

DISTRICT OF BARRIERE
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - BUDGET

Held on Monday, March 31, 2025 at 6:00pm 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
- Councillor Scott Kershaw
- Councillor Donna Kibble
- Councillor Louise Lodge
- Councillor Colin McInnis – *via Zoom*
- Councillor Brody Mosdell

Staff:

Daniel Drexler, Chief Administrative Officer	Chris Matthews, Public Works Manager
Tasha Buchanan, Corporate Officer	Alexis Hovenkamp, Fire Chief

Mayor Kerslake called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The formal Oath of Office of Councillor Elect, Brody Mosdell, was added to the agenda as item 2.

Moved by Councillor Lodge

Seconded by Councillor Armstrong

That Council approve the March 31, 2025 SPECIAL Council Meeting Agenda as amended.

CARRIED

2. OATH OF OFFICE – Brody Mosdell

Brody Mosdell verbally made his solemn Oath of Office as Councillor of the District of Barriere and formally signed this Oath, certified by the Corporate Officer.

3. 2025 BUDGET – Draft 2

The CAO provided an overview of the written report, including providing a visual of the report to the public for those in attendance and online.

1. Strategies to Balance the Budget – March 24, 2025 – 1 Page
2. Municipal Taxes and Comparison to other Taxing Authorities – 1 page
3. Visual Summary – 5 pages
 - 3.1 Funded version – March 31, 2025
 - 3.2 Unfunded version – March 17, 2025
 - 3.3 Tax Rates – March 31, 2025
4. Revenues – 1 page
5. Expenses – 1 page
6. Operational Variances – 4 pages
 - Includes 1 page update for changes from March 24, 2025, to March 31, 2025
7. Community Support – Grant-in-Aid – 1 page
8. Capital Projects Summary – 1 page
9. Capital Projects Business Cases – 38 pages
10. Debt Servicing – 1 page

11. Reserve Continuity – 1 page
12. Operating Grants and Other Projects – 1 page

It was reported that since the first draft of the 2025 budget, \$68,500 has been removed to reduce expenses as much as possible. It was noted that the margin will remain small for any unexpected repairs, emergencies or other issues.

Interest is now going back into surplus & reserves as required under the Community Charter. A transfer amount of \$10,500 from surplus will be used to balance the budget.

Overall, this budget sees an approximate 6% increase in operating which is an average seen year over year.

Councillor McInnis left the meeting at 6:42pm

This 2nd draft of the proposed budget displays a \$207.00 surplus, which is a significant change from the \$309,000.00 (approx.) deficit originally reviewed by Council in early March.

Moved by Councillor Lodge

Seconded by Councillor Armstrong

That Council approve the Draft 2025 Budget as presented and direct staff to prepare the Financial Plan and Tax Rates Bylaws with these values; AND to present the Bylaws for first three readings at the April 14, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council.

CARRIED

It was noted that the information pamphlet that summarizes the 2025 Budget as well as the overview of the services the local government provides the community through utility fees and annual taxation will be distributed to the public via E-News along with the 'District News' correspondence that is distributed after a Council Meeting.

4. PUBLIC INQUIRIES

- a. Stacey Gartner – asked for clarification on tax implications for the average assessed residential home in Barriere. The CAO answered by reviewing the following graph:

				Revenues		Average Increase or Decrease	
Residential Class	SUMMARY	Tax increase					
		Tax decrease		844	\$	62,485	\$ 74
		Tax zero increase		103	-\$	4,470	-\$ 43
		Increase <\$100		1	\$	-	
		Increase \$100-\$500		665	\$	28,683	\$ 43
Median	\$ 380,500	Increase >\$500-\$1000		171	\$	26,400	\$ 154
Average	\$ 383,209	Increase >\$1000		5	\$	3,877	\$ 775
				3	\$	3,525	\$ 1,175
		# Folios	#	948			

No further questions were presented by the public.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Lodge that the meeting adjourn at 7:22pm

CARRIED

Mayor Rob Kerslake

T. Buchanan, Corporate Officer