks that can handle the terrain of the wind farm area. However, they are outgrowing their current facility.

Discussion was had regarding a growth policy for the Town or a capital improvement plan or any planning documents that are needed to help get state or federal grant funds.

Discussion was had regarding other potential needs and impacts in the Town of Bridger. It was suggested that the Town make a list of impacts and prioritize that list. Then get cost estimates for each of the items. Once that is completed, then the Town can come to the commissioners and ask for money to help with impacted areas of Town.

There being no further business Councilman Shultz motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cullum. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Taylor – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman DeRudder and Councilman Asbury – aye. Meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.

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Clifford Shultz, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kirstin Sweet, Town Clerk

Total for Payroll Checks

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	Employee	Employer	Amount
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COMA HOURS (Comp Time Accumulated)	21.38		
COMP HOURS (Comp Time Used)	50.00		1,224.06
REG HOURS (Regular Time)	1,444.00		29,201.15
SICK HOURS (Sick Time)	62.84		1,194.05
VACA HOURS (Vacation Time Used)	93.41		1,728.45
VOLN HOURS (Volunteer Fireman)	50.00		7,500.00
GROSS PAY	33,347.71	0.00	
NET PAY	25,682.41	0.00	
NET PAY (CHECKS)	3,347.19		
NET PAY (DIRECT DEPOSIT)	22,335.22		
DENTAL	0.00	389.00	
FIT	1,301.38	0.00	
GROUP HEALTH	445.00	8,912.00	
LIFE INSURANCE	0.00	19.60	
MEDICARE	483.54	483.54	
P.E.R.S.	2,424.50	2,783.59	
SIT	943.32	0.00	
SOCIAL SECURITY	2,067.56	2,067.56	
UNEMPL. INSUR.	0.00	110.73	
VISION HEALTH	0.00	81.50	
WORKERS' COMP	0.00	1,287.64	
ALTANA FED CRED	2,046.28	0.00	
BANK OF BRIDGER	8,453.78	0.00	
FIRST INTERSTAT	218.68	0.00	
STOCKMAN BANK	2,269.51	0.00	
US BANK-MT	1,955.00	0.00	
WELLS FARGO BAN	4,454.35	0.00	
WESTERN SECURIT	2,937.62	0.00	
FIT/SIT BASE	30,923.21	0.00	
MEDICARE BASE	33,347.71	0.00	
PERS BASE	30,689.74	0.00	
SOC SEC BASE	33,347.71	0.00	
UN BASE	31,647.71	0.00	
WC BASE	40,847.71	0.00	

Total		16,135.16	
Total Payroll Expense (Gross Pay + Employer Contributions):		49,482.87	
*** PAYROLL REGISTER + VOLUNTEER PAYROLL REGISTER = PAYROLL SUMMARY ***			
Total Discounts:	0.06		
Total Payroll Expense (Less Discounts):		49,482.81	

Check Summary

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Payroll Checks Prev. Out.	\$11,050.27
Payroll Checks Issued	\$16,791.33
Payroll Checks Redeemed	\$0.00
Payroll Checks Outstanding	\$27,841.60
Electronic Checks	\$35,275.64

Deductions Accrued		Carried Forward From Previous Month	Deduction Checks Issued	Difference	Liab Account
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Social Security	4135.12		4135.12		212000
Medicare	967.08		967.08		212001
P.E.R.S.	5208.09		5208.09		212203
Unempl. Insur.	110.73	274.64	385.43	-0.06	212202
Workers' Comp	1287.64	2309.46	3597.04	0.06	212201
FIT	1301.38		1301.38		212002
SIT	943.32		943.32		212200
DENTAL	389.00		389.00		212502
LIFE INSURANCE	19.60		19.60		212502
VISION HEALTH	81.50		81.50		212502
GROUP HEALTH	9357.00		9357.00		212502
<b>Total Ded.</b>	<b>23800.46</b>	<b>2584.10</b>	<b>26384.56</b>	<b>0.00</b>	

\*\*\*\* Carried Forward column only correct if report run for current period.

