

*A virtual meeting was offered.

BONDURANT CITY COUNCIL
Minutes
March 16, 2026
Bondurant City Council

1. Roll Call

Present: Council Member Tara Cox, Council Member Angela McKenzie, Council Member Matt Sillanpaa, Council Member Chad Driscoll, Council Member Dennis Lyman

Absent: Mayor Doug Elrod

City Officials Present: City Administrator Marketa Oliver, City Clerk Shelby Hagan, Planning & Community Development Director Maggie Murray, Public Works Director John Horton, Fire Chief Aaron Krueder, City Attorney Matt Brick, City Planner Isaac Pezley, Assistant Fire Chief Anthony Rauterberg, Representative Brian Lohse, City Engineer David Fliehler, Assistant City Engineer Anthony Harbaugh, Bondurant Emergency Services Member Brody Miller, Bondurant Emergency Services Member Andrew Simoni, Bondurant Emergency Services Member John Kerr, Bondurant Emergency Services Member Anna Summers, Bondurant Emergency Services Member Payton Agans

2. Call to Order and Declaring a Quorum

Mayor Pro Tem Driscoll called the meeting to order at 06:02 PM and declared a quorum.

3. Abstentions declared

None.

4. Perfecting and Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Cox, seconded by McKenzie, to approve the agenda. Vote on Motion 5-0. Motion carried.

5. Consent Agenda:

All items listed below are considered routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

a. Approval of March 2, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes

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- b. Claims List
- c. Receive & File - BES February Monthly Report
- d. R-260316-80- Resolution approving Pay Estimate No. 17 from Ryan Companies for the Bondurant Emergency Services Facility in the amount of \$356,642.39
- e. R-260316-81- Resolution approving an Easement to MidAmerican Energy Company for Underground Electric Improvements related to the Station Project
- f. R-260316-82- Resolution approving pay request no. 1 to Home Boy Construction Inc for the Boardwalk at Lake Petocka Project in the amount of \$31,040.00
- g. R-260316-83- Resolution approving the purchase of furniture for The Station
- h. R-260316-84- Resolution Approving the purchase of appliances for The Station
- i. R-260316-85- Resolution affixing a public hearing to consider the elimination of the U-1 Conservancy District and rezoning of properties currently zoned U-1
- j. R-260316-86- Resolution approving a nine-month Payment Agreement for a Municipal Water Bill at 9405 94th Street, NE
- k. R-260316-87- Resolution Renaming NE Jorie Way to 32nd Street SE for consistency with the City's street naming system
- l. R-260316-88- Resolution approving a professional services agreement with Shive-Hattery in the amount of \$60,500 for the Ross 2 certified site application work
- m. R-260316-89- Resolution approving pay request no. 2 to Veit for the BFSD Truman Drive Storm Sewer Facilities Project in the amount of \$176,260.37

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- n. R-260316-90- Resolution to Award Contract for the Grant Street North sidewalk Project to Terry's Quality Concrete in the amount of \$26,342.00
 - o. R-260316-91- Resolution Approving an Agreement for Professional Services with Veenstra & Kimm for– Construction Administration and Observation Services for the new Water Treatment Plant, Shallow Wells, and Transmission Water Main Project
 - p. R-260316-92- Resolution authorizing the release of a Request for Proposals for Owner's Representative Consulting Services for the SE Industrial Public Improvements Project
 - q. R-260316-93- Resolution approving the amended Bondurant-Farrar Elementary Plat 1 Final Plat
Motion by Cox, seconded by Sillanpaa, to Approve Consent Agenda. Roll Call: Ayes: Cox, McKenzie, Sillanpaa, Driscoll, Lyman. Nays: None. Absent: Mayor Elrod. Motion carried 5-0.
6. Guests requesting to address the City Council

Brody Miller of BES introduced himself as a representative of the newly formed Fire Department union and provided an initial introduction to the Council.

Council Member Sillanpaa read a statement from Mayor Elrod regarding Library programming.

"I've been fielding a fair amount of inquiries on the library issue. I won't be there Monday, so I'd like to express my feelings on this for your consideration.

I understand there is a matrix like relationship between the City and the Library. While library funding is funneled through the City, the Council has no direct authority. Rather, the Library Board is tasked with oversight.

I personally believe there is merit in many of the concerns that I've been receiving. When property taxes fund public institutions like the library, it's understandable that residents want a meaningful voice in how those dollars are spent and how the library operates. As the general public has no influence on who serves on the Library Board, I understand frustrations as people don't have a say when they disagree with something.

