



Minutes of the Budget Committee Meeting

October 31, 2025, 11:00 a.m.
Council Chambers
2nd Floor - Town Hall

Members Present: Reeve Emon, Councillor Legris, Councillor McWhirter, Councillor McDonald, Councillor Cybulski

Members Absent: Mayor Sidney, Councillor Dick

Staff Present: Director Bishop, Town Clerk Errett, Acting Treasurer Ferguson, Director Guest, Director Hodge, Director/CEO Library Latendresse, CAO Raybone, Manager Schauer, Manager Springer, Chief Building Official Webster

[Town of Renfrew - YouTube Meeting Stream](#)

A. Call to Order

The Budget Committee was called to order at 5:10 a.m. by Reeve Emon, who apologized and noted a delay due to technical difficulties.

A.1 Roll Call

A.2 Land Acknowledgement

B. Declaration of Interest

None were noted.

C. Budget Items for Consideration

C.1 Amended Draft 2026 Budget

The Committee reviewed updated information provided following the first and second Budget Committee meetings. Clarification was provided regarding possible taxation levels before capital and any major adjustments, prior to reviewing the attachments.

Capital Budget Discussion Highlights:

- The urgency of completing the landfill slope stabilization was confirmed. A suggestion was made to consider borrowing from the

Landfill Closing Reserve to fund the required work. [BC-2025-10-04]

- The urgency of purchasing a Fire Pumper was confirmed. Financing over multiple years was discussed, with payments to begin upon possession of the vehicle.
- Prioritization of road projects through road reserves was discussed. Munroe and Henry (Part 1) were identified as the top priority. The financial benefit of grouping projects together was also noted.
- Council elected to remove new Council devices from the capital budget, stating that current devices can be wiped and reassigned to new members upon taking office.
- The use of internal resources vs. external contracting for establishing fire systems at Town-owned facilities was discussed. Funding through the Facility Reserve was preferred.
- All capital items identified as being funded through reserves were referred to Finance to bring forward alternative funding options.
- myFM Centre tables and chairs were removed from capital consideration. It was noted that funding could be requested through the Recreation Committee.
- The fleet of picnic tables and benches was removed from capital consideration. A suggestion was made to seek grant funding as an alternative.
- Consideration of deferring Heritage Work to a future budget was discussed. Although rationale for completing the work in 2026 was provided, a motion by Councillor McDonald to retain the project in the 2026 budget (with reserve funding) was debated and defeated. The item is deferred to 2027. [BC-2025-10-07]
- Clarification on the CIP Review confirmed that the capital item refers to a study, not direct program funding. A motion by Councillor Legris to defer the review to a future budget was debated and carried. [BC-2025-10-08]
- Clarification on the Town Hall cameras confirmed they are for interior use and therefore not eligible under the Preventing Auto Theft Grant, which supports exterior cameras with dual purposes.
- As previously directed, information was presented regarding the purchase of a new vs. used unit. A motion by Councillor Legris to defer consideration to 2027 was carried. [BC-2025-10-09]

- The urgency of replacing the Dog Park Fence was discussed. A motion by Councillor McDonald to defer consideration to 2027 was carried. [BC-2025-10-10]
- The Committee discussed rationale for Ball Diamond – Phase 2. A motion by Councillor McWhirter to defer to 2027 was debated and carried, despite a request for more information being declined. [BC-2025-10-11]
- The proactive replacement of furnaces at 1 Innovation Centre was discussed. Rationale for retaining the project in the budget was noted, with a suggestion to consider replacing one unit as part of the roof repair project.
- Clarification regarding the Landfill Scale House was discussed, a motion was put forward by Councillor McDonald to fund through reserves. [BC-2025-10-12]

Through final discussion, a motion was put forward to direct staff to update the draft budget with all discussed changes and to bring forward for Committee's consideration any projects identified to be funded through taxation or noted as unfinanced.

That Budget Committee receive the amended 2026 Draft Budget report as information.

Resolution: BC-2025-10-04

Moved by: Councillor Legris

That the Budget Committee direct staff review the slope stabilization need through the lens of utilizing from borrowing over a multi year period Landfill Closure Reserve.

Carried

Resolution: BC-2025-10-05

Moved by: Councillor McDonald

That the Budget Committee direct staff to bring forward a financial strategy on purchasing a Pumper Rescue vehicle over a multi year period to offset any impact to taxation, utilizing reserves, loans or internal financing; and further that staff bring forward recommendation to Committee.

Carried

Resolution: BC-2025-10-06

Moved by: Councillor McDonald

That the Budget Committee direct staff to bring forward recommendations on grouping Munroe and Henry road projects together in order to obtain a construction loan and future debenture to support financing.

Carried

Resolution: BC-2025-10-07

Moved by: Councillor McDonald

That the Budget Committee retain 'Heritage Work - carryover plus additional' in the 2026 Budget, with direction to staff to identify funding through reserve.'

Defeated

Resolution: BC-2025-10-08

Moved by: Councillor Legris

That the Budget Committee defer consideration of an outside CIP Review at \$50,000.00 until the 2027 budget.

Carried

Resolution: BC-2025-10-09

Moved by: Councillor Legris

That the Budget Committee defer consideration of purchasing a new 'Street Sweeper Unit' at \$550,000.00 until the 2027 budget.

Carried

Resolution: BC-2025-10-10

Moved by: Councillor McDonald

That the Budget Committee defer consideration of the 'Dog Park Fence Overhaul' at \$50,000.00 until the 2027 Budget.

Carried

Resolution: BC-2025-10-11

Moved by: Councillor McWhirter

That the Budget Committee defer consideration of the Ball Diamond Lights - Phase 2 at \$225,000.000 until 2027 budget.

Carried

Resolution: BC-2025-10-12

Moved by: Councillor McDonald

That the Budget Committee direct staff to move the financing of the Landfill Scale house to be funded from reserves.

Carried

Resolution: BC-2025-10-13

Moved by: Councillor McWhirter

That the Budget Committee direct staff to bring forward funding options through reserves for all Capital items remaining and identified as funded through taxation or unfinanced for further review and consideration.

Carried

D. Upcoming Meetings of Committee and Council

Budget Committee Public Meeting: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Additional Budget Committee Meetings Scheduled for: Thursday, November 13 at 10:00 a.m. & Monday, November 17 at 10:00 a.m.

E. Adjournment

Time of adjournment: 1:20 p.m.

Reeve Emon

Town Clerk Errett