



# MINUTES

## Regular Meeting of Council

Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street  
 Monday April 27, 2026, at 6:00 pm

**PRESENT:** Mayor , Barbara Roden  
 Councillor, Jonah Anstett  
 Councillor, Jessica Clement  
 Councillor, Cam Tedford

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

**EXCUSED:** Councillor, Nadine Davenport

Public - 3  
 Media - 1

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Roden called the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday for April 27, 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**

<b>2.1</b>	<b>Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday March 23, 2026</b> M/S Clement / Anstett <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, March 23, 2026, be adopted as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2026-58
<b>2.2</b>	<b>Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held Monday April 13, 2026</b> M/S Anstett / Tedford <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on Monday April 13, 2026, be adopted as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2026-59
<b>2.3</b>	<b>Minutes of the Community Forum held Monday April 13, 2026</b> M/S Tedford / Clement <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Community Forum held Monday, April 13, 2026, be adopted as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2026-60

### 3. **DELEGATIONS**

<p><b>3.1</b></p>	<p><b>Doane Grant Thornton LLP – Shawn Birkenhead</b> <b>Audited Financial Statement for 2025</b> Mayor Roden invited Shawn Birkenhead from Doane Grant Thornton LLP to provide his report. Mr. Birkenhead advised he was in attendance to present the Independent Auditor’s Report and provided a brief summary of his previous Committee of the Whole presentation on the 2025 audited financial statements, outlining the respective responsibilities of management and Council and confirming a clean audit opinion. There were no questions from Council or the gallery. It was noted that the full presentation is available on the HUB Facebook page as part of the April 27, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting.</p>	
<p><b>3.2</b></p>	<p><b>Dawson Road Maintenance – Caroline Slade</b> Caroline Slade provided an update on Dawson Road maintenance operations and discussed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan to meet with Council bi-annually (spring and fall) to share updates and address concerns</li> <li>• Invitation for Council input on priorities for upcoming summer maintenance</li> <li>• Question asked regarding the bridge railing extension Ms. Slade noted that the section of railing has been received and is waiting for the bridge repair team to install; potential design options suggested (e.g., breakaway/floating element) suggestion to be reviewed by the bridge repair team</li> <li>• Winter maintenance review, including frequent freeze-thaw conditions and effective use of 23% salt brine</li> <li>• Council asked if the brine was being stored locally this year. There are limitations at the Ashcroft yard due to space constraints, therefore the brine is brought in from Clinton. Ms. Slade noted that out of the six Foreman sites, only three are brining facilities.</li> <li>• It was noted that operational practices, including filling and storing trucks at end of shift to enable early deployment could be implemented for next winter.</li> <li>• Council acknowledged the proactive brining efforts and positive feedback from the community</li> <li>• Earlier street sweeping completed using a contractor, improving access within the community</li> <li>• Enhanced communication and public awareness of sweeping schedules</li> </ul> <p>Mayor Roden thanked Ms. Slade for her presentation.</p>	



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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 public input or questions were received.

### 5. BYLAWS/POLICIES

<p><b>5.1</b></p>	<p><b>CFO Report – First Three Readings of the Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw and Tax Rate Bylaw</b> PURPOSE: To initiate approval of the Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw and Tax Rate Bylaw by granting first three readings, enabling the processing of 2026 property taxes.</p>	
<p><b>5.2</b></p>	<p><b>Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 884, 2026</b> PURPOSE: Give first three readings of the Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 884, 2026: M/S Clement / Tedford 1. <i>THAT, the Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 884, 2026 be introduced and read a first time by title only.</i> M/S Tedford / Anstett 2. <i>THAT, the Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 884, 2026 be read a second time.</i> M/S Anstett / Clement 3. <i>THAT, the Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 884, 2026 be read a third time.</i></p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimous R-2026-61  CARRIED Unanimous R-2026-62  CARRIED Unanimous R-2026-63</p>
<p><b>5.3</b></p>	<p><b>Tax Rate Bylaw No. 885, 2026</b> PURPOSE: Give first three readings of the Tax Rates Bylaw No. 885, 2026 M/S Clement / Tedford 1. <i>THAT, the Tax Rates Bylaw No. 885, 2026 be introduced and read a first time by title only.</i> M/S Tedford / Anstett 2. <i>THAT, the Tax Rates Bylaw No. 885, 2026 be read a second time.</i> M/S Anstett / Clement 3. <i>THAT, the Tax Rates Bylaw No. 885, 2026 be read a third time.</i></p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimous R-2026-64  CARRIED Unanimous R-2026-65  CARRIED Unanimous R-2026-66</p>