I disagree with the inclusion of this kind of material and the manner in which this program was administered. I don't perceive this issue as being rooted in sexual orientation. I'm concerned with the graphic level

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of its content. Please educate yourselves on the content before making your decisions. Despite the Library's statement that they encourage parental involvement, there were no proactive steps taken to communicate with parents to advise of the potential inclusion of this kind of material. This is especially troubling when the book was used with individuals younger than the age rating its own author identified. This book is not designed to help a young person face their own preferences and how to find a place in society. This is soft porn and a how to instructional manual, shrouded in a cloak of so called education.

I believe this uncovers an issue of tolerance itself. This kind of content and parental involvement has been at the center of political debate in this State for two years now. This is clearly a controversial issue. I struggle to understand why someone would take a position of clear advocacy and push a known controversial issue. It could only have been out of a desire to push one's own personal belief system. As public servants, I feel strongly that we should represent all people. That is not happening here. It's ironic that those who take the position there should be tolerance of others, are not willing to be tolerant of different viewpoints themselves.

Despite the fact the kids chose this book, they were provided a limited list of possible books to choose from by Library staff. Who is making these decisions specifically? Is there anyone providing any kind of oversight? If not, that is not good management of public funds.

The best part of literature is how vast, inspiring, and imaginative it can be. I hear the next book in the series is planned to be *The Princess Bride*. That is a fun story that draws you in. That's the kind of book that gets you to love reading. At this target age, how about concentrating on instilling wonder, creativity, and possibility?

I would like to publicly register that I am in favor of House File 2622. This bill places oversight of the library under the City Council. I advocate for the empowerment of people. This would at least allow residents to vote on who represents their interests. If you agree, I encourage you to reach out to your State Representatives:

Brian Lohse
Iowa House of Representatives

Jack Whitver
Iowa Senate

Doug Elrod
Mayor

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City of Bondurant"

Mayor Pro Tem Driscoll also read a statement.

"Thank you Matt for reading the Mayor's statement. I would like to acknowledge that I know there are a variety of concerns and questions, specifically around this month's In the Middle book club for grades 6-8. The Bondurant Community Library continues to be an integral part of this community and provides all our residents, and surrounding area, with a variety of popular and educational materials, programs, resources, and services.

Based on my conversations with library staff and from attending the library board meetings, I know that all of their book clubs are voluntary, and no requirement to read or discuss the book if they do attend. It is a parent's choice if their child attends a certain program or not. Those who have been engaged over the year in the grades 6-8 book club has been a small handful, and those parents and guardians are aware of the programming that has been scheduled for the year. The books were selected by book club attendees themselves and voted on by the participants, not library staff.

The library staff follows their own policies and procedures that are driven by the American Library Association's principles of intellectual freedom and the Library Bill of Rights.

Again, based on my conversations with library staff and in how I see it operated, I believe there is no hidden agenda in how the library or staff select programming, reading materials, or other items that are available at the library. The majority of the activities selected or items available in their circulation are there based on input from families, patrons, and those who participate in programming.

Now, to share a few oversight things.

The library operations is overseen by the Bondurant Community Library Board. If there are any questions about library programming or operations, those questions should be addressed to the library board of trustees. The library board meetings are open to the public and available to attend in-person or virtually. They are typically held the first Wednesday of each month at 6pm. The next scheduled library board meeting is Wednesday, April 1 at 6 pm. The agendas are posted on the library's website and publicly at the library prior to the meeting.

The library board members are approved and appointed by city council, with one board representative that is approved by the Polk County board of supervisors, which represents the rural part of our coverage from an unincorporated area of the county."

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City Administrator Oliver mentioned we received a written comment from Hannah Quinlan, 1108 Deer Ridge Drive, NW.

The following individuals addressed the council regarding the Middle School Programming book choice.

Mike Demastus, The Fort Pastor
Steven Hibbs, 405 E 3rd Street, Pella
Brianna Kramer, 120 4th Street, NW
Austin Stubbs, 612 37th Street, SW
Noah, West Des Moines
Jeff Voll, 504 3rd Street, SE
Dana Wyatt, 607 Brick Street, SE
Todd Erzen, 3001 E Porter Avenue, Des Moines
Lily Pals, 9320 NE 94th Street
Madi Carlson, 74 Landon Drive, NW
Megan Bakker, Des Moines
Ashley Hoskins, 313 Creekside Drive, SW
Cally Edelen, 9783 NE 88th Street
Mark Spencer, 8028 NE Morgan Drive

Matt Brick, City Attorney, addressed questions regarding the removal of a library Board of Trustees member.

Council Member McKenzie, Council Member Sillanpaa, and Council Member Lyman provided comments regarding the item under discussion.