Checks: 34630 and 34637 to 34642

Electronic Checks: -85281 to -85243



**TOWN OF BRIDGER  
SPECIAL EVENTS APPLICATION**

Name/ Purpose of Special Event: Aviators Cup / Autocross

Area Proposed for Special Event: Bridge Airport

Date and Time of Special Event: May 18-19 6am - 6pm

Number of People Anticipated to Attend: 70 per day

Please check the requirements applicable to your special event:

**Street/Alley Closure Requested.** (If a street closure is requested, the applicant must provide evidence that the applicant has notified each property owner or its authorized representative abutting the proposed use area of the special event)

**Security Needed.** (In the event that alcohol is present, the event holders must arrange and pay for security. Contact the Bridger Police Chief for details).

**Alcohol will be sold during special event. Please specify the location and size of the area where alcohol will be sold/consumed with a map per #6 on page 1.**

**Waiver of Open Alcohol Prohibition Requested.**

**Proof of Insurance Provided.** (In the event that alcohol, fireworks or rodeo are involved in the special event, the event holders must provide proof of liability insurance as required in Bridger's special events policy). **Proof of Liability Insurance must be presented to the Bridger Town Clerk at least two weeks prior to the scheduled event. Failure to present proof of liability insurance is grounds for revocation of the special events permit.**

**Refundable Clean-up Deposit Paid in the Amount of \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Indemnification and Waiver of Subrogation.** Applicant hereby agrees to indemnify and defend the Town of Bridger against all claims arising from, or related to, the Special event. Applicant hereby agrees that applicant's insurance is primary and waives all rights of subrogation against the Town of Bridger.

**Deadline for Filing.** The deadline for filing a completed application shall allow for at least two council meetings to take place prior to the scheduled special event. The council meets on the first Tuesday of each month.

3/6/24  
Date

[Signature]  
Signature of Applicant

Address: 619 E Main St.  
Laurel MT 59044

Phone #: 406-628-1299

**TOWN OF BRIDGER  
SPECIAL EVENTS APPLICATION**

Name/ Purpose of Special Event: Billings Barrel Racing Series (BBRS)  
Area Proposed for Special Event: Rodeo Grounds  
Date and Time of Special Event: 7/10/24 5pm - 10pm  
Number of People Anticipated to Attend: 60

Please check the requirements applicable to your special event:

- Street/Alley Closure Requested.** (If a street closure is requested, the applicant must provide evidence that the applicant has notified each property owner or its authorized representative abutting the proposed use area of the special event)
- Security Needed.** (In the event that alcohol is present, the event holders must arrange and pay for security. Contact the Bridger Police Chief for details).
- Alcohol will be sold during special event. Please specify the location and size of the area where alcohol will be sold/consumed with a map per #6 on page 1.**
- Waiver of Open Alcohol Prohibition Requested.**
- Proof of Insurance Provided.** (In the event that alcohol, fireworks or rodeo are involved in the special event, the event holders must provide proof of liability insurance as required in Bridger's special events policy). **Proof of Liability Insurance must be presented to the Bridger Town Clerk at least two weeks prior to the scheduled event. Failure to present proof of liability insurance is grounds for revocation of the special events permit.**
- Refundable Clean-up Deposit Paid in the Amount of \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Indemnification and Waiver of Subrogation.** Applicant hereby agrees to indemnify and defend the Town of Bridger against all claims arising from, or related to, the Special event. Applicant hereby agrees that applicant's insurance is primary and waives all rights of subrogation against the Town of Bridger.

**Deadline for Filing.** The deadline for filing a completed application shall allow for at least two council meetings to take place prior to the scheduled special event. The council meets on the first Tuesday of each month.

2/19/24  
Date

Joni Nelson  
Signature of Applicant

Address: 192 Dutch Lane  
Bridger, MT 59014  
Phone #: 406-208-0348

TOWN OF BRIDGER  
TIME LINE  
BULK WATER RATE INCREASE  
NEWSPAPER LEGAL PUBLICATION

CITY COUNCIL SETS HEARING SCHEDULE	April 2, 2024
PASS RESOLUTION OF INTENTION	April 2, 2024
PUBLICATION DATE – FIRST NOTICE*	April 11, 2024
PUBLICATION DATE – SECOND NOTICE*	April 18, 2024
PUBLICATION DATE – THIRD NOTICE*	April 25, 2024
MAIL NOTICES TO CUSTOMERS**	April 18, 2024
PUBLIC HEARING DATE	May 7, 2024
RESOLUTION TO INCREASE RATES	May 7, 2024
EFFECTIVE DATE	May 7, 2024
RATES TO BE IMPLEMENTED	May 7, 2024

**\*LEGAL NOTICE**

THE NOTICE SHALL BE PUBLISHED THREE (3) TIMES WITH AT LEAST SIX (6) DAYS SEPARATING EACH PUBLICATION. THE FIRST PUBLICATION SHALL BE NO MORE THAN 28 DAYS PRIOR TO THE HEARING AND THE LAST PUBLICATION MAY BE NO LESS THAN THREE (3) DAYS PRIOR TO THE HEARING.

