

**BRIDGER TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR A REGULAR MEETING
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2025**

The September 9, 2025 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 Ryan Carson, Shala Cullum, Cliff Shultz and Doug Asbury. Others present were Lonna "Peach" Weiss, Cheryl McCarten, Randy Hafer Dana Zier, Public Works Director Randy Novakovich, Attorney Ray Kuntz, Judge Bert Kraft, Chief Mike Buechler, Public Works Director Randy Novakovich and Clerk Kirstin Sweet.

The next item on the agenda was public comment.

The next item was correspondence. No correspondence.

Next on the agenda was the committee reports. Dana Zier gave a report for the historic preservation commission board and introduced Randy Hafer to the council. She and Mr. Hafer spoke at length regarding the old town hall building.

The public hearing for the 2025-2026 budget was next on the agenda. Mayor DeRudder asked for public comment, none was offered,

Resolution #295 to set the 2025-2026 tax mill levy was next on the agenda. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilwoman Cullum, seconded by Councilman Shultz. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Carson – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye, and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Resolution #292 to adopt the 2025-2026 budget. A motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilman Shultz seconded by Councilman Asbury. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Carson – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye, and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Next on the agenda was approval of a transfer of additional money in the amount of \$100,000 from Fund 2395 of the certificate of deposit with the Bank of Bridger. A motion to approve this transfer was made by Councilwoman Cullum, seconded by Councilman Asbury. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Carson – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye, and Councilman Asbury – aye.

A request for a waiver of curb stop requirement and permission for a cistern for Dylan DeBruycker was next on the agenda. Discussion was had regarding the request. Public Works Director Novakovich suggested an alternative solution utilizing the water line from the property located at 2646 US Hwy 310. Attorney Kuntz suggested a resolution to memorialize the details of how this water line would be utilized. The resolution will be on the agenda for October 7, 2025.

Discussion regarding the old town hall was next on the agenda. Discussion was had regarding the report received from the testing done by Northern Industrial Hygiene. Councilman Carson made a motion to direct Clerk Sweet to get a quote for the mitigation of the mold and asbestos in the building. The motion was seconded by Councilman Shultz. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Carson – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye, and Councilman Asbury – aye.

Next was discussion regarding a new town hall. All items regarding a new town hall were discussed during the discussion regarding the old town hall.

The consent agenda was next on the agenda. Department heads answered questions regarding the claims. A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Councilwoman Cullum and seconded by Councilman Asbury. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Carson – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye, and Councilman Asbury – aye. No minutes were included as they were not available yet. Claim checks #35453 to #35553 and electronic checks #-97927 to #-97922 for August. Payroll checks #35456 to #35478 and electronic checks #-84652 to #-84619 for August.

Attorney Kuntz updated the council on items he is working on.

Judge Kraft presented his reports for the month of August.

Library Director Zentner was not present.

Public Works Director Novakovich updated the council regarding projects he is working on.

Chief Buechler presented his stats for the month of August.

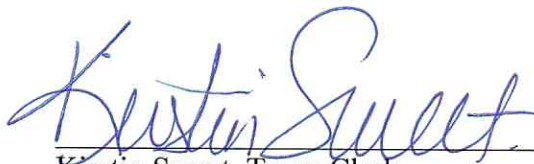
Clerk Sweet informed the council that we will be having audio recording meetings starting October 1, 2025.

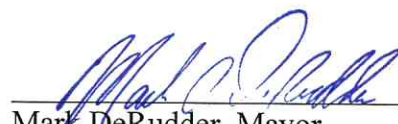
Mayor and Town Council: nothing to report.

Closed session pursuant to § 2-3-203(4)(a) MCA started at 8:48pm, closed session ended at 8:52pm.

There being no further business Councilman Asbury motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Carson. The motion carried with the votes as follows: Councilman Carson – aye, Councilwoman Cullum – aye, Councilman Shultz – aye, and Councilman Asbury – aye. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.

Attest:


Kirstin Sweet, Town Clerk


Mark DeRudder, Mayor