

DISTRICT OF BARRIERE
MINUTES OF A PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Monday, March 30, 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: Mayor Rob Kerslake
Councillor Judy Armstrong - *absent*
Councillor Louise Lodge
Councillor Brody Mosdell
Councillor Donna Kibble
Councillor Colin McInnis - *absent*
Councillor Scott Kershaw – *via Zoom*

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

Mayor Kerslake called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Lodge
Seconded by Councillor Mosdell
That Council approve the March 30, 2026, Regular Council Meeting & Public Hearing Agenda.

CARRIED

2. PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

a. TRUE Consulting re: Signage & Wayfinding Strategy – Tanaaz Bhalla

Ms. Bhalla of TRUE Consulting, provided an overview of the Wayfinding Strategy Project underway in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce. The PowerPoint presentation included a summary of the public survey responses that indicate the public is interested in updating the signage in the community. Three potential design options were presented to Council which will be discussed later on in the meeting.

3. PUBLIC HEARING re: DRAFT Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 85, Amendment Bylaw No. 273

Moved by Councillor Lodge
Seconded by Councillor Mosdell
That Council recess the Regular Council Meeting and convene into a Public Hearing at 6:05pm.

CARRIED

A Public Hearing opening statement was read by the Mayor and Gerry Melenka, the District's Consultant from TRUE Consulting, provided an overview of the rezoning application and a summary of the referral agency comments received during the consultation process.

Mr. Melenka noted that as a result of the comments received from School District No. 73 (SD73) and the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC), staff have made the following recommended amendment resolutions to be considered during the formal Bylaw reading portion of the agenda once the Public Hearing has closed:

- *THAT Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 85 Amendment Bylaw No. 273 be amended by removing the word "Agricultural" from the 1st paragraph under Sand/Gravel in Section 4.2 in its attached Schedule 'A'.*
- *THAT Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 85, Amendment Bylaw No. 273 be amended by replacing Tables 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 (Section 3.3) with updated (the updated table) in this attached Schedule 'A':*
- *THAT Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 85 Amendment Bylaw No. 273 be amended by replacing Map 6 – DPA 4 Environmental with Map 6 – DPA 4 Environmental as attached to the staff report.*

The Corporate Officer noted that no additional public comments have been received prior to the public hearing. It was reported that at this time no comment from Simpcw has been received, however it was noted that if any comments are submitted at a later date, those comments could be considered as part of a future OCP amendment or update.

After the Mayor called for public comments and statements or questions were presented by those appearing in person or online.

The Mayor called an additional two times for any public comments. No comments were presented.

Moved by Councillor Lodge

Seconded by Councillor Mosdell

That the March 30, 2026 Public Hearing re: OCP Amendment Bylaw No. 273 adjourn at 6:12pm

CARRIED

4. RECONVENE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – *the Regular Council Meeting reconvened at 6:12p.m.*

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

a. Moved by Councillor Lodge

Seconded by Councillor Kibble

That Council adopt the minutes of the March 9, 2026, Regular Council Meeting.

CARRIED

6. BYLAWS and POLICIES

a. DRAFT Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 85, Amendment Bylaw No. 273 – 2nd & 3rd readings and adoption.

Council reviewed the suggested amendments outlined by TRUE Consulting.

1. Moved by Councillor Lodge
 Seconded by Councillor Kibble
 THAT Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 85 Amendment Bylaw No. 273 be amended by removing the word “Agricultural” from the 1st paragraph under Sand/Gravel in Section 4.2 in its attached Schedule ‘A’.

CARRIED

2. Moved by Councillor Lodge
 Seconded by Councillor Kibble
 THAT Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 85, Amendment Bylaw No. 273 be amended by replacing Tables 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 (Section 3.3) with the following Tables in this attached Schedule ‘A’:

Table 3.3.1 Projected School Enrolment

| Projected School Enrolment (as of February 2026) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----------------------------|
| | Grades | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 | 2033 | 2034 | 2035 | Ministry Operating Capacity |
| Barriere Elementary | K-6 | 208 | 205 | 204 | 190 | 182 | 188 | 196 | 200 | 202 | 196 | 190 | 271 |
| Barriere Secondary | 7-12 | 225 | 229 | 221 | 236 | 220 | 223 | 207 | 205 | 202 | 188 | 196 | 325 |

Source: School District No. 73 - Long Range Facilities Plan | February 2026

Table 3.3.2 School Capacity and Utilization Rates

| School Capacity and Utilization Rates (as of February 2026) | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Barriere Elementary | K-6 | 77% | 76% | 75% | 70% | 67% | 69% | 72% | 74% | 75% | 72% | 70% | 271 |
| Barriere Secondary | 7-12 | 69% | 70% | 68% | 73% | 68% | 69% | 64% | 63% | 62% | 58% | 60% | 325 |

Source: School District No. 73 - Long Range Facilities Plan | February 2026

CARRIED

3. Moved by Councillor Lodge
 Seconded by Councillor Kibble
 THAT Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 85 Amendment Bylaw No. 273 be amended by replacing Map 6 – DPA 4 Environmental with Map 6 – DPA 4 Environmental as attached to the staff report.

CARRIED

4. Moved by Councillor Lodge
 Seconded by Councillor Mosdell
 THAT Council gives 2nd reading to Official Community Plan Bylaw No. 85, Amendment Bylaw No. 273 as amended.

CARRIED

- 5. Moved by Councillor Lodge
Seconded by Councillor Kibble
THAT Council gives 3rd reading and adoption to Official Community
Plan Bylaw No. 85, Amendment Bylaw No. 273.**

CARRIED

- b. DRAFT Policy No. 58CN - Council Liaison

A new Council Liaison Policy was presented to Council for consideration. The policy provides a mechanism for Council representation at various community organizations. An appointed Council Liaison does not include voting delegate membership of an organization.

