



Minutes

Regular Council Meeting

February 17, 2026, 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers/Video Conference
10150 Bottom Wood Lake Road
Lake Country, British Columbia V4V 2M1

Council Present:	Mayor Blair Ireland Councillor Heather Irvine Councillor Michael Lewis Councillor Todd McKenzie Councillor Bib Patel Councillor Cara Reed, Electronically
Council Absent:	Councillor Tricia Brett
Staff Present:	Paul Gipps, Chief Administrative Officer Jeremy Frick, Director of Planning & Development Trevor James, CFO, Director of Finance & Administration Darren Lee, Fire Chief Matthew Salmon, Director of Infrastructure & Development Engineering Brad Savoury, Director of Legal Services and Risk Management Matt Vader, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture Carie Liefke, Manager of Current Planning Steven Gubbels, Manager of Development Scott Unser, Public Works Manager Richard Wagner, Manager of Finance Kiel Wilkie, Capital Project Manager Makayla Ablitt, Manager of Corporate Administration Shara Glenn, Legislative and FOI Coordinator Cory Drinkwater, Support Analyst James Robertson, Land Agent
Others:	Youth Councillor Mochinski

1. Call to Order and Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are conducting our business today on the unceded territory of squilx"/syilx (Okanagan) peoples. As a Council, we recognize the importance of doing our best to

build respectful relationships that contribute to stewarding the land and waters in the community with integrity and consideration for future generations.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

2026-02-031 It was moved and seconded

THAT the Regular Council Meeting Agenda of February 17, 2026 be adopted with the following amendment:

- item 8.1 be moved to item 7.1
- item 8.2 be moved to item 7.2

Carried.

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1 Committee of the Whole Minutes of February 3, 2026

2026-02-032 It was moved and seconded

THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2026 be adopted.

Carried.

3.2 Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2026

2026-02-033 It was moved and seconded

THAT the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2026 be adopted.

Carried.

4. Mayor's Report

The Mayor read a statement regarding Tumbler Ridge. The Mayor announced that the Lake Country Fire Department won the tournament at Big White for the third year in a row.

5. Announcements

5.1 February 17, 2026 Announcements

6. Delegations

7. Planning and Development Applications

7.1 (Agenda Item 8.1) 2026 – 2030 Draft Financial Plan 2nd & 3rd Reading

2026 – 2030 Financial Plan

2026-02-034 It was moved and seconded

THAT the 2026-2030 Financial Plan include one time funding of \$20,000.00 to the Lake Country Chamber of Commerce;

AND THAT the \$20,000.00 be funded from the Financial Stabilization Reserve.

Carried.

2026-02-035 It was moved and seconded

THAT the 2026 – 2030 Financial Plan be amended by removing the addition of a dock in the Oyama Isthmus Boat Launch & Swim Area Improvements project;

AND THAT the Oyama Isthmus Boat Launch & Swim area, as amended, be funded from the General Capital Reserve.

Carried.

2026-02-036 It was moved and seconded

THAT the 2026 – 2030 Financial Plan be amended by partially re-allocating the additional non-market change (growth) on assessed values since first reading and reduction of \$87,011 of annual transit costs due to BC Transit pausing expansion of services to reduce the proposed tax increase from 6.25% to 5.75% with the balance being allocated to the General Capital Reserve;

AND THAT the 2026 – 2030 Financial Plan Bylaw 1310, 2026 be read a second and third time as amended;

AND THAT the Capital Carryforwards 2025 to 2026 (\$11,807,180) projects, attached to the report from the Chief Financial Officer dated February 17, 2026, be carried over from 2025 to 2026 to allow expenditure in the 2026 – 2030 Financial Plan.

Carried.

7.2 (Agenda Item 8.2) Safe Routes to School and Other Projects

Civil Works for New Construction Team

7.3 (Agenda Item 7.1) Zoning Amendment | Z0000353 | 3151 Hill Road

Comprehensive Development Zone for mixed-use commercial and residential units

2026-02-037 It was moved and seconded

THAT Zoning Amendment (Z0000353) Bylaw 1311, 2026 be read first, second and third time.

Carried.

The Mayor called a recess at 8:27 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:38 p.m.

7.4 (Agenda Item 7.2) Development Permit | DP001079 | 11326 Alexis (Reimche) Road

Development Permit to facilitate construction of 13 townhouse units within two buildings

2026-02-038 It was moved and seconded

THAT Development Permit DP001079 (Attachment A in the Report to Council dated February 17, 2026), for the property at 11326 Alexis Road (PID: 010-395-229), to allow a 13 unit townhouse development, be approved.

Carried.

8. Departmental Reports

8.1 (Agenda Item 8.3) 2026 Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA) Resolutions

Consideration of two Resolutions for SILGA

That the following resolutions be submitted to the Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA) for endorsement.