**\*\*CUSTOMER NOTICE:**

The notice must also be mailed at least 7 days and not more than 30 days prior to the hearing to persons served by the utility. The notice must be mailed within the prescribed time period. This notice must contain an estimate of the amount of the customer’s average bill will increase. The published notice must contain: date time and place of hearing, brief statement of proposed action and address and telephone of person who may be contacted for further information regarding the hearing.

Notices of all hearings shall be mailed first class, postage prepaid to the Montana Consumer Counsel.

**RESOLUTION NO. 276**

**RESOLUTION OF INTENTION OF THE TOWN OF BRIDGER TO INCREASE RATES FOR THE USERS OF THE TOWN’S BULK WATER SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, under section 69-7-101, Montana Code Annotated, the City has the power and authority to regulate, establish, and change, as it considers proper rates, charges, and classifications imposed for utility services to its inhabitants and other persons served by the municipal systems. Rates, charges, and classifications must be reasonable and just; and

**WHEREAS**, it will be necessary for the City to collect sufficient revenues to repay outstanding bonds payable from the revenues of its *bulk water system* (the “system”), pay costs associated with the operation and maintenance of the system and establish appropriate reserves; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 69-7-111, Montana Code Annotated, the Council shall order a public hearing prior to the passage or enactment of an ordinance or resolution imposing, establishing, changing or increasing rates, fees, or charges for services or facilities.

**NOW BE IT RESOLVED**, the first increase to services will occur on the May 7, 2024.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of the Town of Bridger sets Water rates as follows:

Section 1. Intent to Increase Water User Charges. It is the intent of the Town to implement rate increases for users of the system, as set forth herein.

1.01 Current Rates.

Bulk Water – Commercial or Locations outside the Bridger School District	\$0.02 per gallon
Bulk Water – Locations inside the Bridger School District	\$0.0104 per gallon

1.02 Proposed Rate Increase.

Bulk Water – for all users	\$0.02 per gallon
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Section 2. Determination of Annual Budget for System. Each year the Council of the Town shall determine the amount of money needed to pay the costs of the system including but not limited to: (a) the payment of the reasonable expense of operation and maintenance of the system; (b) administration of the system; (c) the payment of principal and interest on any bonded or other indebtedness of the system; and (d) the establishment or maintenance of any required reserves, including reserves needed for expenditures for depreciation and replacement of facilities, as may be determined necessary from time to time by the Council or as covenanted in the ordinance or resolution authorizing any outstanding bonds of the system. Based on the annual needs of the system, the Council will establish water charges for the use and availability of the system.

Section 3. Further Rate Increases. Subsequent adjustments to the base rate charge or Usage Charge will be made by resolution of the Town Council duly adopted after a public hearing with notice thereof given as provided by law.

Section 4. Public Hearing. A public hearing on the rate increase will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, commencing at 6:45 p.m. at the Chambers of the Town Council, Town Hall, 108 S D St., Bridger, Montana.

Section 5. Notice. The Town Clerk/Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to publish or cause to be published a copy of a notice of the passage of this resolution in the *Carbon County News*, a newspaper of general circulation in the Town, on September 14, September 21 and September 28, 2023, in the form and manner prescribed by law, and to mail or cause to be mailed a copy of said notice to all persons served by the utility at least seven days and not more than 30 days prior to the public hearing. The mailed notice must contain an estimate of the amount the customer's average bill will increase under the proposed ordinance or resolution. The Town Clerk-Treasurer is also authorized and directed to mail by first class, postage prepaid, notice of all hearings to the Montana consumer counsel.

