



TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 7:00 PM
Council Chamber Bristol Municipal Complex

MINUTES

CALL MEETING TO ORDER - Council President Jeff Beachy called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM on Thursday, March 19, 2026.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Legal Counsel Alex Bowman.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy
Member absent: Dean Rentfrow

Others in attendance: Town Marshal Steve Priem, Legal Counsel Alex Bowman,
Clerk-Treasurer Cathy Antonelli, Town Manager Mike Yoder, Fire Chief Nik Kantz

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council added Item 7.a.1 Fiscal Plan Resolution 3.19.2026-6 before the annexation ordinance.

- **Motion to approve the agenda as amended** made by Cathy Burke, Seconded by Doug DeSmith. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carries.**

APPROVAL OF INVOICES

- **Motion to approve the invoices** made by Gregg Tuholski, Seconded by Cathy Burke. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carries.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Motion to approve the Executive Session minutes from March 5, 2026** made by Gregg Tuholski, Seconded by Doug DeSmith. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carries.**

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ITEMS

Town Attorney Alex Bowman presented the annexation fiscal plan prepared by Baker Tilly.

- **Motion to adopt Fiscal Plan Resolution 3.19.2026-6** made by Doug DeSmith, Seconded by Gregg Tuholski. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carries.**
- **Motion to amend Ordinance 3.19.2026-5, Exhibits A and B** made by Doug DeSmith, Seconded by Gregg Tuholski. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carries.**
- **Motion to adopt Ordinance 3.19.2026-5 on second reading, as amended** made by Doug DeSmith, Seconded by Gregg Tuholski. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. Voting Nay: Cathy Burke. **Motion carries.**

REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER – Mike Yoder

- **Motion to approve Change Order #7 (Crosby) \$64,923.96** made by Cathy Burke, Seconded by Doug DeSmith. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carries.**
- **Motion to approve SRF Disbursement #47 – Commonwealth Engineering \$67,946 (NOTE: Approved oral motion misstated the amount of payment of SRF form #47; motion approved payment of \$67,946, which was a \$300 overage of the amount due)** made by Doug DeSmith, Seconded by Cathy Burke. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carries.**
- **Motion to approve SRF Disbursement #54 – JPR \$44,072** made by Cathy Burke, Seconded by Gregg Tuholski. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carries.**
- Updates were provided on sidewalk coordination and downtown construction impacts.

CLERK-TREASURER – Cathy Antonelli

- **Motion to untable and withdraw Ordinance No. 3.5.2026-4** made by Cathy Burke, Seconded by Doug DeSmith. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carries.**

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TOWN MARSHAL – Steve Priem

Marshal Priem reviewed his monthly operations report and trainings that are being completed for our officers to keep their certifications updated.

FIRE CHIEF – Nik Kantz

Fire Chief Nik Kantz shared his monthly operations report. Safety note to the residents to change batteries in their smoke detectors now and again in six months to help keep them safe. Be prepared for the bad spring weather, keep essential supplies on hand. Chief shared photos of the new fire truck that should be in the fleet soon. Councilman Cathy Burke asked about storm shelters, Chief Kantz reviewed but stated the list will need to be updated.

PARK BOARD – Jill Swartz standing in for Linda Powell (Happy Birthday Linda!)

Updates were shared on park tree and landscape improvements, online park rental reservations are now in place and basketball court was redone last year, gathering quotes to get the painting and lines ready for the season. Working with an artist for some local murals in town.

LEGAL COUNSEL – Alex Bowman

Attorney Bowman introduced Ordinance 3-19-2026-7 creating a Farmers Market Fund.

- **Motion to waive the rules and adopt Ordinance 3.19.2026-7 (Farmers Market Fund) on first reading** made by Doug DeSmith, seconded by Cathy Burke. Vote: Yes – DeSmith, Burke, Tuholski, Beachy. **Motion carried.**

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (Public Comments to Council)

(Names and address as understood)

Linda Clark, 1962 County Road 16, Bristol

Patsy Bucklen, 56260 Dana Drive, Bristol

Barbara Heater, 20020 County Road 14, Bristol

Lester Otto, 18686 County Road 23, Bristol

Terri Schmidt, 20264 County Road 14, Bristol

_____, 19050 County Road 14

Abby Thomas, 20380 County Road 14, Bristol

Sarah Heater, 20020 County Road 14, Bristol

Andrew Ellison, 55082 County Road 19, Bristol

Anthony Stech, 302 North River Road, Bristol, also introduced himself as a candidate for town council

Evans (last name not stated), 803 West Elkhart Street, Bristol

Maxine Foster, 105 County Road 104, Bristol

Peter Puckett, 55606 County Road 14, Bristol

Tony Anagnos, 20490 County Road 14, Bristol

Melissa Kauffman, Elkhart, announced that she was a candidate for state representative, District 21

Elizabeth Hall, 54800 County Road 27, Bristol

The above individuals addressed the Council regarding the annexation and potential future rezoning of the Kauffman property. Comments included concerns related to notice procedures, traffic, buffers, noise and lighting standards, water usage, potential data center impacts, residential property values, school closure implications, and requests for additional public engagement. Council members provided responses regarding the comprehensive plan, statutory requirements, rationale for annexation, and the rezoning process, noting that future zoning requests would include detailed site plans and further public input.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Council member Gregg Tuholski thanked street department for storm cleanup efforts.

Council President Jeff Beachy thanked the Marshal and Fire Chief and their staff for keeping our town safe, we appreciate everything that you do.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Redevelopment Commission Meeting – April 2, 2026, 6:45 p.m.

Town Council Meeting – April 2, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

- **Motion to adjourn** made by **Cathy Burke, Seconded by Doug DeSmith**. All in favor.
- **Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM.**

These minutes are a summary of actions taken at the Bristol Town Council meetings. The full video archive of the meeting is available for viewing at <https://bristol-in.municodemeetings.com/> for as long as this media is supported.

Jeff Beachy, Council President

Cathy Antonelli, Clerk-Treasurer