

**DISTRICT OF BARRIERE
MINUTES OF A REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

Held on Monday, March 9, 2026 at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers at Municipal Hall
4936 Barriere Town Road, Barriere, B.C.

*“We acknowledge and respect the indigenous peoples of Simpcw First Nation
within whose traditional lands we are meeting today.”*

Present: Acting Mayor Donna Kibble
 Mayor Rob Kerslake - *Absent* Councillor Judy Armstrong – *Via Zoom*
 Councillor Louise Lodge Councillor Colin McInnis
 Councillor Brody Mosdell Councillor Scott Kershaw

Staff: Daniel Drexler, Chief Administrative Officer
 Kathy Abel, Chief Finance Officer
 Chris Matthews, Public Works Manager
 Jamie Mosdell, Deputy Corporate Officer
 Alexis Hovenkamp, Fire Chief

Acting Mayor Kibble called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**Moved by Councillor Lodge
Seconded by Councillor McInnis
That Council approve the March 9, 2026, Regular Council Meeting Agenda.**

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

**Moved by Councillor Lodge
Seconded by Councillor Mosdell
That Council adopt the minutes of the February 23, 2026, Regular Council Meeting.**

CARRIED

Councillor Armstrong entered the meeting at 5:31pm

3. PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

a. TRUE Consulting re: Flood Mitigation Plan – D. Underwood, Engineer

TRUE Consulting provided a Flood Mitigation Plan update outlining floodplain mapping updates, key risk findings, and potential mitigation measures for the District.

As a next step, the plan will be forwarded to Simpcw for input as required under the grant guidelines.

b. Barriere Firefighters Association – S. Abel, President

The Barriere Firefighters Association (BFFA) provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining the organization's mandate and roles throughout the community and proposed entering into a 4-year financial agreement dedicated to training purposes. Under the agreement, BFFA will be providing \$5,000 each year to the District to support training expenses. Council thanked BFFA for their generosity.

Moved by Councillor Lodge

Seconded by Councillor Mosdell

THAT Council direct Staff to enter a 4-year financial contribution agreement with the Barriere Firefighters Association dedicated to training purposes.

CARRIED

4. **BYLAWS and POLICIES**

a) DRAFT Development Approvals Bylaw No. 269 – adoption – T. Buchanan, Corporate Officer

**w/attachments*

It was noted that while the Bylaw may still appear somewhat subjective, the revised information provides greater clarity. Mr. Melenka of TRUE Consulting explained that the Bylaw follows a cost-based approach which determines when a security deposit is required, removing subjectivity from the process. It was noted that applicants who may be required to provide a security deposit would receive this information in advance, prior to the deposit being applied.

Moved by Councillor Lodge

Seconded by Councillor Mosdell

THAT Council adopt Development Approvals Bylaw No. 269

CARRIED

b) DRAFT 2026-2030 Financial Plan – adoption – D. Drexler, CAO

**w/attachments*

A brief overview was provided and Council had no further comments.

Moved by Councillor Lodge

Seconded by Councillor Mosdell

THAT Council adopt 2026-2030 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 274

CARRIED

- c) DRAFT Fees & Charges Bylaw No. 73, Amendment Bylaw No. 275 – adoption – T. Buchanan, Corporate Officer
w/attachments

No additional information was required by Council.

**Moved by Councillor Mosdell
Seconded by Councillor Lodge**

THAT Council adopt Fees & Charges Bylaw No. 73, Amendment Bylaw No. 275

CARRIED

- d) DRAFT Amendment of Policy No. 44 – Public Engagement to a Communications Policy – J. Mosdell, Deputy Corporate Officer

Staff provided a brief overview. Council required no further information.

**Moved by Councillor McInnis
Seconded by Councillor Lodge**

THAT Council amend Public Engagement Policy No. 44 as presented.

CARRIED

5. STAFF REPORTS

- a) Vacant Parcel – 4976 Barriere Town Road – A. Hovenkamp, Fire Chief

The Fire Chief provided an overview of the report to utilize the property. It was noted that some community members have already come forward offering donations and volunteer assistance. The vacant parcel was identified as a good showcase site, as the 2026 Barriere Blooms program will be re-branded with a FireSmart focus.

Next steps regarding the properties backing onto the vacant lot were discussed. Ms. Hovenkamp confirmed that those property owners will be notified upon Council approval.

Staff will bring back options regarding the potential use of the parcel.

**Moved by Councillor Lodge
Seconded by McInnis**

THAT Council directs staff to undertake wildfire mitigation (FireSmart treatment) to the vacant, undeveloped parcel at 4976 on Barriere Town Road; AND THAT Staff bring back low-cost options to utilize the property as a “FireSmart Showcase”.

CARRIED

- b) Department Updates – Department Heads
**submitted for information*

Council was provided an overview of the written report.

The CFO added that delinquent tax letters have been sent out earlier this year to provide affected residents with additional time to bring their accounts up to date.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- For Information
- For Action

I. Forestry is a Solution in BC – Request for resolution of support as follows:

Moved by Councillor Lodge

Seconded by Councillor Mosdell

THAT the “Forestry is a Solution” campaign is received for information and direct Staff to contact the Barriere and Area Chamber of Commerce to undertake the outreach to the community for the campaign.

CARRIED

7. COUNCIL REPORTS

- Councillor Lodge provided a verbal report on the following:
 - Attended the AGM Chamber meeting – Resigned as a member with the intent to be a Council Liaison under the incoming policy.
 - Attended the MOU Meeting and provided a summary of the minutes.
 - Attended the Transmountain Meeting.
 - Attended the First Responders Dinner.
 - Attended the Recreation Committee Meeting and discussed updates to Barriere Blooms combining with FireSmart.
 - Discussed an email Council received from MLA Stamer regarding a recent vote at the legislative.
- Councillor McInnis provided a verbal report on the following:
 - Inspected JDV’s truck with the Public Works Manager.
- Councillor Mosdell provided a verbal report on the following:
 - Attended the MOU Meeting.
 - Attended the Recreation Committee Meeting
 - Attended a course through Gilbert Smith.
- Councillor Armstrong provided a verbal report on the following:
 - Attended the First Responders Dinner.

8. MAYORS REPORT

Acting Mayor Kibble provided a verbal report on the following:

- Attended the Transmountain Meeting.
- Attended the First Responders Dinner
- The Heritage Society will be hosting an Open House Tea and Talk at the end of the month.

9. PUBLIC INQUIRIES

- a. Wim Houben – Annual Mad Hatter Tea Party is scheduled for this Saturday, March 14th, 2026.

10. NOTICE OF MOTION – *none presented.*

11. CONVENE INTO CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Lodge

Seconded by Councillor Mosdell

**Pursuant to Sections 90(1)(e)(I) of the Community Charter, that the public interest requires that persons other than Council Members and required staff be excluded from the meeting and that Council continues the meeting in closed session to discuss confidential matters
at 7:08pm**

CARRIED

12. RECONVENE OPEN MEETING – *at 8:47pm*

13. NEXT MEETINGS- March 30, 2026 @ 5:30pm

14. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Kershaw that the meeting adjourn at 8:48pm

CARRIED

Acting Mayor Donna Kibble

J.Mosdell, Deputy Corporate Officer