

**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL - HELD FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

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Regular Meeting of the Council of the County of Barrhead No. 11 held February 17, 2026, was called to order by Reeve Munck at 9:02 a.m.

**PRESENT**

Reeve Erik Munck  
Councillor Ray Crisler  
Councillor Bill Chapman  
Councillor Lorrie Jespersen  
Councillor Chais Ellwein  
Deputy Reeve Walter Preugschas

**ABSENT**

Councillor Tyson Bergsma

**STAFF**

Debbie Oyarzun, County Manager  
Pam Dodds, Executive Assistant  
Layne Mullen, Development Officer  
Ken Hove, Director of Infrastructure

Shae Guy, Supervisor Enforcement &  
Emergency Services (CPO)  
Tamara Molzahn, Dir. Corporate Services  
Dawn Fedorvich, Dir. Rural Development  
Tara Troock, Development Municipal Clerk

**ATTENDEES**

Public Attendees (2)  
Town and Country Newspaper – Barry Kerton

**RECESS**

Reeve Munck recessed the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

Reeve Munck reconvened the meeting at 9:21 a.m.

Reeve Munck expressed Council's condolences for the tragedy in Tumbler Ridge, BC.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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- 2026-045 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that the agenda be approved as presented.  
Carried Unanimously.

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 3, 2026**

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- 2026-046 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held February 3, 2026, be approved as circulated.  
Carried Unanimously.

**SCHEDULING RECONVENED PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENT APPLICATION – DATA PROCESSING FACILITIES – AXIOM OIL & GAS INC.**

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- 2026-047 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council directs Administration to create a public information package prior to the continuance of the Public Hearing, for Bylaw 02-2026 amending Land Use Bylaw 4-2024, which is to be held on April 7, 2026 at 1:00 pm in County of Barrhead Council Chambers.  
Carried Unanimously.

Dawn Fedorvich, Layne Mullen, and Tara Troock departed the meeting at 9:54 a.m.

Shae Guy joined the meeting at 9:54 a.m.

**POLICY PS-016 CPO RIDE ALONG PROGRAM**

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- 2026-048 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council approve Policy PS-016 CPO Ride Along Program as amended and rescind Policy 26.13 Community Ride-Along & Police Familiarization.  
Carried Unanimously.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

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Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

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County Manager

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**ANNUAL ENFORCEMENT SERVICES REPORT**

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Shae Guy, Supervisor of Enforcement & Emergency Services (CPO), reviewed the 2025 Annual Enforcement Services Report and answered questions from Council.

- 2026-049 Moved by Councillor Jespersen that Council accept the 2025 Annual Enforcement Services Report for information.

Carried Unanimously.

Shae Guy departed the meeting at 10:28 a.m.

**RECESS**

Reeve Munck recessed the meeting at 10:28 a.m.

Reeve Munck reconvened the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

Ken Hove joined the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

**2026 TRUCK REPLACEMENT PURCHASE – CAPITAL BUDGET**

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- 2026-050 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council approve the purchase of a 2026 Dodge Ram 2500 crew cab 4x4 truck (as per specifications) from Stephani Motors at a price of \$68,476.00 plus GST and applicable fees.

Carried Unanimously.

**RUBBER TIRE BACKHOE PURCHASE – CAPITAL BUDGET**

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- 2026-051 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council directs Administration to purchase a 2026 Caterpillar 420 from Finning Canada Ltd. with an 84 month/4,000 hour warranty for the price of \$220,430 and further, to trade-in Unit #301 to Finning Canada Ltd. for the price of \$47,000 at the time of the new machine delivery.

Carried Unanimously.

**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.

- 2026-052 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council accepts the Public Works report for information.

Carried Unanimously.

Ken Hove departed the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

**ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARD (ARB) OFFICIALS APPOINTMENT – CAPITAL REGION ASSESSMENT SERVICES COMMISSION (CRASC)**

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- 2026-053 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Council appoint Raymond Ralph as ARB Chairman of the County of Barrhead Local ARB & Composite ARB for a 1-year term to expire December 31, 2026 with remuneration to be paid as specified by CRASC.

Carried Unanimously.

- 2026-054 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council appoint Gerryl Amorin as ARB Clerk of the County of Barrhead Local ARB & Composite ARB for a 1-year term to expire December 31, 2026 with remuneration to be paid as specified by CRASC.

Carried Unanimously.

