

Special Meeting Minutes of Council December 10, 2025

Special Meeting Minutes of the City of Castlegar Council held in Council Chambers at the Community Forum, 445 13th Avenue, Castlegar, B.C. and via Zoom live meeting, commenced at 5:00 p.m. for Special Council proceedings.

Members Present	Mayor Maria McFaddin Councillor Brian Bogle Councillor Darcy Bell Councillor Sandy Bojechko Councillor Shirley Falstead Councillor Sue Heaton-Sherstobitoff Councillor Cheryl MacLeod
Absent	Nil
Staff Present	Chris Barlow, Chief Administrative Officer Bree Seabrook, Director of Corporate Services Steffan Klassen, Director of Finance & Technology Meeri Durand, Director of Community Safety and Development Chris Hallam, Director of Municipal Services David Bristow, IT Manager Nicole Brown, Manager of Legislative Services Jennifer Chamberlain, Executive Assistant Ryan Niddery, Manager of Engineering and Infrastructure
Other	Public and Media

1 CALL TO ORDER: Mayor McFaddin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2 ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

S017-25 Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED:

THAT the agenda for the Special Council Meeting of December 10, 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED.

3 RESOLUTION TO RESOLVE INTO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

S018-25 Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED: THAT Council now resolve itself into Committee of the Whole

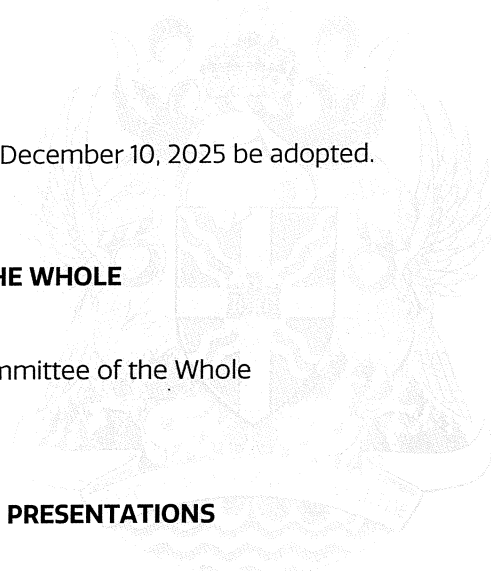
CARRIED.

4 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS 2026 – COMMUNITY GROUP PRESENTATIONS

(a) Castlegar Festival Society (Sunfest)

Highlights of their presentation include:

- An overview of Sunfest 2025 and the successes.
- Increase to the children's days activities and return of the car show.
- There is an increase in costs and need for funding. Reduction of 50% in business sponsorship.
- There is a need for more volunteers.
- Overview of promotion and encouragement of participation.



- Not asking for an increase at this time.

(b) Castlegar Communities in Bloom

Highlights of their presentation include:

- Overview of 2025 successes, recognition, and awards.
- Challenges and areas for improvement including entrances to Castlegar upgrades required, revisiting the Adopt-A-Road program, public education and engagement for heritage conservation and recognition sites.
- Community Pride Beautification and sustainable gardening and developments, over 2,500 volunteer hours in 2025.
- 2026 theme, Therapeutic Gardening.
- Overview of 2026 budget; budget has been maintained for the last 5 years.
- Not asking for an increase at this time.

(c) Castlegar & District Public Library

Highlights of their presentation include:

- Overview of library services available to Castlegar and District members.
- 640 new members in 2025.
- Overview of youth programming.
- Over 54,000 visits to the library this year.
- Overview of their mission, goals, objectives, and year in review.
- Challenges included water damage to the library and renovations to meet accessibility requirements.
- Requesting a 5% yearly increase in funding.

5 FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES (CHAIR BOGLE/DEPUTY FALSTEAD)

The Director of Finance & Technology, Director of Municipal Services, and CAO presented on the 2026 Water and Sewer Rates. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Review of Asset Management Plans, and Integrated Infrastructure Capital Plan (IICP).
- Overview of water and sewer financing options over the past ten years.
- Operating and capital priorities for water and sewer.
- Overview of Castlegar's reserves policy, the water, and sewer fund capital reserves, recommended increases and the impact to residential and commercial.