**DULY** passed and adopted at the Regular Meeting of the Bridger Town council this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2024. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark DeRudder, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kirstin Sweet, Town Clerk / Treasurer

End of Period Disbursement Detail  
 Bank Account: Bank of Bridger - 110582  
 From 03/27/2024 to 03/27/2024  
 Total Only

Check Number: 2049

Date	Description	Case Number	Payer	Citation No.	Amount
<b>Account 200-177 - Criminal Conviction Surcharge 7467 MCA 3-1-318</b>					
				<b>Account 200-177 Total:</b>	\$90.00
<b>Account 200-210 - Fines / Forfeitures - 1000 &amp; 7451 (50/50 Split)</b>					
				<b>Account 200-210 Total:</b>	\$3,061.77
Bank Reconciliation Journal Entry: Jan interest moved to Fines & Forfeitures					
<b>Account 200-250 - Misdemeanor Surcharge</b>					
				<b>Account 200-250 Total:</b>	\$135.00
<b>Account 200-340 - Technology Surcharge - 7458</b>					
				<b>Account 200-340 Total:</b>	\$80.00
<b>Account 200-380 - Victim Witness Admin Fee</b>					
				<b>Account 200-380 Total:</b>	\$2.00
<b>Account 200-390 - Victim Witness Surcharge - 7699</b>					
				<b>Account 200-390 Total:</b>	\$98.00
				<b>Check Total:</b>	\$ 3,466.77
				<b>Report Total:</b>	\$3,466.77

