



# MINUTES

## Regular Meeting of Council

Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street  
Monday, April 14, 2025, at 6:00 pm

**PRESENT:** Mayor, Barbara Roden  
Councillor, Jonah Anstett  
Councillor, Jessica Clement  
Councillor, Nadine Davenport  
Councillor, Doreen Lambert

CAO, Daniela Dyck - Zoom  
CFO, Yogi Bhalla  
DPW, Brian Bennewith

**EXCUSED:**

Media – 3  
Public – 1

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Roden called the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday, April 14, 2025, to order at 6:00 pm.

*"Mayor and Council wish to acknowledge that the meeting today is held within the traditional territory of the Nlaka'pamux people."*

**1. ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA**

M/S Clement / Anstett

*THAT, the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday, April 14, 2025, be amended to include a Letter of Support Request for the Equality Project (EQP) in Cache Creek to be discussed under Correspondence for Action.*

CARRIED

Unanimous R-2025-76

**2. MINUTES**

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, March 24, 2025. M/S Davenport / Anstett <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, March 24, 2025, be adopted as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2025-77
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**3. DELEGATIONS**

3.1	N/A	
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**4. PUBLIC INPUT**

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*All questions and comments will be addressed through the Chair and answered likewise. Please state your name and address prior to asking a question or commenting, no more than 2 minutes per question.*

### Brad Ward – Willow Grove Apartments – Hill Street

- Raised concerns about rain runoff on Government Street eroding the road shoulder to the Council's attention. Residents have been diligently cleaning up the property and requested the Council to consider installing curbs and gutters to address the runoff issues.
- Response: DPW Bennewith and CFO Bhalla acknowledged the concern, stating that staff are actively seeking grant funding to address the larger issue, which would eliminate the runoff problem. Currently, there is no budget allocation for additional curbs and gutters. It was also noted that Government Street is not the only area affected by rain runoff.
- CFO Bhalla added that the request has been noted and added to the task list, but it is not a priority item with a budget allocation at this time.

## 5. BYLAWS/POLICIES

5.1	Water Regulations Amendment Bylaw No. 874, 2025 – Adoption M/S Lambert / Anstett <i>THAT, Water Regulations Amendment Bylaw No. 874, 2025 be adopted.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2025-78
5.2	Sewer Regulations Amendment Bylaw No. 875, 2025 – Adoption M/S Davenport / Lambert <i>THAT, Sewer Regulations Amendment Bylaw No. 875, 2025 be adopted.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2025-79
5.3	Consolidated Fees and Charges Amendment bylaw No. 876, 2025 - Adoption M/S Anstett / Lambert <i>THAT, Consolidated Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 876, 2025 be adopted.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2025-80

## 6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	CAO Report – TNRD Fire Services Agreement (Contract 2024-108) Purpose: To formalize a five-year agreement with the TNRD for the continued provision of structural fire protection services to the Electoral Area "I" (Rural Ashcroft Fire Protection Service Area), effective January 1, 2025 M/S Lambert / Clement <i>THAT, Council approve and authorize the Mayor and Corporate Officer to sign the Structural Fire Protection Services Agreement between the Village of Ashcroft and the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD), as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2025-81