7. **Public Hearing**

- a. Public hearing for the Chichaqua Valley Trail (CVT) East Trail Extension Project
Mayor Pro Tem Driscoll opened the public hearing at 07:17 PM.

Public Works Director Horton provided an overview of the project scope, design progress, and bid results, noting that nine bids were received with the lowest bid totaling \$490,697.25.

Mayor Pro Tem Driscoll closed the public hearing at 07:24 PM.

8. **Action Items**

- a. R-260316-94- Resolution approving the award of the contract for the CVT East Trail Extension Project to Peterson Contracting Inc. in the amount of \$490,697.25

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Motion by McKenzie, seconded by Cox, to Approve R-260316-94. Roll Call: Ayes: Cox, McKenzie, Sillanpaa, Driscoll, Lyman. Nays: None. Absent: Mayor Elrod. Motion carried 5-0.

- b. R-260316-95- Resolution considering the Bondurant Mixed Use Development Preliminary Plat
Planning and Community Development Director Murray presented the Bondurant Mixed Use Development Preliminary Plat submitted by Snyder & Associates on behalf of Bondurant Partners LLC, noting the proposal includes commercial and multi-family development with a new internal street connection. She reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval, Justin Storm, Snyder & Associates, provided additional information, and Council Member Cox inquired about limiting driveway access along 2nd Street, NE.

Motion by Lyman, seconded by Cox, to Approve R-260316-95. Roll Call: Ayes: Cox, McKenzie, Sillanpaa, Driscoll, Lyman. Nays: None. Absent: Mayor Elrod. Motion carried 5-0.

- c. R-260316-96- Resolution considering the Bondurant-Farrar Community School District Parking Lot Site Plan

Motion by Cox, seconded by Sillanpaa, to Approve R-260316-96. Roll Call: Ayes: Cox, McKenzie, Sillanpaa, Driscoll, Lyman. Nays: None. Absent: Mayor Elrod. Motion carried 5-0.

- d. R-260316-97- Presentation of FY26/27 Budget Proposal and Consideration of Resolution affixing date of public hearing for FY26/27 City of Bondurant Budget for April 6, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Cox, seconded by McKenzie, to Approve R-260316-97. Roll Call: Ayes: Cox, McKenzie, Sillanpaa, Driscoll, Lyman. Nays: None. Absent: Mayor Elrod. Motion carried 5-0.

9. Discussion Items -

- a. Storm Sewer Extension (32nd Street)
Anthony Harbaugh of Shive-Hattery presented two options for the Storm Sewer Extension Project to the Council. David Fliehler of Shive-Hattery provided additional information regarding the options. Council discussed the alternatives and reached consensus to move forward with Option #2.

10. Reports / Comments and appropriate action thereon:

- a. Mayor
Mayor Pro Tem Driscoll - Liaison updates, 10 Main Street comments.
- b. Council Members
McKenzie - Liaison updates.
Sillanpaa - Liaison updates.

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Cox - Liaison updates.
Lyman - Liaison updates.

- c. Administrator
Water Tower Grant update, Pi(e) Die comments, Certified Sites update, Polk County Strategic Planning Process update, and the Grain District Session at the Iowa League of Cities Conference.
- d. Directors
Murray - None.
Horton - Department update.
Kreuder - Department update.
Hagan - Department update.

11. **Closed Session**- Pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5.1(j) to discuss property acquisition and 21.5.1(c) potential or pending litigation
Motion by Cox, seconded by McKenzie, to Move into Closed Session at 08:15 PM. Roll Call: Ayes: Cox, McKenzie, Sillanpaa, Driscoll, Lyman.
Nays: None. Absent: Mayor Elrod. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Driscoll closed the Closed Session at 08.35 PM.

Mayor Pro Tem Driscoll questioned the next steps regarding the library situation. The City Council discussed the matter and expressed a desire to understand the procedure and process better so they can be fully informed moving forward. City Attorney Brick provided guidance to the Council on how to move forward.

12. Adjournment
Motion by Cox, seconded by Sillanpaa, to adjourn at 08:43 PM. Vote on Motion 5-0. Motion carried.

Shelby Hagan, City Clerk

ATTEST:

Doug Elrod, Mayor

I, the undersigned Mayor of the City of Bondurant, Polk County, Iowa, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of proceedings had and done by the City Council on March 16, 2026, that all the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting kept continually current and readily available for the public inspection at the Office of the City Clerk; that such subject were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting and the said minutes from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted were in written form and available

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for public inspection within ten business days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body.

Doug Elrod, Mayor