2026-02-039 It was moved and seconded

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has limited funding available for watershed protection;

AND WHEREAS water is the most critical resource that requires protection and long-term stewardship;

AND WHEREAS British Columbia currently has the lowest industrial water rates in Canada which have not been updated in over a decade;

AND WHEREAS aligning industrial water rates with those of other provinces could generate significant new revenue, \$38 million if aligned with Saskatchewan, \$84 million if aligned with Quebec, or up to \$357 million if aligned with Nova Scotia;

AND WHEREAS this additional revenue could be directed to watershed protection, helping to address critical funding gaps during a challenging fiscal period;

THAT be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia modernize industrial water rates by bringing them in line with those of other provinces and dedicate the resulting revenue to watershed protection.

Carried.

2026-02-040 It was moved and seconded

WHEREAS local governments are key partners in the implementation, administration, and enforcement of provincial legislation and regulatory changes;

AND WHEREAS provincial legislation introduced under accelerated or urgent timelines can have significant financial, operational, planning, and service delivery impacts on local governments;

AND WHEREAS meaningful consultation with local governments supports improved policy outcomes, reduces unintended consequences, and strengthens collaborative governance between the Province and local governments;

AND WHEREAS local governments may have limited opportunity to review, analyze, and provide feedback on proposed legislation when bills are introduced or advanced under urgent or expedited timelines;

THAT be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province ensure any new or pending legislation or regulatory changes be subject to a minimum six-month consultation period prior to implementation or final approval.

Carried.

8.2 (Agenda Item 8.4) Road Closure & Land Exchange | RC2025-009 | 9751 Okanagan Centre Road E – Repeal and Replace

To close a portion of road for exchange of land of equivalent value with the property owner

2026-02-041 It was moved and seconded

THAT Road Closure Bylaw (RC2025-009) 1319, 2026 be read a first, second, and third time.

Carried.

9. Bylaws for Adoption and Readings Following a Public Hearing

9.1 Official Community Plan and Zoning Amendment | OPZ00004 | 9730, 9750, 9764, 9778 Highway 97 and 9743, 9751 Okanagan Centre Road East (6 Parcels)

For Adoption.

Read a first and second time [November 4, 2025](#), Public Hearing held [November 18, 2025](#), Read a third time [November 18, 2025](#)

2026-02-042 It was moved and seconded

THAT Zoning Amendment (OPZ00004) Bylaw 1306, 2025 be adopted.

Carried.

Opposed: Councillor Reed

9.2 Area Structure Plan | ASP00005 | 9850 Chase Road (Lakestone)

For Adoption.

Read a first, second and third time [February 3, 2026](#)

2026-02-043 It was moved and seconded

THAT Zoning Amendment (ASP00005) Bylaw 1316, 2026 be adopted.

Carried.

9.3 Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw Amendment | ASP00002 | 11470 Bond Road

Consideration following a Public Hearing

2026-02-044 It was moved and seconded

THAT Official Community Plan Amendment (ASP00002) Bylaw 1290, 2025 be read a third time;

AND THAT Zoning Amendment (ASP00002) Bylaw 1291, 2025 be amended by:

- *Replacing and deleting section 19.17.6(b)(i) with: "40 dwelling units per lot"*

AND THAT Zoning Amendment (ASP00002) Bylaw 1291, 2025 be read a third time as amended;

AND FURTHER THAT prior to adoption the applicant/owner enter into an agreement with the District for extended off-site works and services regarding school related pedestrian improvements, which may include student drop off areas, crossing lights, or other identified improvements.

Carried.

10. Rise and Report from In Camera**10.1 Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) | New Member Appointment****2026-02-015 It was moved and seconded**

THAT Angelique Slade Shantz be appointed to the Agricultural Advisory Committee for a three-year term;

AND THAT the appointment be declassified from confidential.

Carried.

11. Council Committees**11.1 Agricultural Advisory Committee Minutes of December 5, 2025****11.2 Water Service Advisory Committee Minutes of December 5, 2025****12. External Committees and Boards****12.1 Board of Education Meeting Highlights of January 28, 2026****12.2 Regional District of Central Okanagan Board Report of January 22, 2026****13. Strategic Priorities****14. Report from Councillors**

Councillor Reed valued the communities engagement for the Budget Open Houses and thanks Staff for their efforts. She asked for feedback from Staff on ways to improve attendance and engagement for Budget Open Houses in the future. She also acknowledged the communities input regarding the Official Community Plan Draft.

Councillor McKenzie spoke about the tragedy of Tumbler Ridge and identified the need to support mental health. He reminded the public of the Suicide Crisis Helpline, 9-8-8 which provides mental health support to anyone in need, no matter who they are or where they are in Canada.

Youth Councillor Mochinski reflected on the events of Tumbler Ridge, remember where he was and who he was with at the time. It was a scary day, as he has peers on Youth Parliament that are from Tumbler Ridge and friends that live in communities close by. Councillor Mochinski suggested there are more mental health support that could be put in place for youth in Lake Country. He reminded the community to check in on each other regarding mental health.

Councillor Patel reminded the community to check in with each other.

Councillor Lewis echoed comments regarding Tumbler Ridge.

The Mayor stated it has been a difficult week it has been for everyone and recognized senior leadership that have put differences aside to come together in support of the events in Tumbler Ridge.

15. Adjournment

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 10:02 p.m.

Mayor, Blair Ireland

Corporate Officer, Reyna Seabrook