

**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL - HELD JANUARY 6, 2026**

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Regular Meeting of the Council of the County of Barrhead No. 11 held January 6, 2026, was called to order by Reeve Munck at 9:05 a.m.

**PRESENT**

Reeve Erik Munck  
Councillor Ray Crisler  
Councillor Bill Chapman (joined at 9:12 a.m.)  
Councillor Chais Ellwein  
Deputy Reeve Walter Preugschas  
Councillor Tyson Bergsma

**ABSENT**

Councillor Lorrie Jespersen

**STAFF**

Debbie Oyarzun, County Manager	Tamara Molzahn, Director Corp. Services
Lindsay Ellwein, Municipal Clerk	Dawn Fedorvich, Director Rural Dev.
Layne Mullen, Development Officer	Tara Troock, Development Municipal Clerk
Ken Hove, Director of Infrastructure	Shae Guy, Supervisor of Enforcement &
Joel Flemmer, Community Peace Officer	Emergency Services

**ATTENDEES**

Town and Country Newspaper – Barry Kerton

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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2026-001 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that the agenda be approved as presented.  
Carried 5-0.

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD DECEMBER 16, 2025**

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2026-002 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held December 16, 2025, be approved as circulated.  
Carried 5-0.

**PROPOSED LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENT APPLICATION – DATA PROCESSING FACILITIES – AXIOM OIL AND GAS INC.**

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Reeve Munck declared potential conflict of interest under *MGA* sec. 170 and handed gavel to Deputy Reeve Preugschas and exited meeting at 9:07 a.m.

Councillor Chapman enters meeting at 9:12 a.m.

2026-003 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council gives 1<sup>st</sup> reading of Bylaw 2-2026 amending Bylaw 4-2024 to add “Data Processing Facility” as a Discretionary Use in Section 12. Agricultural Land Use District (AG) subsection 12.3  
Carried Unanimously 5-0.

2026-004 Moved by Councillor Bergsma to set Public Hearing for Bylaw 2-2026, amending Land Use Bylaw 4-2024 for February 3, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. in the County of Barrhead Council Chambers.  
Carried Unanimously 5-0.

Layne Mullen and Tara Troock exited the meeting at 9:22 a.m.

Reeve Munck re-entered the meeting at 9:23 a.m.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

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Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

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County Manager

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**2026 APPOINTMENT OF CANDIDATES TO ALUS PARTNERSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)**

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2026-005 Moved by Councillor Chapman to re-appoint Lorrie Jespersen as the County of Barrhead ASB Member on the PAC as recommended by the ASB for a 1-year term.

Carried Unanimously.

2026-006 Moved by Councillor Bergsma to re-appoint Nadine Quedenbaum as the public member from the County of Barrhead for a 2-year term.

Carried Unanimously.

2026-007 Moved by Councillor Ellwein to accept the nominations from Westlock County and County of Athabasca as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

**2026 MEMBER-AT-LARGE APPOINTMENT TO SDAB**

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2026-008 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council appoints Mr. Wilfred Ruhl to the Subdivision & Development Appeal Board for the term January 1 to December 31, 2026.

Carried Unanimously.

**2026 MEMBER-AT-LARGE APPOINTMENT TO LIBRARY BOARD**

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2026-009 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Council appoints Ms. Patricia Noble to the Barrhead Library Board for a term January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2028, as recommended by the Barrhead Library Board.

Carried Unanimously.

**PROPOSAL TO NAME A GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURE IN THE COUNTY OF BARRHEAD**

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2026-010 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Council directs Administration to respond to the Alberta Geographical Names Program with information that has been gathered and inform them that Council does not object to the proposal that the name Kepke Sny be officially adopted for a wetland water feature located near SE 31-61-5-W5 with the addition of a note to confirm the Dutch interpretation of "Kepke Snye".

Carried Unanimously.

