

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL - HELD MARCH 3, 2026

Regular Meeting of the Council of the County of Barrhead No. 11 held March 3, 2026, was called to order by Reeve Munck at 9:04 a.m.

PRESENT

Reeve Erik Munck
Councillor Ray Crisler
Councillor Bill Chapman
Councillor Lorrie Jespersen
Councillor Chais Ellwein
Deputy Reeve Walter Preugschas (left at 3:33 p.m.)
Councillor Tyson Bergsma

STAFF

Debbie Oyarzun, County Manager	Don Medcke, Agricultural Fieldman
Pam Dodds, Executive Assistant	Tamara Molzahn, Dir. Corporate Services
Layne Mullen, Development Officer	Tara Troock, Municipal Clerk
Dawn Fedorovich, Dir. Rural Development	Jane Dauphinee, Municipal Planner (via zoom)
Ken Hove, Director of Infrastructure	
Travis Wierenga, Public Works Manager	

ATTENDEES

Sgt Colin Hack - Barrhead RCMP Detachment
Sgt Leigh Drinkwater – Westlock RCMP Traffic Services
Town and Country Newspaper – Barry Kerton

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2026-068 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that the agenda be approved as presented.
Carried Unanimously.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 17, 2026

2026-069 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held February 17, 2026, be approved as circulated.
Carried Unanimously.

Councillor Bergsma declared a perceived conflict of interest and departed the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

**SUBDIVISION APPLICATION – MUNICIPAL PLANNING FILE 25-SUB-166
NE 33-62-3-W5 (MCNAB)**

2026-070 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Council approves subdivision application 25-SUB-166, to subdivide a country residential lot within NW-33-62-3-W5, and further that the approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. That the proposed subdivision be affected as per the attached revised plan dated March 3, 2026, to a maximum of 17.0 acres.
2. That prior to endorsement of an instrument effecting this plan, the registered owner and/or developer enter into an agreement with Alberta Transportation for the provision of a 30 metre wide service road right of way Metes and Bounds across the entire highway frontage of the proposed parcel and the remnant lands, at no cost to Transportation and Economic Corridors (this includes both Highway 661 and 769). To this respect, a Caveat shall be registered against the Certificate of Title by Alberta Transportation concurrently with the registration of the instrument effecting this plan of subdivision.

Alternatively,

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That the Plan of Survey implementing the proposed plan of subdivision provide a 30 metre wide service road throughout the proposed parcel and the remnant lands adjacent to the right-of-way of Highway 661 and 769.

3. That prior to endorsement of an instrument affecting this plan, and in accordance with section 9(g) of the *Matters Related to Subdivision and Development Regulation*, AR 84/2022, submit to the County of Barrhead No. 11 and the Subdivision Authority Officer:
 - a) Real Property Report or Building Site Certificate, prepared by an Alberta Land Surveyor, must be submitted. This report shall indicate the location of the improvements, including the private sewage disposal systems, potable water sources, shelter belts, driveways, above-ground appurtenances, and the distances between them and demonstrate that all improvements on Proposed Lot 1 comply with the required setbacks from existing and proposed property boundaries;
 - b) That, based on the Real Property Report or Building Site Certificate, the proposed lot boundaries be revised to include the land that is necessary for:
 - i. The surface sewage discharge points for both systems currently located on the property being 90.0 m from the proposed property boundaries (if applicable).
 - c) Certification from a Provincially accredited inspector confirming that the function and location of the existing sewage disposal systems on the proposed lot, will satisfy the Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice, and is suitable for the intended subdivision.
4. That taxes are fully paid when final approval (endorsement) of the instrument affecting the subdivision is requested.

Carried 6-0.

Jane Dauphinee departed the meeting at 9:33 a.m.

Councillor Bergsma rejoined the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

DATA PROCESSING FACILITY INFORMATION PACKAGE

- 2026-071 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council accepts Administration's report for information which includes the steps outlined to increase awareness and access to the general public information package that will be developed as per resolution (2026-047, February 17, 2026).