# Bridger City Court 2024 Summary Report

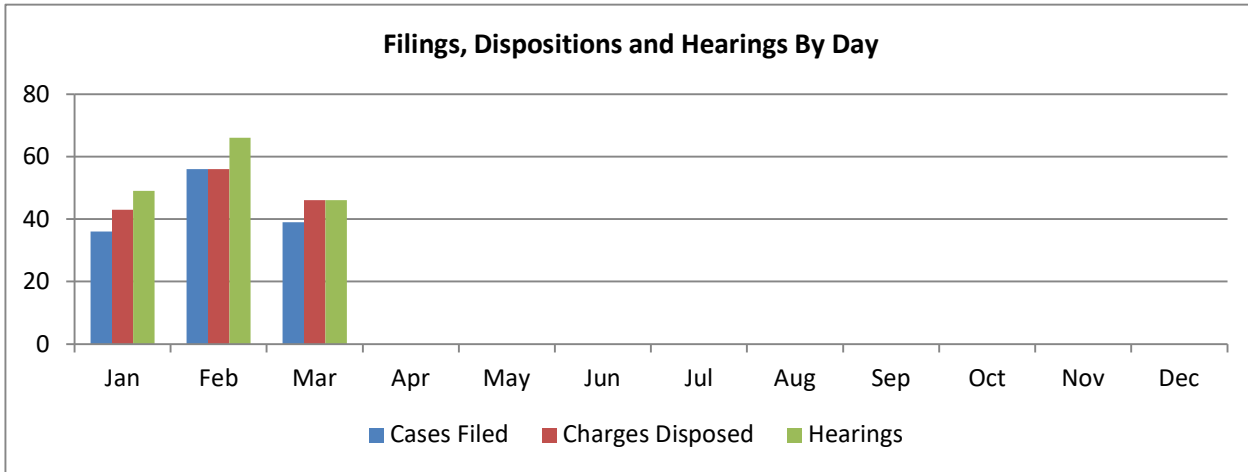
April 1, 2024

by Bert Kraft, Bridger City Judge

CW2: 276

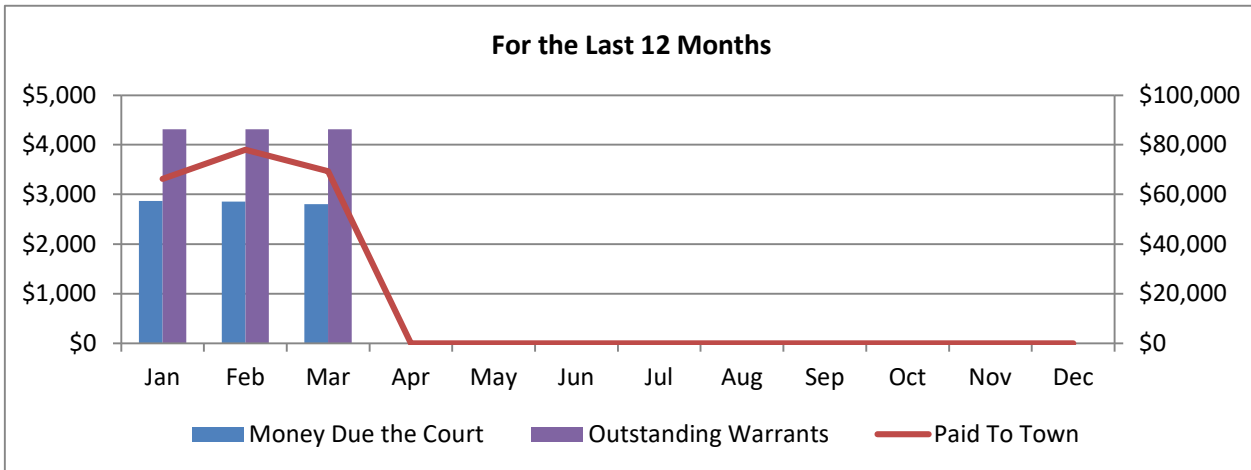
H: 161

## Activity



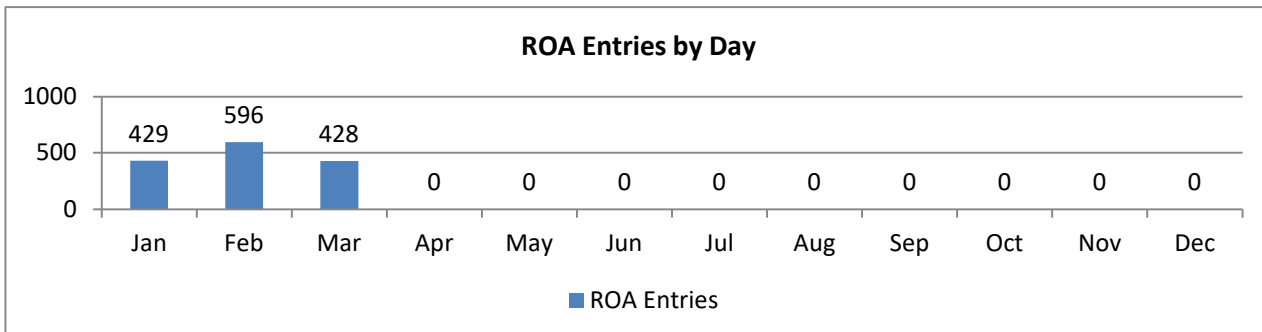
## Financials

PAID: \$10,678.39



## Docket

TOT: 2906



# Bridger City Court

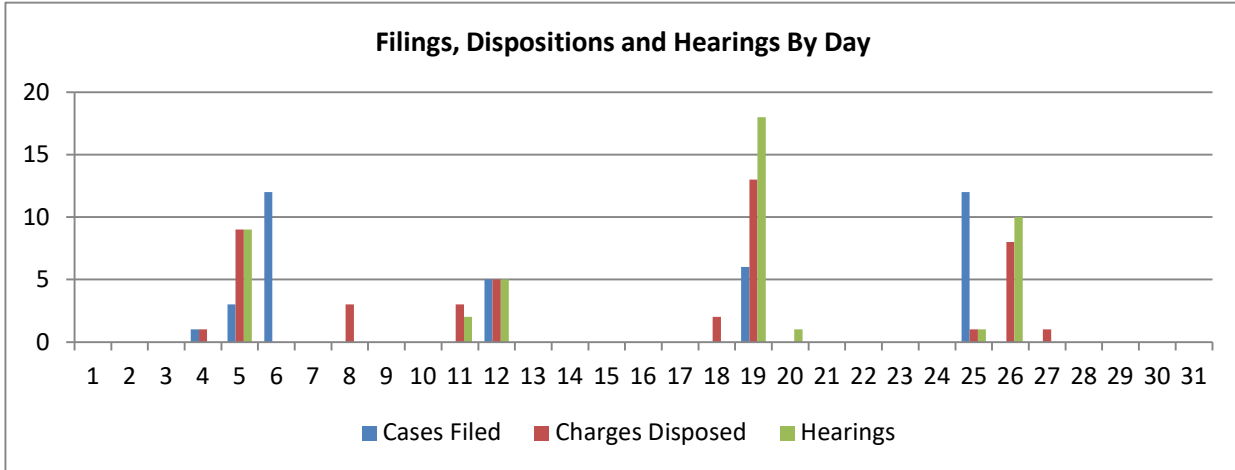
## March 2024 Summary Report

April 1, 2024

by Bert Kraft, Bridger City Judge

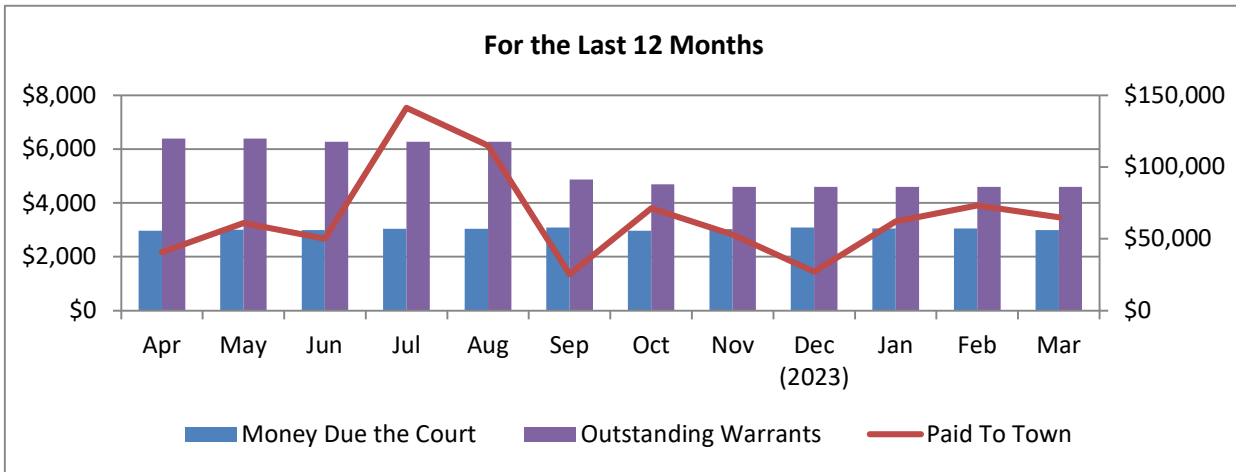
CW2: 85	H: 46	
P: 253	D: 202	W: 40

