

# MINUTES

## Regular Meeting of Council

Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street  
Monday January 26, 2026, at 6:00 pm

**PRESENT** Mayor Barbara Roden  
Councillor, Jonah Anstett (zoom)  
Councillor, Jessica Clement  
Councillor, Nadine Davenport

CAO, Daniela Dyck  
CFO, Yoginder Bhalla  
DPW, Brian Bennewith

**EXCUSED** Councillor, Cam Tedford

Public –  
Media – 1

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Roden called the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday January 26, 2026 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**

N/A

### 2. **MINUTES**

2.1	<b>Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, January 12, 2026</b> M/S Roden / Davenport <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, January 12, 2026, be adopted as amended.</i> Note that Councillor Clement was not in attendance	CARRIED Unanimous R-2026-13
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### 3. **DELEGATIONS**

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

*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.*

No comments or questions were received from the public.

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### 5. BYLAWS/POLICIES

5.1	Waiting for Legal Review for Bylaw # 881, 2026 – to proceed	
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### 6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	N/A	
FOR INFORMATION		
6.2	<b>CAO Report - Local Government Climate Action Program (LGCAP) Funding – Program Overview and Initial Investments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administration advised the Village has received approximately \$50,000 annually in LGCAP funding in recent years, with the most recent allocation of \$150,000 and no imminent additional funding.</li> <li>Several carbon-reduction projects have been completed during those years in alignment with LGCAP guidelines, with approximately \$72,000 remaining.</li> <li>The remaining funds were used to purchase an electric vehicle – Kia EV9, as discussed during the budget process.</li> <li>Mayor Roden noted that changes to the Travel Policy will be required to align with the vehicle purchase.</li> <li>Administration estimated potential Travel Policy savings of approximately \$5,000 annually, noting charging and maintenance costs are greatly reduced compared to fuel vehicles.</li> <li>Vehicle range was noted at approximately 480 km; Mayor Roden advised rural range limitations will be a learning curve.</li> <li>Arena door replacement costs were reduced from \$25,000 to \$15,000 and will be funded through LGCAP.</li> </ul>	
6.3	<b>Wildfire Preparedness Planning – 2026 Rationale and</b> Mayor Roden noted a conversation she recently had with a Environment Canada representative in Kamloops referencing historical data for days over 40 degrees in Kamloops versus current temperatures and the recurring higher temperatures for longer periods of time. – The new normal	
6.4	<b>Mesa Park Playground Upgrade – Upcoming Work and Temporary Closure</b>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration advised that public notice will be provided to residents regarding the playground closure during construction.</li> <li>• Public Works will begin tear-down and site preparation in the spring.</li> <li>• Council requested that mail-out notices be sent to Mesa residents prior to construction commencing.</li> <li>• Council inquired about salvaging the pea gravel from the playground area; Administration advised it will be hauled to the Public Works shop for reuse.</li> </ul>	
6.5	<p><b>CFO Report – Year-end Finance Review and Budget Update – Power Point Presentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council reviewed the year-end financial report presented by the CFO, who noted a surplus of approximately \$163,000 to be transferred to reserves and strong overall financial performance during a challenging inflationary and economic environment.</li> <li>• The CFO advised that the surplus reflects disciplined financial management and a team-based approach, allowing the Village to set aside funds while keeping taxation increases relatively modest compared to other municipalities.</li> <li>• Funds were allocated to reserves to support future capital and operational needs, including approximately \$250,000 toward a future garbage truck replacement, \$100,000 for Emergency Operations preparedness, and \$140,000 for road works, with continued increases to general reserves.</li> <li>• The CFO highlighted that the Village exceeded its financial objectives for the year while completing several major projects, including the purchase of a new fire tender, completion of firewall upgrades, and significant information systems enhancements.</li> <li>• Emphasis was placed on the importance of data security, continued digitization of paper records, and investment in systems that improve operational resilience.</li> <li>• The CFO spoke to broader economic conditions, including inflationary pressures, employment uncertainty, and supply chain risks, noting that administration will continue to monitor conditions closely and may adjust or defer projects if required.</li> <li>• Council asked why property taxes and fees are increasing despite the year-end surplus.</li> <li>• In response, the CFO explained that the surplus represents intentional savings for future capital replacement, onetime windfalls from investments alongside prudent experienced management, and that tax and fee increases are necessary to</li> </ul>	

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	address rising operating costs, support long-term financial sustainability, and reduce reliance on increasingly uncertain grant funding.	
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### 7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	<b>Ashcroft Farmers Market – Request to use Pool Park &amp; Location Proposal</b> M/S <i>THAT, Council approves the new location as requested by the Farmers Market subject to negotiating an agreement and rental fees.</i> Discussion: Access to bathrooms during the market. The DPW noted that the Farmers Market could have a similar agreement as the Minor Soccer group. A key can be provided for washroom access with the expectation that they lock up and clean the facility prior to leaving the park.	CARRIED Unanimous R-2026-14
7.2	<b>Heritage Week – Stir the Pot – Declaration and Event Coordination Request</b> M/S <i>THAT, Council proclaims the Week of February 15 – 22, 2026 as Heritage Week in Ashcroft.</i> Discussion: Council discussed ways to participate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Museum event – has been done in the past but not enough time to coordinate</li> <li>• Bean supper was usually held during Heritage week – always well attended – showcase with images of previous events.</li> <li>• Theme is “stir the pot” with a focus of gathering together and sharing a meal</li> </ul>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2026-15
FOR INFORMATION		
7.3	<b>UBCM – Resolution Guidelines for 2026</b>	
7.4	<b>2026 – Cycling for Courage</b>	
7.5	<b>Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat – Recognizing Excellence in BC</b>	

### 8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager	
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### 9. NEW BUSINESS

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

10.	N/A	
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### 11. COUNCIL REPORTS

11.1	<b>Mayor Roden noted the following:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) board did vote at a recent meeting to initiate an Alternative Approval Process (AAP) to borrow money for a new Kamloops Search &amp; Rescue (KSAR) facility and Fire Hall.</li> <li>The land is owned by the City of Kamloops and has been provided for the project at n cost to the TNRD. on land already owned by the TNRD.</li> <li>TNRD's share of the facility cost is approx. 75 % of the project with remaining costs from the City of Kamloops and KSAR fundraising – KSAR is anticipating raising 1.3 million.</li> <li>The annual Guns and Hoses fundraiser hockey game is on Saturday Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> A little different this year – three periods – looking for a good turn out in support of a great cause. Recipients this year is AFR.</li> <li>Nominations for Citizen of the Year are open. Forward your nominations to Theresa Takacs by Feb 15<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>	
11.2	<b>Councillor Anstett – Attended the Campbell Hill Site Visit and noted the following;</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work is progressing well.</li> <li>The project will be moving into the next phase soon, with additional reporting to be provided at the next meeting.</li> <li>Maintenance issues identified are rectified promptly.</li> </ul>	
11.3	<b>Councillor Clement – Attended the HAWK Meeting and noted the following:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HAWC – sponsored Christmas event to thank all the staff at the health site for their work and commitment to health care the past year. It was well attended and appreciated.</li> <li>Had the opportunity to tour a potential doctor around Ashcroft</li> </ul>	
11.4	<b>Councillor Davenport</b>	
11.5	<b>Councillor Tedford</b>	



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### 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 January 26, 2026, at 7:03 pm.

Certified to be a true and correct copy of  
the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council  
held Monday, January 26, 2026.

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Daniela Dyck,  
Chief Administrative Officer

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Barbara Roden,  
Mayor