

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL - HELD FEBRUARY 3, 2026

Regular Meeting of the Council of the County of Barrhead No. 11 held February 3, 2026, was called to order by Deputy Reeve Preugschas at 9:01 a.m.

PRESENT

Reeve Erik Munck (joined at 9:02 a.m. and departed
at 1:10 p.m.)

Councillor Ray Crisler
Councillor Bill Chapman
Councillor Lorrie Jespersen
Councillor Chais Ellwein
Deputy Reeve Walter Preugschas
Councillor Tyson Bergsma

STAFF

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Debbie Oyarzun, County Manager | Tamara Molzahn, Director Corp. Services |
| Pam Dodds, Executive Assistant | Dawn Fedorvich, Director Rural Dev. |
| Layne Mullen, Development Officer | Tara Troock, Development Municipal Clerk |
| Ken Hove, Director of Infrastructure | Adam Vanderwekken, Communications Coordinator |
| Travis Wierenga, Public Works Manager | |

ATTENDEES

Daniel van Heyst, Seth Olthius, and Eldon Wierenga - Neerlandia Sports Committee
Fire Chief Hove – Barrhead Regional Fire Services
Public Attendees in person and on-line for Public Hearing

Town and Country Newspaper – Daniel Janson

RECESS

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

Reeve Munck reconvened the meeting at 9:39 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 2026-023 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that the agenda be approved as presented.
Carried Unanimously.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD JANUARY 6, 2026

- 2026-024 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held January 6, 2026, be approved as circulated.
Carried Unanimously.

2026 LOADER REPLACEMENT PURCHASE

- 2026-025 Moved by Councillor Jespersen that Council directs Administration to purchase a 2026 John Deere 744P from Brandt Tractor Ltd. with an 84 month/5,000 hour warranty for the price of \$620,000 and to trade-in Unit #303 to Brandt Tractor Ltd. for the price of \$86,000 at the time of the new machine delivery.
Carried Unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

- Ken Hove, Director of Infrastructure, and Travis Wierenga, Public Works Manager, reviewed the written report for Public Works & Utilities and answered questions from Council.
- 2026-026 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council accepts the Public Works report for information.
Carried Unanimously.

Tamara Molzahn joined the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

County Manager

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL - HELD FEBRUARY 3, 2026

2025 PROJECT DASHBOARD

2026-027 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas to accept the Capital & Operational Dashboards as at December 31, 2025, for information.

Carried Unanimously.

2026-028 Moved by Councillor Ellwein to approve the additional funding sources for the 2025 capital projects as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

Ken Hove, Travis Wierenga, and Dawn Fedorvich departed the meeting at 10:28 a.m.

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

2026-029 Moved by Councillor Crisler to accept the following Director of Corporate Services reports for information:

- Payments Issued for the month of December 2025
- Elected Official Remuneration Report as of December 31, 2025

Carried Unanimously.

Tamara Molzahn departed the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

FIRE FIGHTING SERVICES – REQUEST TO CANCEL CHARGES (25-332-CFR)

2026-030 Moved by Councillor Chapman that Council table the discussion until later in the meeting.

Carried Unanimously.

RECESS

Reeve Munck recessed the meeting at 10:56 a.m.

Reeve Munck reconvened the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Dawn Fedorvich rejoined the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

DELEGATION – NEERLANDIA SPORTS COMMITTEE

Daniel van Heyst, Seth Olthius, and Eldon Wierenga representing the Neerlandia Sports Committee (NSC) met with Council and discussed the need of having a covered arena in the community of Neerlandia for public use. The NSC is requesting funding to assist with the arena roof project.

2026-031 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council accept for information the request for funding from Neerlandia Sports Committee for their arena roof project.

Carried Unanimously.

Council thanked the Neerlandia Sports Committee for their presentation, and they departed the meeting at 11:33 a.m.

DELEGATION – BARRHEAD REGIONAL FIRE SERVICES

Fire Chief Gary Hove met with Council to present the quarterly and annual reports and answered questions from Council.

2026-032 Moved by Councillor Chapman that Council accepts the report from Chief Hove, BRFS, for information.

Carried Unanimously.

Fire Chief Hove left the meeting at 12:03 p.m.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

County Manager

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL - HELD FEBRUARY 3, 2026

FIRE FIGHTING SERVICES – REQUEST TO CANCEL CHARGES (25-332-CFR)

2026-033 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council remove from table the discussion on fire incident report 25-332-CFR.

Carried Unanimously.

2026-034 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council deny the request to reduce or cancel the charges for fire incident report 25-332-CFR.

Carried Unanimously.