**Moved by Councillor Lodge
Seconded by Councillor Kibble
THAT Council adopt Policy No. 58CN – Council Liaison**

CARRIED

**Moved by Councillor Kibble
Seconded by Mayor Kerlake
That Councillor Lodge be appointed as Barriere Chamber of Commerce Liaison
with Councillor Kershaw as an alternate.**

CARRIED

7. STAFF REPORTS

- a. Green Space – 4976 Barriere Town Road – A. Hovenkamp, Fire Chief

Chief Hovenkamp reported that the Fire Dept. has recently participated in a training session with Chu Chua Fire Department where this project was discussed. FireSmart BC has indicated it would love to send some videographers to celebrate the project upon completion. The positives of the project were reiterated which included: minimal maintenance impact, xeriscaping, and partnership opportunities with other organizations such as the Men's Shed, Simpcw and Trails Society. Residents adjacent have been consulted and have not voiced any opposition.

**Moved by Councillor Lodge
Seconded by Councillor Mosdell
THAT Council directs Staff to create a natural FireSmart Showcase at 4976
Barriere Town Road as outlined in the report.**

CARRIED

- b. Fire Hall – Bay 5 – Terms and Conditions for Lease – D. Drexler, CAO

Council expressed a desire for a draft lease agreement for the use of Fire Hall Bay 5 by

the Barriere First Responders which should include a requirement of quarterly presentations to Council and regular finance reporting.

Moved by Councillor Lodge

Seconded by Councillor Mosdell

THAT Council directs staff to draft a lease agreement for the use of Bay 5 in the Fire Hall by the Barriere and Area First Responders with the following terms & conditions:

- **Length of Term: 3 year**
- **Renewal Option: two, one year renewal options.**
- **Termination Clause: 12 months**
- **Access Control: Yes**
- **Lease Charges, Repairs and Maintenance Costs, and Utility Costs: explore the option of a phased-in model as part of the discussions.**

CARRIED

- c. Strategic Plan Update – D. Drexler, CAO
**Submitted for information*

A progress report outlining the status of each strategic directive was provided to Council for review.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. For Information
- b. For Action – *none submitted.*

9. COUNCIL REPORTS

- a. Councillor Kibble provided a verbal report on the following:
- Food Bank and Museum are both applying for their \$10k Trans Mountain Grant and encouraged other organizations to make similar applications as their process is not overly complicated.
 - Will be participating in the C2C Meeting in Valemount next week.
- b. Councillor Lodge provided a verbal report on the following:
- Community Futures Raffle Fundraiser for its Bursary Fund
 - As the Rec Committee Chair, provided comment to the Star Journal regarding the FireSmart Showcase Property project in relation to the Barriere Blooms program.
 - Will be participating in the C2C Meeting in Valemount next week.
- c. Councillor Mosdell provided a verbal report on the following:
- Participated in a tour of the District's utility infrastructure facilities.
 - Attended the Emergency Management Engagement Event.
 - Will be participating in the C2C Meeting in Valemount next week.

10. MAYOR'S REPORT

- a. Mayor Kerslake provided a written report which was submitted as a late entry item. The item was added to the posted Agenda package for the record. In summary:
- Along with the CAO, met with BC Hydro's Communications Officer regarding the planned outage scheduled for this September.
 - Thanked "Magic Man Contracting" for the donation of materials to the Fire Hall office space improvement project.
 - Pricing has been obtained for the Stamer Memorial Wall Cemetery project. Hopefully construction can begin this spring.
 - Received a report of a concern of hydro lines in tree overgrowth being a potential fire hazard at the DJ and Riverland Mobile Home Parks. The lines in question are actually phone lines, but the concern will be communicated by staff to the park owners.
 - Participated in a Regional Hospital Board Meeting and a TNRD Board Meeting.
 - The Kamloops Cancer Supportive Care Society has expressed an interest in presenting to Barriere Council in the future.
- b. Proposed Stakeholder's Gathering Discussion

Mayor Kerslake presented a proposed template for the summer event that included a desired mission as follows: breaking down silos and understanding each other's roles in the community and identifying collaboration opportunities.

It was agreed that a working group be established to bring this event to fruition and that a date goal for June or July may be the most realistic.

- c. Decisions from Delegations and Special Presentations

- a. Wayfinding Strategy

The three options proposed by TRUE Consulting were discussed. Most members of Council agreed that Concept #1 presented the most cost-effective option but agreed that final touch ups on color and design may need to be fine-tuned.

Bill Kershaw, as a Director for the Chamber of Commerce, noted that the Chamber agrees with concept number 1 as well.

Moved by Councillor Lodge

Seconded by Councillor Mosdell

THAT Council approve Concept #1 as the preferred signage and wayfinding concept presented, with final design details to be refined through the next stages of the project.

CARRIED

11. **PUBLIC INQUIRIES** - *None presented.*

12. **NOTICE OF MOTION** - *None presented.*

13. CONVENE INTO CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Lodge

Seconded by Councillor Mosdell

THAT pursuant to Sections 90(1)(e)(f) 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 7:36p.m.

CARRIED

14. RECONVENE OPEN MEETING – *the open session reconvened at 8:39p.m.*

15. NEXT MEETING - *Regular Council Meeting – April 20, 2026 @ 5:30pm*

16. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Lodge that the meeting adjourn at 8:39p.m.

CARRIED

Mayor Rob Kerslake

T. Buchanan, Corporate Officer