

Minutes of September 4, 2025, Bearcreek Council Meeting

Mayor Surwill called the regular meeting of the Bearcreek Council to order at 7:30 p.m., Sept. 4, 2025. Council members present were Betty Cristan, Danell Boos-Bader and Paul Hogan. Rob Surwill, animal control officer; Loni Hanson, zoning administrator; Dean Webb, public works director; and the clerk were in attendance. Public in attendance was Brent Moore of Interstate Engineering.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The clerk requested the minutes of the August meeting be corrected for the spelling of Bobby to Bobbie Petersen. Paul moved to accept the minutes as corrected, the financial report, and the budget vs. actual report. Danell seconded said motion which passed unanimously.

Claims were presented for payment and approved with a motion by Betty, seconded by Paul, which passed 3-0.

Correspondence received was read. (1) A letter from Cy and Beverly Murfitt advising that they will no longer be taking care of the Women's Club Park after the end of this summer but will continue to be involved in the Bearcreek Veteran's project of placing the crosses, flags and dog tags at the park area. The council members each volunteered their services to take care of the park next year, which will be discussed later. (2) A letter from Interstate Engineering recommending the spring box repair and armoring project bid be awarded to Holden Excavating Inc. for \$132,105.00. They advised that 2 bids had been received complete from Faction Constructors LLC and Holden Excavating Inc. Both submittals had been reviewed and deemed responsive. Dean and Tyler of Interstate Engineering had worked together to assess Holden Excavating's understanding of the project and readiness to complete the project as intended and in a timely manner. Both agreed that Holden Excavating Inc. fully understood the project and would do a good job for the Town.

There were no public comments.

Dept. Head Reports – Started by public works director; Dean reported all was going well. The water usage was up from last month but that is to be expected. A contractor will be installing a water/sewer service on 3rd Ave. for Allen Cooper. Loni reported under zoning that she had issued one permit to Roxanne Runyon to erect a fence. Rob advised that all was quiet for animal control.

There were no council concerns.

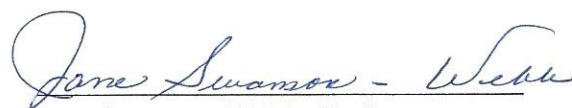
Under unfinished business the Resolution cancelling the Town's general election was presented. An email received from the Elections Administrator had advised that there were 3 people running for the 3 vacant council positions, therefore they had won by acclamation and there wasn't a need for a general election. Betty moved to approve the Resolution. Paul seconded said motion, which carried unanimously. (2) Brent Moore, Interstate Engineering discussed the Bearcreek Water Source PER Amendment for a test-well that had been discussed in July as an alternative source. Though the spring boxes will be repaired, another source of water would be to the town's advantage. Although Dean is continually searching for a location, it had been discussed drilling it on the Webb's property. Interstate had researched companies to do the drilling and recommended Aaqua Drilling of Billings. Paul moved to proceed with having Aaqua Drilling drill the test well. Danell seconded the motion which passed 3-0. (3) The clerk advised that the above referenced letter from Interstate recommended giving Holden Excavating the bid award for the spring box repairs. Their bid of \$132,105.00 was well within the \$600,000.00 Rural Development grant funded construction budget for this project and was the lower bid with Faction Construction LLC coming in with a bid of \$378,308.00. A concurrence letter has also been received from Rural Development that Holden's bid could be awarded. The clerk advised that due to the above 2 factors and prior approval from the council granting her authority to sign all documents pertaining to the repair of the Town's Spring boxes, the Mayor had signed the bid award and it had been delivered to the contractor by Dean. Paul advised that he was glad things were progressing and thanked the Mayor, Clerk and Brent for a good decision. The other council members were in concurrence.

There wasn't any new business.

There weren't any clerk's items.

With no further business Paul moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Danell, passed unanimously.


Debbie Surwill, Mayor


Jane Swanson-Webb, Clerk