	Comment – Our new tender has arrived in Canada prior to tariffs being imposed. Some additional components to be added before arriving in Ashcroft.	
<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>		
<b>6.2</b>	<p><b>CFO Report – Verbal Report – 2025 Budget Review Presentation</b></p> <p>Purpose: The purpose of this report and future reports is to provide information to the Council that may not come up during Regular meetings or Committee of the Whole. Topics will include operational updates, or other areas of interest to the village.</p> <p>CFO Bhalla guided Council and gallery members through a line-by-line budget presentation, highlighting notable changes in the General, Water, and Sewer Operating Funds. Highlights of the presentation include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Balanced Budget:</b> Ashcroft proposed a balanced budget with a 3.5% tax increase, compared to other communities budgeting a 7-15% increase. The inclusion of planned projects is due to staff diligence.</li> <li>• <b>Grant Applications:</b> Ashcroft was unsuccessful in the NDI Marketing Grant and Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program applications.</li> <li>• <b>Pending Grant Funding:</b> Awaiting approval for the Water Meter project and the CHIF application for the water reservoir plan and design for north Ashcroft.</li> <li>• <b>Backup Power Sources:</b> Following the 2017 fires, Council resolved to install backup power sources for all critical infrastructure. This is nearly complete, with Lift Station 3 being the only infrastructure still requiring a portable power source.</li> </ul> <p>Comments and Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cam Tedford raised concerns about cedar hedges being used as 20-foot or higher fencing alternatives and enforcement of this as a bylaw infraction.</li> <li>• <b>FireSmart Funding:</b> Cam asked for clarification regarding FireSmart funding allocations. It was clarified that there are no bylaws addressing cedar hedges, but they can be addressed if they are dead as a fire hazard or unsightly.</li> <li>• CAO Dyck advised that the grant does not enable any private property assessment or mitigation support in the first year.</li> <li>• Mayor Roden encouraged Cam to advise residents to contact the office for answers to their questions and concerns.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Year FireSmart Funding: Develops the program, trains the coordinator, educates and engages with the public, and develops the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.</li> </ul>	
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### 7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	<p>Late Item – Equality Project Request for Letter of Support M/S Clement / Lambert <i>THAT, Council approve the Equality Project request and provide a Letter of Support.</i></p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimous R-2025-82</p>
FOR INFORMATION		
7.2	TOPS BC #0764 – Thank you for the 2025 Grant In Aid	
7.3	Twisted Desert Music – Thank for the 2025 Grain In Aid	
7.4	TNRD Film Commission – April 2025 Update	
7.5	Community Futures BC (CFBC) Media Release – CFBC Updates <i>myCommunityFutures</i> after Successful Conclusion to the Disaster Recovery & Economic Adjustment Initiative	
7.6	Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development & Innovation – Application EER7C5F – The Heart of Ashcroft, Where Community Meets Commerce (REDIP Grant) – Regrets Letter	
7.7	Consulate General of Japan Culture & Public Relations – Complimentary Copies of Niponica ( <i>at Council table</i> )	
7.8	Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin – April 1, 2025	
7.9	Desert Sands Community School – 2025 Bursaries Sponsorship – Completed online	
7.10	School District No. 74 2025-2026 Budget – Video, Power-Point, and Feedback Survey	
7.11	Preparing for Potential Drought Conditions Comment that our regions snow pack is at 83%.	
7.12	Philip Perras Letter – BC Municipalities Must Unify and Prepare for Potential Retaliation	
7.13	Yellowhead Community Services – BC Transit – Accepting Applications for Casual Transit Driver for Ashcroft Area	
7.14	Metro Vancouver – Ashcroft Ranch Returned to the Nlaka’pamux Following Purchase from Metro Vancouver	
7.15	Sabrina Ede, Ashcroft Cache Creek Journal – Donation for Best of Contest	

### 8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager	
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	CAO Dyck noted that the Good Neighbour Bylaw is in progress and will take some time to complete.	
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### 9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1	N/A	
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### 10. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES, COTW, and COMMISSIONS

10.1	N/A	
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### 11. COUNCIL REPORTS

11.1	Mayor Roden	
11.2	Councillor Anstett	
11.3	Councillor Clement	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Lambert	

### 12. RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED MEETING

*Motion to move to a closed meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1*

12.1	N/A	
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### 13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING

13.1	N/A	
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### 14. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Roden adjourned the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday April 14, 2025, at 7:06 pm.

Certified to be a true and correct copy of  
the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of  
Council held Monday, April 14, 2025.

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Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer

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Barbara Roden,  
Mayor