

<b>AARON ROCCAFORTE</b> <i>Council Member, Place 1</i>	<b>DAVID RUTLEDGE</b> <i>Mayor</i>	<b>PATTY COLLINS</b> <i>Mayor Pro-Tem/ Council Member, Place 4</i>
<b>GINA MANNINO</b> <i>Council Member, Place 2</i>		<b>CHRIS BOULEY</b> <i>Council Member, Place 5</i>
<b>BRYANT CHAMPAGNE</b> <i>Council Member, Place 3</i>		<b>SHERBY DIXON</b> <i>Council Member, Place 6</i>

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**CITY OF BRIDGE CITY**  
**May 20, 2025**

The City Council of Bridge City met in a meeting on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at the City Hall of Bridge City, 260 Rachal, Bridge City, Texas.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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Mayor David Rutledge called the City Council meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**CITY COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Mayor David Rutledge  
Council Member Aaron Roccaforte  
Council Member Gina Mannino  
Council Member Patty Collins  
Council Member Chris Bouley  
Council Member Sherby Dixon

**CITY COUNCIL ABSENT:** Council Member Bryant Champagne

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:**

City Manager Bart Bartkowiak  
City Secretary Jeanie McDowell  
Director of Finance Katrina Jones  
Chief Tod McDowell

**2. INVOCATION**

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Following the invocation given by Council Member Gina Mannino.

**3. PLEDGE TO THE UNITED STATES FLAG AND THE STATE OF TEXAS FLAG**

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Mayor Rutledge led in the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag and to the State of Texas flag. At the conclusion of the pledges, Mayor Rutledge thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Collins.

With no changes, discussion, or alterations, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Collins, Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Bouley, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

**5. PROCLAMATION**

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**(a) Proclamation declaring May 2025 as "Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month" in the City of Bridge City**

Mayor Rutledge presented the proclamation declaring May 2025 as "Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month" to the motorcyclists who attended the meeting. They thanked the council for the proclamation and testified how important it was for motorists to watch for motorcycles on the road. They also thanked the Council for participating in 2025 to share the road campaign, for the proclamation and for urging the citizens to give motorcyclist the same respect and right of way as any other vehicle deserves

**6. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

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Ben Ernest  
1034 Vincent Street

He said he has been battling this situation since April 10, 2023. He said it was an old duplex kind of dilapidated as you can see in the pictures. He said Entergy cut the main feed off going to it because it was a hazard. He said he just lost some long term renters about two or three months ago. He said there has been a drug problem down there, the tenants went to bring their kids to school one morning and there was a lady riding a bike half naked with five purses on her neck. He said he came to the City and talked with some people and the cops knew about it, he wasn't there to rag anyone or get anyone in trouble, but it was a battle he had been fighting. He said the grass was terrible, the City mows it and every time they mow it, he gets an influx of rats and mice from their place. He said he spent \$6,000 on air conditioner and air ducts cost. He said his taxes went up on it, so he was right at doubled in three years. He said the duplexes had termites and the roof was falling in and it was a hazard. He said the City had to do something about it. He said he had talked to several City employees about it, and he felt he was at a dead end. He said there were a lot of kids on the street and the owner of the property had two other properties and they were in the same condition. He said the property needs to be addressed and looked at.

## **7. REPORTS & COMMENTS**

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### **(a) City Manager Bart Bartkowiak**

1. Community Center – the audio and video were updated, and the project has been completed. He said the TV in the middle of the stage was down and there were two 85” TV monitors on either side of the stage that were on mounts that could be turned. He said the same thing could be displayed on both or individual things on each. He said all of it was tied into the audio system for the center so something could be played on the television and the speakers that are already throughout the ceiling could be played nicely but not overwhelming.
2. Splash pad – it has been resurfaced on the bottom, and it was now open for the kids, and they were already playing on it.

### **(b) City Council**

**Council Member Aaron Roccaforte** said the Red, White, and You planning was going well. Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup> would be a free night and the gates open at 5:00 p.m. and close at 10:00 p.m. There will be vendors, young entrepreneurs, bands, DJ, and a kid zone. Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> the gates open at 5:00 p.m. and close at 11:00 p.m. The opening ceremonies would begin at 6:00 p.m. and the drones would be right before the main band around 9:15 p.m. to 9:20 p.m. He said this was going to be a big event. Please share it if you see it on Facebook. He said there was a marketing team that is pushing it now. Please share with everyone you know and rack cards would be distributed when they are received.

### **(c) City Staff**

None.

### **(d) Mayor David Rutledge report:**

None.

## **8. ORDINANCE**

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- (a) Consideration and possible action to approve Ordinance No. 2025-09 adopting amended Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plans for the City of Bridge City

Mayor Pro-Tem Collins made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2025-09 adopting the amended Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plans for the City of Bridge City, seconded by Council Member Bouley.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

### **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Collins, Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Bouley, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

## **9. RESOLUTION**

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### **(a) Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2025-14(R) to participate in Texas Class**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-14(R) to participate in Texas Class, seconded by Council Member Dixon.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

#### **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Collins, Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Bouley, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

## **10. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION**

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### **(a) Consideration and possible action to approve the minutes of May 6, 2025 City Council Regular Meeting**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2025 City Council Regular Meeting, seconded by Council Member Bouley.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

#### **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Collins, Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Bouley, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

### **(b) Consideration and possible action to approve the bills list for the month of April 2025**

Mayor Pro-Tem Collins made a motion to approve the bills list for the month of April 2025, seconded by Council Member Roccaforte.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

#### **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Collins, Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Bouley, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

**(c) Consideration and possible action to appoint Martha Mire to the Library Advisory Board to serve the 2023-2025 unexpired term of Kelci Roy**

Mayor Pro-Tem Collins made a motion to appoint Martha Mire to the Library Advisory Board to serve the 2023-2025 unexpired term of Kelci Roy, seconded by Council Member Dixon.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Collins, Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Bouley, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

**(d) Consideration and possible action to approve an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Bridge City, Texas and the Orange County Drainage District for the Bridge City Drainage District Outfall Improvement Project**

Council Member Roccaforte made a motion to approve an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Bridge City, Texas and the Orange County Drainage District for the Bridge City Drainage District Outfall Improvement Project, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Collins.

With no further discussion, Mayor Rutledge called for a vote.

**MOTION CARRIED.**

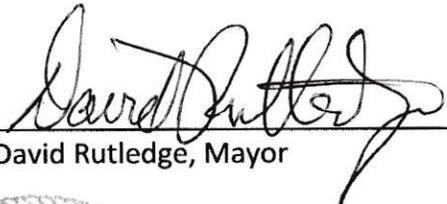
**Ayes:** Mayor Rutledge, Mayor Pro-Tem Collins, Council Members Roccaforte, Mannino, Bouley, and Dixon.

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Council Member Champagne.

**11. ADJOURN**

Mayor Rutledge adjourned the meeting at 6:29p.m.

  
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David Rutledge, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Jeanie McDowell, City Secretary

