

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BARRHEAD
TOWN COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026,
IN THE TOWN OF BARRHEAD COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT Mayor Assaf, Crs.: C. Botros, S. Fylyshtan, D. Kluin, A. Oswald, D. Smith, and D. Sawatzky (on-line).

Officials: Collin Steffes, CAO, Jenny Bruns, Director of Planning, Economic Development & Legislative Services; Jennifer Mantay, Director of Corporate Services; Jennifer Pederson, Manager Communications; and Jodie Lyons, Municipal Coordinator.

OTHERS Barry Kerton, Barrhead Leader

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Assaf called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

AGENDA The agenda was reviewed.

072-26 Moved by Cr. Smith that the agenda be accepted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting of February 10, 2026, were reviewed.

073-26 Moved by Cr. Botros that the Minutes of the Regular Town Council Meeting of February 10, 2026, be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**PUBLIC HEARING
BYLAW 02-2026
CALL TO ORDER**

Public Hearing for Bylaw 02-2026 – Residential Property Tax Incentive, to hear testimony by directly obtaining thoughts, suggestions, and comments before taking action related to Bylaw 02-2026 – The Residential Property Tax Incentive Bylaw.

Mayor Assaf commenced the Public Hearing to hear testimony by directly obtaining thoughts, suggestions, and comments before taking action on Bylaw 02-2026 - The Residential Property Tax Incentive Bylaw at 5:33 p.m.

**BYLAW 02-2026
RESIDENTIAL TAX
INCENTIVE BYLAW**

Jenny Bruns, Director of Planning, Economic Development & Legislative Services presented background information on Bylaw 02-2026 – The Residential Tax Incentive Bylaw that provides a short-term municipal property tax incentive for new residential dwelling units constructed within the Town of Barrhead.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Charlie Parsons representing Sunnyside Realty spoke in favor, citing the following key points:

- Appreciates this initiative by the Town, and had hoped the Provincial and Federal governments also introduced tax breaks for developers to support increased housing development.
- There are many empty lots within Barrhead that people and developers cannot afford to build on due to the increased cost per square foot.

**PUBLIC HEARING
CLOSED**

Mayor Assaf declared the Public Hearing for Bylaw 02-2026 The Residential Property Tax Incentive Bylaw closed at 5:44 p.m.

DELEGATIONS

STARS AIR AMBULANCE

ENTERED Mayor Assaf and Council welcomed Glenda Farnden from the Stars Air Ambulance at 5:45 p.m.

Glenda Farnden from Stars Air Ambulance presented an overview of the benefits Star Air Ambulance delivers to our community. She spoke about the specialized critical care, search and rescue, enhanced rural health care and transport services/response they provide. She reiterated that Stars Air Ambulance is a vital link in the chain of survival. She further spoke about their operating costs versus funding received by the Alberta Government and asked the Town of Barrhead to consider a partnership by committing a fixed rate of support of at least a \$1/capita for the length of this Council's term (2026-2029).

EXITED Mayor Assaf and Council thanked Glenda Farnden from the Stars Air Ambulance and she exited Chambers at 6:10 p.m.

074-26 Moved by Cr. Botros that Council accept the presentation from Stars Air Ambulance as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**BARRHEAD REGIONAL
FIRE SERVICES**

ENTERED Mayor Assaf and Council welcomed Fire Chief, Gary Hove of Barrhead Regional Fire Services at 6:10 p.m.

Fire Chief, Gary Hove of Barrhead Regional Fire Services presented the 2025 annual statistics. Among his statistics, of note was the department's response to a total of 247 ambulance assist calls within the Town of Barrhead and an additional 174 ambulance assist calls in Barrhead County. He also shared an update on the training the fire fighters received including instructor training.

EXITED Mayor Assaf and Council thanked Fire Chief Gary Hove and he exited Chambers at 6:19 p.m.

075-26 Moved by Cr. Kluin that Council accept the update from Fire Chief Gary Hove as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

OLD BUSINESS

**BARRHEAD EXHIBITION ASSOCIATION
& AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AGREEMENTS**

Shallon Touet, Director of Parks and Recreation presented to Council a final draft of the five-year term agreement for use of the Barrhead Arena for the Wild Rose Rodeo Finals and a six-year draft services agreement for Inspections and Operational Support for the Demolition Derby and Fair Days. Mr. Touet asked Council to approve both agreements with the Barrhead Exhibition Association and Agricultural Society as presented understanding the two agreements have distinct scopes and financial arrangements.

076-26 Moved by Cr. Oswald that Council adopt the five-year term agreement with the Barrhead Exhibition Association and Agricultural Society for use of the Barrhead Agrana to host the Wild Rose Rodeo Finals expiring September 30, 2032, subject to the terms outlined in the agreement as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

077-26 Moved by Cr. Fylyshtan that Council adopt the six-year term agreement with the Barrhead Exhibition Association and Agricultural Society for inspections and Town staffing support for the Demolition Derby and the Fair Days events expiring September 30, 2032, subject to the terms outlined in the agreement as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

MONTHLY BANK STATEMENT – TO JANUARY 31, 2026

Jennifer Mantay, Director of Corporate Services presented the Monthly Bank Statement to January 31, 2026.