LUNCH RECESS

Reeve Munck recessed the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Reeve Munck reconvened the meeting at 1:08 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR BYLAW 2-2026 – AMENDING LAND USE BYLAW 4-2024

Reeve Munck declared a potential conflict of interest and excused himself from the hearing.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas declared the Public Hearing open at 1:10 p.m. to provide an opportunity for public input and comment regarding proposed Bylaw No. 2-2026, Amending Land Use Bylaw 4-2024 - to add "Data Processing Facility" as a Discretionary Use in Section 12. Agricultural Land Use District (AG), subsection 12.3

Deputy Reeve Preugschas explained the public hearing process and that it is being held in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act* and Council's Meeting Procedures Bylaw.

Layne Mullen, Development Officer, introduced Bylaw 2-2026 which received 1st reading at the January 6, 2026, Regular Council meeting.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas asked Council if they had any questions and none were asked.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas invited the Public members to speak that had registered.

Terry Steiestol
Orval Steiestol
Valerie Ehrenholz
Rick Mueller
Sharon Mueller
Barbara Phillips
Lauren Wallace

Deputy Reeve Preugschas invited any Public member to speak that had not registered.

Geraldine Proulx
Tracy Mueller
Debbie Hindy
Jennifer Morton
Brian Miller
Bonnie Van Rossum
Charlie Parsons
Don Steinbring
Pat Dubovsky
Tasha Boychuk
Allan Breitreitz
Sylvia Nanninga

Councillor Crisler left the meeting at 2:30 p.m. and rejoined at 2:32 p.m.

Correspondence - Layne Mullen, Development Officer, read the correspondence from 2 public members received after the deadline:

Darcy Schoff
Sara-Lynne Dewar

Deputy Reeve Preugschas asked Administration if they had further comments and Layne Mullen, Development Officer, responded to questions brought forward by the public.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

County Manager

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL - HELD FEBRUARY 3, 2026

Deputy Reeve Preugschas asked the applicant (Axiom Oil & Gas) if they wish to provide any further comments on any of the information provided. Applicant did not share any further information.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas asked Council if they had any questions of the public or Administration.

2026-035 Moved by Councillor Jespersen that the public hearing be recessed to a future date.
Carried 5-1.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas declared the Public Hearing recessed until a future date.

RECESS

Deputy Reeve Preugschas recessed the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas reconvened the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

SCHEDULING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

2026-036 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council postpone the discussion on the scheduling of Council meetings until the next meeting.
Carried 6-0.

COUNTY MANAGER REPORT

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

- Emergency Advisory Committee meeting was held January 29, 2026 and recommended that the ASB review the DRAFT Livestock Emergency Management Plan
- Elected Officials Emergency Management training is scheduled for April 21, 2026 at 1:00 pm and will be offered by Regional Directors of Alberta Emergency Management Agency (AEMA) – meeting invites have been sent
- Rural Living Expo & Appreciation Dinner planning is underway – April 11, 2026
- LIFT Business Conference – Post Event Report
 - 2026 LIFT Business conference will be in October 2026

2026-037 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council request to meet with Alberta Transportation outside of the RMA Convention and directed the CAO to make the necessary arrangements.
Carried 6-0.

2026-038 Moved by Councillor Jespersen that Council support the recommendation from the Emergency Advisory Committee and directed the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) to review the County's DRAFT Livestock Emergency Management Plan.
Carried 6-0.

2026-039 Moved by Councillor Bergsma to accept the County Manager's report for information.
Carried 6-0.

MINISTERIAL FORUM SPRING RMA

2026-040 Moved by Councillor Chapman that Council direct the CAO to draft content for the Ministerial Forum question period at 2026 Spring RMA convention regarding the Federal announcement to close the Lacombe Research & Development Center.
Carried 6-0.

INFORMATION ITEMS

2026-041 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council accept the following correspondence for information:

- MCSNet Letter Re: Thunder Lake Fibre Optic Cable Installation

Carried 6-0.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

County Manager

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL - HELD FEBRUARY 3, 2026

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillors discussed their written reports and the following was added:

Councillor Bergsma reported on his attendance at the YRL meeting, BDSHA meeting, and Misty Ridge Ski Hill meeting.

2026-042 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council provide a letter of support for Misty Ridge Ski Hill committee to apply for the Co-op Community Spaces Grant.

Carried 6-0.

Councillor Jespersen reported on his attendance at the FCSS Finance Committee meeting.

2026-043 Moved by Councillor Bergsma to accept Councillor written/verbal reports for information.

Carried 6-0.

ADJOURN

2026-044 Moved by Councillor Crisler that the meeting adjourns at 3:53 p.m.

Carried 6-0.

ORIGINAL SIGNED – E. MUNCK

Reeve

ORIGINAL SIGNED – D. OYARZUN

County Manager