

Minutes of February 5, 2026, Bearcreek Council Meeting

Mayor Surwill called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., February 5, 2026, in the Town Hall. Council members Cristan, Hogan, Boos, and Petersen were present. Loni Hanson, zoning administrator; Rob Surwill, animal control officer; and Dean Webb, public works director were in attendance. Tyler Lindbloom, project manager of Interstate Engineering, was present. LaNette Diaz, financial specialist at Interstate Engineering, joined the meeting by phone.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Paul moved to accept the minutes, the financial report, and the budget vs. actual report. Bobbie seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Claims were presented for payment and approved with a motion by Betty, seconded by Danell, passing 4-0.

There was no correspondence.

There were no public comments.


Dept. Head Reports were started by Dean, who advised the council that all was going well and Tyler would bring them up to date on Phase 1 of the water system improvement. Loni had nothing to report for zoning. Rob reported that all was quiet with animal control. Animal license applications were coming in.

There were no council concerns.

Under unfinished business Tyler Lindbloom, apprised the Mayor and council of what had been accomplished to date on phase 1 of the water system improvement. He reminded the council that this project had been identified in the October 2022 PER. There have been few changes since the PER. He mentioned some of the deviations from the 2022 project description. Tyler advised that the project was right on schedule. 95% of the bid docs will be ready for presentation to the Town by the end of February. A public hearing will be held at the March 5, 2026, meeting. This will be for environmental review and for pursuing funding for Phase II as there is a May 26 deadline for coal renewable grants. Submittable to DEQ for review could be completed by March 13, 2026. By May 15th, depending on DEQ's review time, 100% bid documents can be advertised. The bid would be awarded to the contractor by June 19, 2026. Construction could substantially be completed by October 30, 2026. Tyler estimates approximately 5 weeks of construction, including tying in the Town on north First Street. He reported that the funding situation hasn't changed. Meetings have been held with funding agencies, and all is going smoothly. Tyler advised that the report for the test well as a backup water source had been received and it wasn't favorable. He discussed Phase 2 explaining the increase of pipe size, eliminating the stagnant water by looping the system and other advantages. Phase #2 could start in 2027 and construction in 2028 if the council approved. Paul advised the other council members that he felt it should be done. It will be further discussed at the next meeting. LaNette presented the council with financial information on both phases. The clerk mentioned that the Mayor had signed the Renewable Resource grant agreement for the \$125,000.00 that day and a copy would be sent to LaNette.

Under clerk's items, the clerk advised that she didn't have anything to report.

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


Debbie Surwill, Mayor


Jane Swanson-Webb, Clerk