



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN OF BASSANO  
HELD IN PERSON ON April 13, 2026 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.**

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**ELECTED OFFICIALS**

MAYOR	Mike Wetzstein
DEPUTY MAYOR	Mike Phillips
COUNCILLOR	Sydney Miller
	Matthew Loewen

**STAFF**

Jeremy Wickson, Chief Administrative Officer  
Christine Petkau, Finance Coordinator

**DELEGATES/PUBLIC**

Sandra Stanway, Brooks Bulletin  
Israel Wasserman, JDP Wasserman  
Jackie Seely, STARS  
Kevin Jones, resident

**ABSENT**

COUNCILLOR Gary Lee

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**TOB-060-26** Moved by **COUNCILLOR LOEWEN** that the agenda is approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

3.1 Newell Housing Foundation Minutes April 7, 2026 Minutes

**TOB-061-26** Moved by **COUNCILLOR MILLER** to approve the consent agenda as presented.

**CARRIED**

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

4.1 Adoption of minutes from the regular meeting of March 9, 2026.

**TOB-062-26** Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** to adopt the minutes of the Council Meeting of March 9, 2026, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**6. DELEGATIONS**

6.1 JDP Wasserman – 2025 Audited Financial Statements – Draft – 6:35 p.m.

Israel Wasserman, Auditor of JDP Wasserman entered the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Wasserman presented the 2025 draft audited financial statement. Discussion ensued.

**TOB-063-26** Moved by **COUNCILLOR LOEWEN** that the 2025 audited financial statement be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

Wasserman departed at 6:50 p.m.

6.2 STARS – Jackie Seely – 7:00 p.m.

Jackie Seely entered the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Seely provided an update on STARS operations, and requested a municipal contribution to STARS from the Town through 2026-29.

**TOB-068-26** Moved by **DEPUTY MAYOR PHILLIPS** that the Town provides a contribution of \$1.50/per capita to STARS for 2026.

**CARRIED**

**TOB-069-26** Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** that the Town provides a contribution of \$1.75/per capita to STARS for 2027, and \$2/per capita to STARS for 2028 and 2029 through the operating budget.

**CARRIED**

Seely departed at 7:25 p.m.

**7. REQUEST FOR DECISIONS**

7.1 Tax Rate Bylaw 955/26

**TOB-070-26** Moved by **COUNCILLOR LOEWEN** to lower the municipal mill rate by 1% for all assessed properties.

**TOB-071-26** Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** to give **first reading** to the 2026 Tax Rate Bylaw 955/26.

**TOB-072-26** Moved by **COUNCILLOR MILLER** to give **second reading** to the 2026 Tax Rate Bylaw 955/26.

**CARRIED**

**TOB-073-26** Moved by **DEPUTY MAYOR PHILLIPS** to consider **third reading** to the 2026 Tax Rate Bylaw 955/26.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**TOB-074-26** Moved by **COUNCILLOR LOEWEN** to give **third and final reading** to the 2026 Tax Rate Bylaw 955/26.  
**CARRIED**

7.2 2026-28 Operating Budget

**TOB-075-26** Moved by **DEPUTY MAYOR PHILLIPS** that Council adopt the 2026-28 Operating Budget as presented in Table 3 Option #2.  
**CARRIED**

7.3 2026 Weed Inspection Appointments

**TOB-064-26** Moved by **COUNCILLOR MILLER** that Council appoint Austin Wiebe, Jenna Presley, Remy Strach, Ashley Koenning, Claudia Pardy, Catherine Hok, and Todd Green be appointed, under Section 7 of the Weed Control Act of Alberta, As Weed Inspectors within the Town of Bassano for the 2026 weed control season or until such a time that their employment with the County of Newell ceases.  
**CARRIED**

Deputy Mayor Phillips exited meeting at 6:55pm.

7.4 ATCO Franchise Gas Distribution

**TOB-065-26** Moved by **COUNCILLOR LOEWEN** to give **first reading** to the ATCO Franchise Gas Distribution Bylaw 956/26.

Deputy Mayor Phillips re-entered meeting at 6:56pm.

7.5 2026-2030 Regional Assessment Review Board Agreement and Appointments

**TOB-066-26** Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** that council direct administration to renew the Regional Assessment Review Board Clerk Appointments agreement as presented.  
**CARRIED**

**TOB-067-26** Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** that Council appoints Regional Assessment Review Board clerks, Shannon Biette from the County of Newell, and Liezel Apaez, Bailee Boulet, Daphne Anstey-Martin and Kevin Bridge from the City of Brooks. Daphne Anstey-Martin is appointed Chair of the Board.  
**CARRIED**

7.6 Urban Hens – Survey Results and Notice of Motion

**TOB-076-26** Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** that Town Council direct administration for bringing forward an Urban Hen Bylaw with a 3-year trial period.  
**CARRIED**

7.7 Level of Service - Town Office Hours

**TOB-077-26** Moved by **DEPUTY MAYOR PHILLIPS** that Town Council direct administration to change the Level of Service for office hours to Monday to Friday 9am to 4:30pm, inclusive of observing general holidays and other required office closures.

**CARRIED**

7.8 Pool Policies to Directives

**TOB-078-26** Moved by **COUNCILLOR LOEWEN** That Town Council rescind all Pool policies.

**CARRIED**

**8. COUNCIL REPORTS**

**8.1 – 8.5** Verbal board and committee reports were 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 report
- 9.3 FCSS Report - NA
- 9.4 Recreation & Community Services Liaison Report – NA
- 9.5 Community Peace & Bylaw Officer - Quarterly Report
- 9.6 BASSANO RCMP DETACHMENT - March 2026 Monthly Mountie Memo
- 9.7 RCMP Bassano Detachment - Quarterly Report

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

**10.1-10.2** Items of correspondence were presented and discussed.

- 10.1. Minister signed letter to Chief Elected Officials
  - 10.1.1. AMR Fact Sheet
  - 10.1.2. AMR FAQ April 1
- 10.2. Minister of Municipal Affairs - Bill 28
  - 10.2.1. Municipal Affairs-Bill-28-legislation-information-guide

**11. CLOSED SESSION**

**12. ROUND TABLE**

A round table discussion was held.

Tree trimming on boulevards – Mayor Wetzstein brought forward for discussion as to landowner and Town responsibilities. As per bylaw #691/84 the frontage of properties is for the landowner.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

**TOB-079-26** Moved by **MAYOR WETZSTEIN** for adjournment of the regular council meeting of April 13, 2026, at 9:01 p.m.

**CARRIED**

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Mayor

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Chief Administrative Officer

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