### Activity



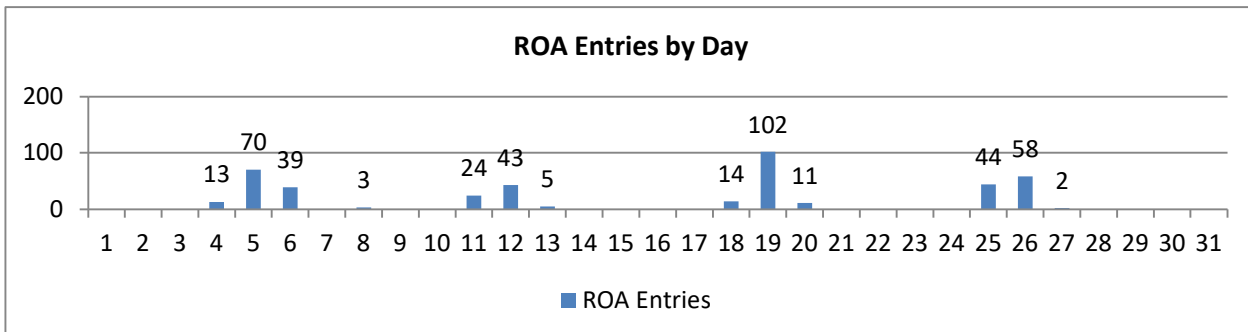
### Financials

PAID: \$3,466.77    DUE: \$56,010.22    W: \$0.00



### Docket

TOT: 428





# Journal

Entry	Hours	81
3/1/2024 Office	7	
3/4/2024 Office	7	
3/5/2024 Open Court	7	
3/5/2024 Council Meeting	1	
3/6/2024 Compliance Court	7	
3/8/2024 Office	2	
3/12/2024 Open Court	4	
3/13/2024 Compliance Court	5	
3/18/2024 Office	7	
3/19/2024 Open Court	7	
3/19/2024 Write Findings	2	
3/20/2024 Compliance Court	7	
3/25/2024 Office	3	
3/26/2024 Open Court	8	
3/27/2024 Compliance Court	7	