Samantha Bowen with Urban Systems Ltd. attended the meeting to provide Council with an overview of the 2025/26 Municipal Price Index (MPI) rates. Highlights of the presentation included:

- The purpose of MPI and how it informs the 2026 utility rates.
- Overview of category weighting, inflation factors, consumer price index, and key findings.
- Inflationary and deflationary risks.
- 2025–2029 MPI inflation forecast.
- 2.6% minimum increase in water to maintain purchasing power levels.
- 15% increase in sewer to increase purchasing power levels.

(a) 2026 Water and Sewer Utility Rates Bylaws (Report No. 25–90)

Report from the Director of Finance & Technology to seek Council's approval of the Water Regulations and Rates Amendment Bylaw 1446 and the Sewer Regulations and Rates Amendment Bylaw 1447 to implement the rate adjustments for 2026.

COW108-25

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT Council consider the required readings of the Water Regulations and Rates Amendment Bylaw 1446.

CARRIED.

COW109-25

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT Council consider the required readings of the Sewer Regulations and Rates Amendment Bylaw 1447.

CARRIED.

(b) **2026 Residential Curbside Collection & Disposal Amendment Bylaw 1448 (Report No. 25-91)**

The Director of Finance & Technology presented on the projected curbside collection by type, and summary of the proposed rates.

Report from the Director of Finance & Technology to seek Council's approval of the 2026 Residential Curbside Collection & Disposal Amendment Bylaw 1448 to implement rate adjustments for 2026.

COW110-25

Moved, and
RECOMMENDED:

THAT Council consider the required readings of the 2026 Residential Curbside Collection & Disposal Amendment Bylaw 1448.

CARRIED.

6 RESOLUTION TO RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

S019-25

Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED: THAT Council rise from Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED.

7 BYLAWS FOR CONSIDERATION:

(a) **Water Regulations and Rates Amendment Bylaw No. 1446 (Report No. 25-90)**

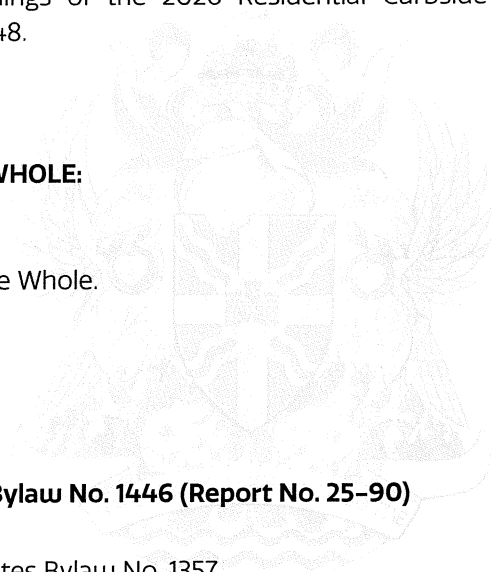
A Bylaw to amend Water Regulations and Rates Bylaw No. 1357.

S020-25

Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED:

THAT Water Regulations and Rates Amendment Bylaw No. 1446 be read a first, second, and third time.

CARRIED.



(b) **Sewer Regulations and Rates Amendment Bylaw No. 1447 (Report No. 25-90)**

A Bylaw to amend Sewer Regulations and Rates Bylaw No. 1356.

S021-25

Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED:

THAT Sewer Regulations and Rates Amendment Bylaw No. 1447 be read a first, second, and third time.

CARRIED.

(c) **Residential Curbside Collection and Disposal Amendment Bylaw No. 1448 (Report No. 25-91)**

A Bylaw to amend Residential Curbside Collection and Disposal Bylaw No. 1408.

S022-25

Moved and seconded and
RESOLVED:

THAT Residential Curbside Collection and Disposal Amendment Bylaw No. 1448 be read a first, second, and third time.

CARRIED.

8 NEXT MEETING(S):

December 17, 2025 3:00p.m. for Committee of the Whole and 7:00 p.m. for the Regular Council Meeting, held in Council Chambers at the Community Forum, 445 13th Avenue, Castlegar, B.C. and via Zoom live meeting.

9 QUESTION PERIOD: Nil

10 ADJOURNMENT:

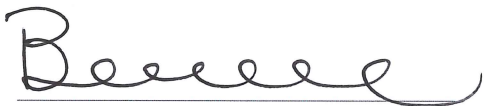
S023-25

Moved and seconded, and
RESOLVED: THAT the Special meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED.

The Special Meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m,

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



Bree Seabrook
Director of Corporate Services



Maria McFaddin
Mayor