Carried Unanimously.

Layne Mullen and Tara Troock departed the meeting at 10:19 a.m.

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM PARTICIPATION (NOTICE OF MOTION)

- 2026-072 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council table the discussion on Communities in Bloom Participation until a future meeting and to bring forward budget request.

Carried Unanimously.

Councillor Bergsma left the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

RECESS

Reeve Munck recessed the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Reeve Munck reconvened the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

Ken Hove joined the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

Councillor Bergsma rejoined the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

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PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

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

- 2026-073 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council accepts the Public Works report for information.
Carried Unanimously.

2026 MOWER AND SIDEARM REPLACEMENT

- 2026-074 Moved by Councillor Jespersen that Council directs Administration to purchase a Degelman 1820 Sidearm and Degelman Rev 1500 Mower from Horizon Ag & Turf for the total price of \$100,650 and to consign units #326 (2006 Degelman Sidearm) and #329 (2012 Degelman 15' Mower) to auction.
Carried Unanimously.

Ken Hove departed the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

DELEGATION – BARRHEAD RCMP DETACHMENT

Sgt Colin Hack, Detachment Commander for Barrhead RCMP, and Sgt Leigh Drinkwater of Westlock Traffic Services, met with Council at this time being 11:32 a.m. to discuss the policing priorities and give updates on the local detachment.

- 2026-075 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council accepts the report from Sgt Hack and Sgt Drinkwater as information.
Carried Unanimously.

- 2026-076 Moved by Councillor Chapman that Council directs the RCMP to maintain the policing priorities of Rural Visibility and Prolific Offender Management for the County of Barrhead.
Carried Unanimously.

Sgt Hack, Barrhead RCMP Detachment, and Sgt Drinkwater, Westlock RCMP Detachment, left the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

LUNCH RECESS

Reeve Munck recessed the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

Reeve Munck reconvened the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

Travis Wierenga joined the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

BOAT LAUNCH MAINTENANCE (NOTICE OF MOTION)

February 17, 2026 – Councillor Crisler submitted a Notice of Motion that requested Council to consider additional funding for the repairs and maintenance of Klondike Park & Peace Mission Park public boat launch areas

- 2026-077 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council accepts the Boat Launch Maintenance Report for information and further that Administration bring back information to Council for engineering and design costs in the 2026 Budget to support the permitting process for upgrades to Klondike Park & Peace Mission Park public boat launch areas in 2027.
Carried Unanimously.

IN-CAMERA SESSION

- 2026-078 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council move in-camera at 1:13 p.m. for discussion on:
- Road Construction Partnership – *ATIA Sec. 29 Advise from Officials*
- Carried Unanimously.

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Barry Kerton exited the meeting at 1:13 p.m.

Layne Mullen rejoined the meeting at 1:13 p.m.

Councillor Chapman left the meeting at 1:48 p.m. and rejoined at 1:49 p.m.

Councillor Crisler left the meeting at 1:53 p.m. and rejoined at 1:55 p.m.

2026-079 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council move out of in-camera at 2:18 p.m.

Carried Unanimously.

Barry Kerton rejoined the meeting at 2:18 p.m.

ROAD CONSTRUCTION PARTNERSHIP

2026-080 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council direct Administration to include in the Development Agreement for DP 05-2026 that the County would build the road and make intersection improvements as discussed, and the developer would be charged 90% of road builders rates as per the County Rates & Fees Bylaw.

Carried 6-1.

Travis Wierenga and Layne Mullen departed the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

Councillor Chapman left the meeting at 2:21 p.m. and rejoined at 2:23 p.m.

Don Medcke joined the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (ECDC) BYLAW 4-2026

2026-081 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Council gives 1st reading to Bylaw 4-2026 – Economic & Community Development Committee (ECDC) Bylaw.

Carried Unanimously.

2026-082 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council gives 2nd reading of Bylaw 4-2026.

