



# TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, March 05, 2026 at 7:00 PM  
Council Chamber Bristol Municipal Complex

## MINUTES

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### Call to Order

Council President Jeff Beachy called the regular Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

### Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Anthony Stech.

### Roll Call

Members present: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy.

Members absent: Dean Rentfrow.

Others present: Town Marshal Steve Priem; Legal Counsel Alex Bowman; Clerk-Treasurer Cathy Antonelli; Town Manager Mike Yoder.

### Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as published.

### Approval of Invoices

- **Motion to approve invoices** made by Cathy Burke and seconded by Gregg Tuholski. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carried.**

### Approval of Minutes

- **Motion to approve prior meeting minutes** made by Doug DeSmith and seconded by Gregg Tuholski. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carried.**

### Reports

#### Town Manager Mike Yoder

Water Project: Change Order No. 6 – Water Project: Increase of \$17,965.00.

- Motion to approve change order no. 6 made by Cathy Burke and seconded by Doug DeSmith. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carried.**

SRF Disbursement #53 – Phoenix Fabricators: \$180,928.00 with retainage of \$9,523.00

- Motion to approve SRF disbursement #53 made by Cathy Burke and seconded by Doug DeSmith. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carried.**

The SR 15 bypass loan with the County has been paid in full.

#### Clerk-Treasurer Cathy Antonelli

A public hearing for Additional Appropriation Ordinance No. 3-5-2026-4 in the amount of \$1,629,134 was opened by Council President Jeff Beachy at 7:06pm. No comments were made and the public hearing was closed at 7:07pm.

- Due to changes in Gateway procedures and waiting on some additional information from the Department of Local Government Finance, a **motion to table the ordinance to the March 17, 2026 work session** was made by Cathy Burke and seconded by Doug DeSmith. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carried.**

#### Town Attorney Alex Bowman

Attorney Bowman reviewed and recommended Council approval on Resolution No. 3-5-2026-04 – New Street Garage Committee Recommendation and BOT Agreement; Maple Street award to JBK Development LLC.

- **Motion to approve Resolution No. 3-5-2026-04** was made by Gregg Tuholski and seconded by Doug DeSmith. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carried.**
- **Motion for consent to adopt Ordinance No. 3-5-2026-06 for recodification on first reading** made by Doug DeSmith and seconded by Gregg Tuholski. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carried.**
- **Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 3-5-2026-06 for recodification** made by Cathy Burke and seconded by Jeff Beachy. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carried.**
- **Motion to accept the transfer of 704 Maple Street from the RDC to the Town via Resolution No. 3-5-2026-05** made by Cathy Burke and seconded by Doug DeSmith. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carried.**

### **Public Hearing – Annexation Ordinance No. 3-19-2026-05**

Council President Jeff Beachy opened the public hearing at 7:17 PM for public comments.

Legal Counsel Alex Bowman spoke to the super voluntary annexation request of the Kauffman property (seven parcels) located off County Road 14 and then the public hearing rules were reviewed with the attendees.

#### **Residents Within Bristol Town Limits**

- Helen Calvin, 707 N River Rd

#### **Residents Outside Bristol Town Limits**

- Bob Barnes, County Commissioner Elkhart County
- Kevin Bullard, 21406 CR 14
- Fred Lamble, 19904 CR 14
- Samantha Coburn, 19901 Whisperwynd Lane
- Peter Pucket, 55606 CR 14
- Tony Anagnos, 20494 CR 14
- Tom Pletcher, 20151 CR 14
- Zach Grass, 55480 CR 19
- Brett Hartzler, 54166 Eastview Drive
- Elizabeth Hall, 54800 CR 27
- Anita Byrd, 51545 CR 25
- Amber Raeder, 20159 SR 120
- Terri Schmidt, 20264 CR 14
- Patsy Bucklen, 56260 Dana Drive
- Emily Coburn, 1017 Pearl St, Elkhart
- Lester Otto, 18686 CR 23
- Michelle Robinson, 55462 CR 31
- Alison Callen, 56484 CR 19
- Melissa Kauffman, Elkhart
- Brad Watson, 20127 Castle Dr
- Dana Pletcher, Corner of CR 14 and CR 21
- Andrew Eggleston, 55082 CR 19
- Abigail (Mega?)
- Jaqueline Ward
- Art Miller, Corner of CR 16 and CR 21
- Brittany Harmon, 19050 CR 14
- Chris Welch, 17812 CR 10
- Rick Kane, 20585 CR 14

- Max Sweet, Willowbend Blvd
- Wilma Osterloo, 21053 Riverbrooke Lane
- Madeline Thomas, 20380 CR 14
- Kathy Kane, 20585 CR 14
- Melissa Kauffman, Elkhart

Speakers primarily expressed opposition to the proposed annexation and potential rezoning from agricultural to industrial use, citing concerns regarding rural character, property values, environmental impacts, light and traffic issues, infrastructure strain, and quality of life. One written remonstrance was received.

Council President Jeff Beachy closed the public hearing at 9:07 PM.

- **Motion to advance Voluntary Annexation of property Ordinance No. 3-19-2026-05 to second reading** made by Doug DeSmith and seconded by Gregg Tuholski. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. Voting Nay: Cathy Burke. **Motion carried.**

Release and Settlement Agreement – Lambright matter.

- **Motion to approve the Release and Settlement Agreement made** by Doug DeSmith and seconded by Gregg Tuholski. Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy. **Motion carried.**

#### Privilege of the Floor

Denny Swartz, 51150 State Road 15 – introduced himself as a candidate for the Washington Township Board in the upcoming May election

Lester Otto, 18686 CR 23 – public thanks to the Bristol EMS group for coming to his aid and very much appreciated their professionalism and kindness.

Unknown speaker: added an appreciative comment about services that was received for her family as well.

Pam Ewing, does not live in Bristol, but offered suggestions to help the council help their community by sharing an article of information that she brought.

Public comments were received including expressions of appreciation for emergency services and general community concerns.

**Town Council Discussion** – no Council discussion items this evening

### Next Meetings

March 17, 2026 – 7:00 PM Work Session (The HUB report, streetlight sale, homecoming presentation).

March 19, 2026 – 7:00 PM Regular Town Council Meeting.

### Adjournment

- **Motion to adjourn** made by Gregg Tuholski and seconded by Cathy Burke.  
Voting Yea: Doug DeSmith, Cathy Burke, Gregg Tuholski, Jeff Beachy.
- **Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.**

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Jeff Beachy, Council President

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Cathy Antonelli, Clerk-Treasurer

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.