



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN OF BASSANO
HELD IN PERSON ON MARCH 9, 2026 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.**

ELECTED OFFICIALS

MAYOR	Mike Wetzstein
DEPUTY MAYOR	Mike Phillips
COUNCILLORS	Gary Lee
	Sydney Miller
	Matthew Loewen

STAFF	Jeremy Wickson, Chief Administrative Officer
	Christine Petkau, Finance Coordinator

DELEGATES/PUBLIC	Sandra Stanway, Brooks Bulletin (virtual)
	Mike Maguire, Resident
	Tom McPhail, Brooks Bulletin
	Ross Zimmerman, Municipal Affairs
	Sharlene Brown, Municipal Affairs
	Sgt. Schmidt, RCMP

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wetzstein called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

TOB-039-26 Moved by **COUNCILLOR LOEWEN** that the agenda is approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- 3.1 February 3, 2026, Newell Housing Foundation Minutes
- 3.2 March 2, 2026, FCSS Regular Meeting Minutes
- 3.3 ORRSC 2026 Board of Directors Agenda Package - Prior Minutes
- 3.4 Letter to Council – Grazing Land Request

TOB-040-26 Moved by **COUNCILLOR LEE** to approve the consent agenda as presented.

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- 4.1 Adoption of minutes from the regular meeting of February 10, 2026

TOB-041-26 Moved by **DEPUTY MAYOR PHILLIPS** to adopt the minutes of the Council Meeting of February 10, 2026, as presented.

CARRIED

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 RCMP, Sgt. Schmidt – 6:35 PM

RCMP Sgt. Schmidt entered the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

RCMP Sgt. Schmidt was introduced to council followed by a presentation and overview of the **RCMP** services provided to the Town **at 6:35 p.m.**

RCMP Sgt. Schmidt departed at 6:59 p.m.

6.2 Municipal Affairs, Ross Zimmerman and Sharlene Brown, Municipal Viability Advisor – 7:00 PM

Municipal Affairs, Ross Zimmerman and Sharlene Brown, entered the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Municipal Affairs, Ross Zimmerman and Sharlene Brown, Municipal Viability Advisors were introduced to council followed by a presentation of **Municipal Affairs** services options for the Town **at 7:00 p.m.**

Municipal Affairs, Ross Zimmerman and Sharlene Brown, departed at 7:54 p.m.

TOB-042-26 Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** to recess the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

CARRIED

TOB-043-26 Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** to reconvene the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

CARRIED

7. REQUEST FOR DECISIONS

7.2 2026-28 Operating and 2026-30 Capital Budgets

TOB-044-26 Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** to table 2026-28 Operating budget approval till April 13, 2026, Council meeting for decision in conjunction with Tax Rate Bylaw.

CARRIED

TOB-045-26 Moved by **COUNCILLOR MILLER** that Council adopt the 2026-30 Capital Budget as presented.

CARRIED

7.3 Town Hall Meeting - Core Infrastructure Renewal Program Phase 1

TOB-046-26 Moved by **DEPUTY MAYOR PHILLIPS** that Council set a Town Hall meeting for April 13, 2026, from 4 to 6pm at the Community Hall.

CARRIED

7.4 Urban Hens – Public Engagement and Notice of Motion

TOB-047-26 Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** that Council direct administration to conduct a local survey for Urban Hens.

CARRIED

7.5 ATCO Franchise Fees Contract Renewal

Deputy Mayor Phillips exited meeting at 9:16.

TOB-048-26 Moved by **COUNCILLOR LEE** that Council direct administration to enter a new 10 year agreement, with options for 2 successive 5-year automatic renewals, with ATCO and maintain the current 25% franchise fee and 3.72% Rider B charge.

CARRIED

Deputy Mayor Phillips re-entered meeting at 9:18.

7.1 Municipal Fees, Rates and Charges

TOB-049-26 Moved by **DEPUTY MAYOR PHILLIPS** that Town Council, give remaining readings for the Municipal Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw 954-26 as amended with Tax penalties will be set at 12%, from 18%, for both the first late payment after July 31 and then again on January 1 of the succeeding year.

TOB-050-26 Moved by **COUNCILLOR LOEWEN** to give **second reading** to Municipal Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw 954-26 as amended with Tax Penalty changed to 12%.

CARRIED

TOB-051-26 Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** to consider **third reading** to Municipal Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw 954-26.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TOB-052-26 Moved by **COUNCILLOR MILLER** to give **third and final reading** to Municipal Fees, Rates and Charges Bylaw 954-26.

CARRIED

8 COUNCIL REPORTS

8.1 – 8.5 Written board and committee reports were presented and discussed.

9 CAO REPORT

9.1 CAO Operations Report

9.1.1 BUILD Bassano – 2024 Development Projects

9.1.2 2025-2034 Community Infrastructure Renewal Program

9.1.3 Water Pump Station – 2026 Header and Piping System Replacement Project

9.2 Financial Statement – Quarterly (next report in April)

9.3 FCSS Report (Item 3.2 minutes attached)

9.4 Recreation & Community Services Liaison Report – NA

9.5 Community Peace & Bylaw Officer - Quarterly Report (next report in April)

9.6 RCMP Bassano Detachment - January Report

- 9.6.1 SAD Provincial January 2026 Five Year Crime Stats
- 9.7 RCMP Bassano Detachment - February Report

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- 10.1-10.4** Items of correspondence were presented and discussed.
- 1. AB Munis February 2026 - News Release - Budget 2026
 - 2. Community Foundations - How to Give + Fund Types
 - 3. RCMP Townhall
 - 4. February 2026 Monthly Mountie Memo BASSANO RCMP
- TOB-053-26** Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** to enter into temporary lease agreement as per landowner request for Plan 2511231 Block 3 Lot 7. **CARRIED**
- TOB-054-26** Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** to recess the meeting at 9:37 p.m. **CARRIED**
- TOB-055-26** Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** to reconvene the meeting at 9:45 p.m. **CARRIED**

11. CLOSED SESSION

- TOB-056-26** Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** to enter a closed session at 9:55 p.m. to discuss Board appointments in accordance with the *Access to Information Act Section 20* with all persons excluded except Town Council and CAO Wickson. **CARRIED**
- TOB-057-26** Moved by **COUNCILLOR LOEWEN** to revert to a regular meeting at 9:58 p.m. **CARRIED**
- TOB-058-26** Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** to appoint Lin Hermanson to Bassano Memorial Library Board for a 3rd term of 3 years. **CARRIED**

12. ROUND TABLE


A round table discussion was held.

13. ADJOURNMENT

- TOB-059-26** Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** for adjournment of the regular council meeting of March 9, 2026, at 9:59 p.m. **CARRIED**


Mayor




Chief Administrative Officer