078-26 Moved by Cr. Oswald that Council accepts the Monthly Bank Statement to January 31, 2026 as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COUNCIL REPORTS

The following Reports to Council as of February 24, 2026, were reviewed:

- (a) Barrhead Library Board – Cr. Botros
- (b) Brownlee Law: Emerging Trends Seminar – Cr. Botros
- (c) Elected Officials Education Program: Budgeting – Cr. Botros
- (d) Community Futures Yellowhead East Meeting – Cr. Botros
- (e) Brownlee Law: Emerging Trends Seminar – Cr. Kluin
- (f) Barrhead Chamber of Commerce Meeting – Cr. Oswald
- (g) Barrhead Chamber of Commerce Meeting – Mayor Assaf

079-26 Moved by Cr. Kluin that the following Reports to Council as of February 24, 2026 be accepted as information:

- (a) Barrhead Library Board – Cr. Botros
- (b) Brownlee Law: Emerging Trends Seminar – Cr. Botros
- (c) Elected Officials Education Program: Budgeting – Cr. Botros
- (d) Community Futures Yellowhead East Meeting – Cr. Botros
- (e) Brownlee Law: Emerging Trends Seminar – Cr. Kluin
- (f) Barrhead Chamber of Commerce Meeting – Cr. Oswald
- (g) Barrhead Chamber of Commerce Meeting – Mayor Assaf

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC HEARING BYLAW 01-2026 CALL TO ORDER

Public Hearing for Bylaw 01-2026 – The Animal Control Bylaw, to hear testimony by directly obtaining thoughts, suggestions, and comments before taking action related to Bylaw 01-2026 – The Animal Control Bylaw.

Mayor Assaf commenced the Public Hearing to hear testimony by directly obtaining thoughts, suggestions, and comments before taking action on Bylaw 01-2026 The Animal Control Bylaw at 7:00 p.m.

**BYLAW 01-2026
THE ANIMAL
CONTROL BYLAW**

Jenny Bruns, Director of Planning, Economic Development & Legislative Services presented background information on Bylaw 01-2026 – The Animal Control Bylaw to allow urban hens as directed by Council.

**REGISTERED SPEAKER
PRESENTATION**

Ben Kellert spoke in opposition of the proposed bylaw, citing the following key points:

- Concern about the odor/smell from chickens.
- Concerned about the noise resulting from dogs barking at neighboring chickens.
- The bylaw introduces a new problem of chickens getting loose in town and asked who will be monitoring to ensure the owners follow the regulations.
- Chickens in town pose a safety hazard to our children and small pets as chickens will invite an increased number of animals such as coyotes into town limits.
- Offered there are enough chicken raising (egg producing) farmers in the surrounding community.

**PUBLIC HEARING
CLOSED**

Mayor Assaf declared the Public Hearing for Bylaw 01-2026 - The Animal Control Bylaw closed at 7:14 p.m.

BYLAWS

**BYLAW 01-2026
THE ANIMAL
CONTROL BYLAW**

Jenny Bruns, Director of Planning, Economic Development & Legislative Services summarized the public hearing findings and requested Council approve second and third readings of the Animal Control Bylaw as presented.

080-26 Moved by Cr. Smith that Bylaw 01-2026, the Animal Control Bylaw, be given second reading.

IN FAVOR: Mayor Assaf, Crs.: D. Smith, A. Oswald, S. Fylyshtan, and D. Sawatzky

OPPOSED: Crs.: C. Botros and D. Kluin

081-26 Moved by Cr. Fylyshtan that Bylaw 01-2026, the Animal Control Bylaw, be given third and final reading.

IN FAVOR: Mayor Assaf, Crs.: D. Smith, A. Oswald, S. Fylyshtan, and D. Sawatzky

OPPOSED: Crs.: C. Botros and D. Kluin

**BYLAW 02-2026
THE RESIDENTIAL
TAX INCENTIVE BYLAW**

Jenny Bruns, Director of Planning, Economic Development & Legislative Services summarized the public hearing findings and requested Council approve second and third readings of the Residential Tax Incentive Bylaw as presented.

082-26 Moved by Cr. Smith that Bylaw 02-2026, the Residential Tax Incentive Bylaw with amendment to include a 25% incentive in the third year, be given second reading

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

083-26 Moved by Cr. Oswald that Bylaw 02-2026, the Residential Tax Incentive Bylaw with amendment to include a 25% incentive in the third year, be given third and final reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**FOR THE GOOD
OF COUNCIL**

Cr. Fylyshtan commended Public Works for the great work on snow removal resulting from another recent snow fall. Mayor Assaf echoed the recognition.

Cr. Kluin congratulated all Olympic athletes including local Olympian Melissa Lotholz who came in an impressive 6th in the bobsledding event.

Cr. Assaf congratulated the Barrhead Blue Fin Swim Club on a very successful swim meet that brought many swimmers and spectators into the Town.

ADJOURN

084-26 Moved by Cr. Oswald that the Council Meeting be adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TOWN OF BARRHEAD

Mayor, Ty Assaf

CAO, Collin Steffes