### 6. STAFF REPORTS

**REQUEST FOR DECISION**

<p><b>6.1</b></p>	<p><b>CAO Report – Adoption of the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan</b>  PURPOSE:  To present the completed Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan (CWRP) for the Village of Ashcroft and request Council’s adoption of the plan.  M/S Clement / Anstett  <i>THAT Council adopt the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan (CWRP) as presented;</i>  <i>AND THAT the CWRP be submitted to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities to satisfy the Village’s Community Resiliency Investment funding requirements.</i>  Comments:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TNRD invasive species program not expected to begin until 2027; programs will be linked</li> <li>• CWRP noted as very detailed/in-depth</li> <li>• Reference made to evacuation during the Elephant Hill fire – Ashcroft was not evacuated.</li> <li>• McLean Lake referenced throughout the CWRP. Clarification that the maximum temperature was 48.1 °C (June 2021), not 41°C as noted from the McLean Lake weather station; recommend noting this and including mean temperature data</li> </ul> </p>	<p>CARRIED  Unanimous  R-2026-67</p>
<p><b>6.2</b></p>	<p><b>CFO Report - Adoption of the 2025 Audited Financial Statements</b>  PURPOSE:  To request adoption of the 2025 Financial Statements as presented by Shawn Birkenhead, Partner, Doane Grant Thornton LLP.  M/S Anstett / Tedford  <i>THAT, Council adopt the Audited Financial Statements for 2025 as presented by Shawn Birkenhead, Partner at Doane Grant Thornton LLP.</i></p>	<p>CARRIED  Unanimous  R-2026-68</p>
<p><b>6.3</b></p>	<p><b>EDTC Report – NDI Marketing Initiatives Grant Application</b>  PURPOSE:  To request Council endorse a grant application of up to \$10,000.00 to NDI under the Marketing Initiative funding stream to offset the cost of marketing initiatives as identified by the EDT Working Group for 2026.  M/S Clement / Tedford  <i>THAT, Council for the Village of Ashcroft extends its full support for the submission of an application to the Northern Development Initiative Trust’s (NDIT) Marketing Initiatives funding stream seeking financial assistance of up to \$10,000.</i></p>	<p>CARRIED  Unanimous  R-2026-69</p>
<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>		
<p><b>6.4</b></p>	<p><b>EDTC Report – Quarterly Report</b>  PURPOSE:</p>	

	To provide Council with a brief update regarding Economic Development and Tourism Coordinator (EDTC) position.	
<b>6.5</b>	<p><b>FireSmart™ Report – Community Chipping Event</b></p> <p>PURPOSE: The purpose of this report is to provide Council with highlights and stats from our first FireSmart™ chipping event.</p> <p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noted strong overall support</li> <li>• Reduced Public Works clean-up requirements; enabling increased recycling efforts</li> <li>• Acknowledged the Pine Valley team for excellent work</li> <li>• Appreciation extended to Gwen for compiling and analyzing the data</li> </ul>	

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

<b>FOR ACTION</b>		
<b>7.1</b>	<p><b>HAWC – Permission to use the Village Account Number for a Mass Mail Drop</b></p> <p>PURPOSE: HAWC is requesting permission to use the Village’s Canada Post account number, which allows bulk mail delivery to all post office boxes in Ashcroft, Cache Creek, Clinton, and Spences Bridge—including those that have opted out of receiving flyers.</p> <p><b>M/S Clement / Tedford</b> <i>THAT, Council authorize HAWC, on behalf of Interior Health, to use the Village’s Canada Post account number for a one-time only bulk mail-out to all post office boxes in Ashcroft, Cache Creek, Clinton, and Spences Bridge, to promote patient attachment at the Ashcroft UPCC, at no cost to the Village.</i></p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimous R-2026-70</p>
<b>7.2</b>	<p><b>TNRD – Regional Search &amp; Rescue Alternate Approval Process (AAP)</b></p> <p>PURPOSE: To offer Council an informational presentation on the proposed regional Search and Rescue AAP prior to public launch.</p> <p><b>M/S Roden / Clement</b> <i>THAT, Council invites representatives from KSAR and the TNRD to discuss the Regional AAP that will be launched in mid May.</i></p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To what end will they visit us? - When they attend and deliver the presentation, it will provide an opportunity for both Council and members of the public to view and learn more about the subject and its impact firsthand.</li> </ul>	