- 2026-055 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council appoint the following Certified Panelists as Members of the County of Barrhead Local ARB and Composite ARB for a 1-year term to expire December 31, 2026 with remuneration to be paid as specified by CRASC:

Darlene Chartrand	Richard Knowles	Raymond Ralph	Sheryl Exley
Marcel LeBlanc	Tina Groszko	Roland Merkosky	

Carried Unanimously.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

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Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

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County Manager

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**SCHEDULING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS (POSTPONED FROM FEBRUARY 3, 2026)**

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2026-056 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council directs Administration to investigate the costs of livestreaming Council meetings.

Carried Unanimously.

**RECESS**

Reeve Munck recessed the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

Reeve Munck reconvened the meeting at 11:36 a.m.

Tamara Molzahn joined the meeting at 11:36 a.m.

**RECORDS MANAGEMENT BYLAW (BYLAW 3-2026)**

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2026-057 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Council gives 1<sup>st</sup> reading to Bylaw 3-2026 - Records Management Bylaw.

Carried Unanimously.

2026-058 Moved by Councillor Jespersen that Council gives 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Bylaw 3-2026.

Carried Unanimously.

2026-059 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council consider 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Bylaw 3-2026.

Carried Unanimously.

2026-060 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council gives 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Bylaw 3-2026 - Records Management Bylaw.

Carried Unanimously.

**GENERAL CONSENSUS TO EXTEND MEETING**

At 12:01 p.m. the Reeve received general consent from all Councillors present to extend the meeting until completion of the 2025 Year end reports.

**2025 YEAR END REPORTS**

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2026-061 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council approves the 2025 year-end financial reports subject to audit adjustments and year end finalizations.

- YTD Budget Report with variance analysis
- Net Operating Surplus by Department
- Capital Report with variance analysis
- 2025 Reserve Report
- Reconciliation of Budget Data to Financial Statements
- Draft Statement of Financial Position
- Draft Statement of Operations
- Draft Segmented Disclosure

Carried Unanimously.

Reeve Munck left the meeting at 12:24 p.m.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas assumed the chair at 12:24 p.m.

Reeve Munck returned at 12:26 p.m. and assumed the chair

Tamara Molzahn departed the meeting at 12:27 p.m.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

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Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

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County Manager

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**LUNCH RECESS**

Reeve Munck recessed the meeting at 12:27 p.m.

Reeve Munck reconvened the meeting at 1:17 p.m.

**COUNTY MANAGER REPORT**

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

- Pembina River Zone meeting included a discussion regarding the closure of the Lacombe Research & Development Centre
- Next Council meeting will have RCMP attending to discuss policing priorities
- Attended meeting with Misty Ridge Ski Hill committee regarding new DRAFT operating agreement

2026-062 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council rescind resolution 2026-042 – Provide a letter of support for Misty Ridge Ski Hill to apply for Co-op Community Spaces Grant as the grant is no longer available.

Carried Unanimously.

2026-063 Moved by Councillor Jespersen to accept the County Manager's report for information and directs CAO to bring a recommendation to Council for additional resolutions to be rescinded and that more context is added to resolution 2024-225.

Carried Unanimously.

**COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

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Councillors discussed their written reports and the following was added:

Deputy Reeve Preugschas elaborated on his attendance at the Tourism Advocacy Summit, provided an update on Attraction & Retention of Doctors, and reported that the Van Loon family from Tiger Lily is the recipient of the 2025 Farm Family award.

Councillor Chapman shared comments on collaboration with the Yellowhead Regional Library.

Councillor Jespersen reported that the FCSS meeting was postponed and he attended the ALUS meeting.

**Notice of Motions**

Councillor Crisler provided a Notice of Motion that Council considers repairs and maintenance of Klondike Park & Peace Mission Park public boat launch areas.

Councillor Crisler provided a Notice of Motion that Council considers funding opportunities for Communities in Bloom.

2026-064 Moved by Councillor Chapman to accept Councillor written/verbal reports for information.

Carried Unanimously.

2026-065 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Council's FCSS representatives inform the FCSS board that the County of Barrhead Council expressed their preference to retain 2 representatives from the County on the FCSS board.

Carried Unanimously.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

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Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

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County Manager

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

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- 2026-066 Moved by Councillor Chapman that Council accept the following correspondence for information:
- Letter Town of Barrhead to FCSS Board RE: Response to Reduction of Elected Rep – dated February 4, 2026
  - Emerging Trends in Municipal Law – Data Centres & Power Plants: Municipal Ramifications; Brownlee LLP – February 12, 2026

Carried Unanimously.

**ADJOURN**

- 2026-067 Moved by Councillor Crisler that the meeting adjourns at 2:18 p.m.

Carried Unanimously.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

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Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

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County Manager