**PROVINCIAL AGRITOURISM ADVOCACY**

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2026-011 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Council approve the resolution "Access to Liability Insurance for Agritourism Operators" which requests RMA to request the GOA to review Ontario's *Growing Agritourism Act* and support the GOA in assessing the relevance of this legislation to Alberta Agritourism and the challenges faced by responsible producers trying to access adequate liability insurance and that RMA supports the GOA in developing an action plan to remove this barrier; and further, that this resolution be forwarded to the January 12, 2026 Pembina Zone meeting for consideration.

Carried Unanimously.

**RECESS**

Reeve Munck recessed the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

Reeve Munck reconvened the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

**ENGINE 33 DISPOSAL DECISION**

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2026-012 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council direct CAO to sell Engine 33, a 2007 Freightliner – Rosenbauer Fire Pumper Truck, to the Village of Riverhurst, Saskatchewan for the price of \$45,000 conditional upon their satisfactory inspection.

Carried Unanimously.

Ken Hove entered meeting at 10:59 a.m.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

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Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

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County Manager

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**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

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Ken Hove, Director of Infrastructure, reviewed the written report for Public Works & Utilities and answered questions from Council.

- 2026-013 Moved by Councillor Bergsma to direct Administration to arrange a meeting with the Minister of Transportation to discuss road maintenance and other concerns regarding highways under the jurisdiction of the province.

Carried Unanimously.

- 2026-014 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council accepts the Director of Infrastructure's report for information.

Carried Unanimously.

Ken Hove departed the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas exited the meeting at 11:37 a.m.

Tamara Molzahn entered the meeting at 11:38 a.m.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas re-entered the meeting at 11:39 a.m.

**ALLOWANCE FOR DOUBTFUL ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE & WRITEOFF OF UNCOLLECTABLE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**

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- 2026-015 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas write-off the three (3) outstanding Account Receivable accounts as recommended in the amount of \$2,250.76.

Carried Unanimously.

- 2026-016 Moved by Councillor Ellwein to accept for information the allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1,453.39 as at December 31, 2025.

Carried Unanimously.

**APPROVE 2025 CANCELLED TAXES**

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- 2026-017 Moved by Councillor Crisler to approve the 2025 cancelled tax transactions as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

Tamara Molzahn departed the meeting at 11:49 a.m.

**GENERAL CONSENSUS TO EXTEND THE MEETING**

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At 11:50 a.m. the Reeve received general consent from all Councillors present to extend the meeting until completed.

Shae Guy and Joel Flemmer entered the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

CPO Sgt. Guy introduced Joel Flemmer to Council.

**ENFORCEMENT SERVICES REPORT**

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Shae Guy, CPO Sgt., reviewed the Enforcement Services Report, 2025 Winter Edition and answered questions from Council.

- 2026-018 Moved by Councillor Crisler to accept the Enforcement Services Report, 2025 Winter Edition for information.

Carried Unanimously.

Shae Guy and Joel Flemmer exited the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas exited the meeting at 12:03 p.m. and rejoined at 12:04 p.m.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

County Manager

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**COUNTY MANAGER REPORT**

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2026-019 County Manager, Debbie Oyarzun, reviewed the Resolution Tracking List and noted the following:

- Policy Committee Meeting to be scheduled
- Accepted invitation from RMA to participate in AgriTourism Strategy Working Group
- To support scheduling of meetings, Council requested to provide dates that they were unavailable

Moved by Councillor Bergsma to accept the County Manager's report for information.

Carried Unanimously.

**COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

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Councillors discussed the template for Councillor reports.

Councillors discussed their written reports and the following was added:

Deputy Reeve Preugschas shared a suggestion received about a Snow Clearing Program for Seniors and a discussion at FCSS regarding consideration of the number of elected officials on the board.

2026-020 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Administration research a Snow Clearing Program and bring a report to Council with options for the County to support seniors.

Carried Unanimously.

Councillor Bergsma provided statistics on Misty Ridge visitors to the Ski Hill

2026-021 Moved by Councillor Bergsma to accept Councillor written/verbal reports for information.

Carried Unanimously.

**ADJOURN**

2026-022 Moved by Councillor Crisler that the meeting adjourns at 12:34 p.m.

Carried Unanimously.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

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Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

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County Manager