<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>		
7.3	<b>NDIT - Community Spaces Program - Funding Approval Notification</b>	
7.4	<b>Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing - Re: Bill 17 Housing and Municipal Affairs Statutes (Codes of Conduct) Amendment Act, 2026, and Bill 18 Housing and Municipal Affairs Statutes (Parental Leave) Amendment Act, 2026</b>	
7.5	<b>HVC Teck - Construction Workforce Accommodations Plan Quarterly Report</b> Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment - It's interesting that housing wasn't specifically where the needs would be.</li> <li>• Query -If these are all short-term rentals, is there was any direct effect on our housing market as far as rentals go? - No, it's likely they've realized that most are staying in the larger center, talk is more about the labour force using our businesses.</li> <li>• Query - <i>Can this information be shared with potential hotel developers</i> -Yes</li> </ul>	
7.6	<b>Enviro Ex-Contracting - Sackum Overhead Construction Replacement HWY 1</b>	
7.7	<b>Min of Health - Farmers Market Response</b>	
7.8	<b>City of Langford - Permanent Daylight Savings Time Impacts on Safe Routes to School</b>	
7.9	<b>SD#74 - April Board Bulletin</b>	
7.10	<b>REDIP - Revitalizing Downtown Ashcroft - Regrets Letter</b>	
7.11	<b>BC Utilities Commission - Regulatory Timetable and Public Hearing Process</b>	
7.12	<b>Cycling for Courage - Update 11</b>	
7.13	<b>TNRD - Parks &amp; Trails Strategic Plan Implementation</b> Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was noted that Sharon Madden is working to arrange a site walk of the Inukshuk</li> <li>• Trail. The Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) is currently reviewing the trail as part of its Parks and Trails Master Plan, with an initial focus on achievable ("low-hanging fruit") projects within TNRD jurisdiction.</li> <li>• Suggested that consideration be given to including all local trails.</li> <li>• Noted it is encouraging to see this work progressing and referenced a potential long-term vision for a Bonaparte River canyon trail, as TNRD owns land on both sides of the Bonaparte River.</li> </ul>	
7.14	<b>MHMA - Ministers Statement RE: Bill M216</b>	



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### 8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager	
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### 9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1	<p><b>Notice of Motion – Councillor Tedford – RE: Public Questions Following Delegations</b></p> <p>Purpose:          To consider a Notice of Motion from Councillor Tedford regarding public questions following Council delegation presentations.          M/S Tedford / Anstett  <i>THAT, following a presentation to Council by a delegation, members of the public in attendance (including those participating electronically) be provided the opportunity to ask questions of the delegation prior to the delegation being dismissed and prior to the call for public input.</i></p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of how to proceed if a delegation declines to answer questions:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Advise expectations at the time of application;</li> <li>○ Include a checkbox on the application to indicate willingness to take questions;</li> <li>○ Allow for “information only” presentations where no public questions are taken.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Clarification of who may ask questions (Council only vs. questions from the gallery).</li> <li>• Emphasis that any grandstanding be addressed and managed by the Chair.</li> <li>• Agreement that the same rules governing public input should apply.</li> <li>• Noted that a revised bylaw will be brought forward for further discussion at a future Council meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>CARRIED          Unanimous          R-2026-71</p>
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### 10. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES, COTW, and COMMISSIONS

10.1	<p><b>Enhancing Parks, Re., &amp; Culture WG Minutes</b></p> <p>Receive and File          Query regarding the status of the property survey 's at 406 Brink and the cemetery – surveys re completed and waiting to receive the paperwork.</p>	
10.2	<p><b>Ec. Dev. WG Minutes</b></p> <p>Receive and File</p>	



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**11. COUNCIL REPORTS**

<b>11.1</b>	<b>Mayor Roden</b> Attended the over 80's luncheon at the Seniors Center – event was well attended Noted that she was away in Victoria last week for the RD-Chairs and CAO Conference. Highlighted the proposed Provincial Code of Conduct – why its being established and that it will supersede local government CoC's	
<b>11.2</b>	<b>Councillor Anstett</b>	
<b>11.3</b>	<b>Councillor Clement</b> HAWC – there have been some physician changes but staffing levels are good. Looking at renovation plan to utilize the old clinic for the UPCC	
<b>11.4</b>	<b>Councillor Davenport</b>	
<b>11.5</b>	<b>Councillor Tedford</b>	

**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*

<b>12.1</b>	<b>N/A</b>	
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**13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING**

<b>13.1</b>	<b>N/A</b>	
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**14. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Roden adjourned the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday April 27, 2026, at 6:44pm.

Certified to be a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, April 27, 2026.

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 Daniela Dyck,  
 Chief Administrative Officer

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 Barbara Roden,  
 Mayor