Carried Unanimously.

2026-083 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Council consider 3rd reading of Bylaw 4-2026.

Carried Unanimously.

2026-084 Moved by Councillor Chapman that Council gives 3rd reading of Bylaw 4-2026 – Economic & Community Development Committee (ECDC) Bylaw.

Carried Unanimously.

2026 MEMBER-AT-LARGE APPOINTMENTS TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES

2026-085 Moved by Councillor Ellwein that Council move in-camera at 2:38 p.m. for discussion on:
Member-at-Large applications - ATIA s. 22 Confidential Evaluations.

Carried Unanimously.

Barry Kerton left the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

Councillor Jespersen left the meeting at 2:48 p.m. and rejoined at 2:50 p.m.

2026-086 Moved by Councillor Chapman that Council move out of in-camera at 2:51 p.m.

Carried Unanimously.

Councillor Jespersen left the meeting at 2:51 p.m.

2026-087 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Rob Wierenga and Jennifer Kalmbach be appointed as additional public members-at-large on the Economic & Community Development Committee with the term to end December 31, 2027.

Carried 6-0.

Councillor Jespersen rejoined the meeting at 2:52 p.m.

Councillor Bergsma left the meeting at 2:52 p.m. and rejoined at 2:54 p.m.

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AMENDING POLICY AG-001 BEAVER PROGRAM

- 2026-088 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Council approved amending Policy AG-001 – Beaver Program to remove the County providing blasting services on private land as recommended by the ASB.

Carried Unanimously.

Don Medcke and Dawn Fedorvich departed the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Adam Vanderwekken joined the meeting at 3:09 p.m.

BARRHEAD ART GALLERY / PEMBINA ARTS FESTIVAL - COMMUNITY GRANT REQUEST

- 2026-089 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council approves the application from Barrhead Art Gallery / Pembina Arts Festival for a donation of \$1,600 under the Community Grants Policy to assist with the Pembina Arts Festival free events.

Carried 6-1.

MISTY RIDGE – OPERATING AGREEMENT

- 2026-090 Moved by Deputy Reeve Preugschas that Council authorizes the Reeve and CAO to enter into a new Agreement with Misty Ridge Ski Club to operate the Misty Ridge Ski Hill within parts of Section 16-62-4-W5 for a 10-year term as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

Deputy Reeve Preugschas left the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

- 2026-091 Moved by Councillor Crisler that Council approve the County of Barrhead Corporate Communications Plan as presented.

Carried 6-0.

CORPORATE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

- 2026-092 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council approve Policy AD-011 Corporate Use of Social Media Policy as recommended by the Policy Committee.

Carried 6-0.

Adam Vanderwekken departed the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillors discussed their written reports and the following was added:

Councillor Ellwein stated that the Ag Society is inquiring about having gravel spread in parking area beside Bablitz Hall.

- 2026-093 Moved by Councillor Bergsma to accept Councillor written/verbal reports for information.

Carried 6-0.

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INFORMATION ITEMS

2026-094 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council accept the following correspondence for information:

- Email – National Police Federation Re: Contract Policing Commitment – dated February 18, 2026

Carried 6-0.

2026-095 Moved by Councillor Jespersen that Council accept the following correspondence for information:

- Misty Ridge Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2026

Carried 6-0.

COUNTY MANAGER REPORT

Due to time limitation, County Manager, Debbie Oyarzun, directed Council to the tracking list that was available in the agenda package and noted the additional following items:

- CAO being recognized and invited to participate in Women in Agriculture Panel
- Invitation to Twinning Friendship Dinner on March 8, 2026

2026-096 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that Council support the CAO to participate on the Women in Agriculture Panel if schedule permits.

Carried 6-0.

2026-097 Moved by Councillor Bergsma to accept the County Manager's report for information.

Carried 6-0.

ADJOURN

2026-098 Moved by Councillor Bergsma that the meeting adjourns at 4:07p.m.

Carried 6-0.

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Reeve

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County Manager