Municipality of Jasper

Budget Presentations Agenda

November 24 & 25, 2026 | 9:00 am

Jasper Library & Cultural Centre – Quorum Room

Notice: Council members and staff are in Council chambers for meetings. Members of the public can attend meetings in person; view meetings through the Zoom livestream; or view archived Council meetings on YouTube at any time. To live-stream this meeting starting at 9:00 am, use the following Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87657457538

1. Call to order

2. Approval of Agenda

3. Correspondence

3.1 Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce — attachment

4. Introduction — verbal

4.1 Process Overview

4.2 Factors Impacting Municipal Finances

5. Municipal budget presentations — attachment

DRAFT Municipal Budget 2027-2029 on website

5.1 Finance & Administration

5.2 Jasper Recovery Coordination Centre

5.3 Urban Design & Standards

5.4 Protective & Legislative Services

5.5 Community Development

5.6 Operations

5.7 Utilities

5.8 Reserves & Debt

5.9 Community Group Referrals from Committee

6. Adjournment

All budget presentations, regular and committee meetings of Council are video-recorded and archived on YouTube.

JASPER PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Good for Business

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AGENDA ITEM 3.1

November 18, 2026

Mayor Richard Ireland and Municipal Councillors
The Municipality of Jasper

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

We draw your attention to the Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce policy brief titled *Line of Sight: Financial Reporting and the Public Accountability Gap*.

The following recommendations are grounded in the research and key findings detailed in the policy brief and are respectfully submitted for your consideration during and following upcoming budget deliberations.

1. **Reconfigure the UDS department for 2027 to ensure no net additional cost to taxpayers.** The 2027 UDS tax-funded budget should not exceed the $231,464 Parks Canada planning-and-development requisition baseline the department was created to replace.
2. **Reconfigure Public Transit for 2027 to meet cost-to-taxpayers projections in the original transit strategic plan.** The 2027 transit budget should achieve the $247,800 first-full-year net municipal contribution target established in the February 2023 Transportation Strategy and Action Plan, without supplementing from reserves or unrelated revenues.
3. **Produce segmented program-level financial reporting consistent with the direction of PSAS PS 1202.** Future budgets and financial statements should allow program-level results to be tested against budgets year over year. Program- or department-level operating budgets should not present reserve draws as revenue.
4. **Require explicit Council authorization for departures from standing reserves policy.** Budget decisions and administrative practices that are inconsistent with adopted policy should be authorized by specific Council motion identifying the policy being varied and the rationale for the variance.
5. **Require a grant-free sensitivity case for any operating area materially reliant on conditional grants.** The 2027 budget cycle should include a parallel structural view of Urban Design and Standards and Transit showing the operating position with temporary conditional grants removed.
6. **Rescind the Visitor Paid Parking Revenue Policy.** Revenues should be applied first to the cost of the service that generates them, with any remainder offsetting taxation rather than being allocated to unrelated programs. Decisions about fiscal allocations belong in annual budget discussions and should not be embedded in standing policy.

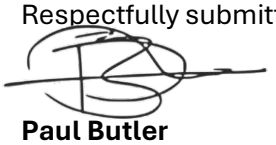
7. **Direct administration to conduct a base budget review with the goal of aligning budget increases with CPI.** Each operating area under review should justify its current funding level on its merits, not merely the change from the prior year. The objective is to establish that every dollar of ongoing expenditure is purposeful, proportionate to community need, and within the fiscal capacity of the municipality.

In light of unsustainable growth in taxation and municipal debt over the past five years, a financial reset is in order. The Chamber recommends and requests that Council adopt a 2027 budget with no increase over 2026 in the tax-supported operating budget, and that increases in subsequent years be aligned with CPI following the base budget review recommended above.

We ask Council to accept these recommendations by motion and that they be reflected in the 2027 budget.

The Chamber would welcome the opportunity to discuss these recommendations with Council and is prepared to attend as a delegation at the December 1 meeting if Council so desires.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Board of Directors,



Paul Butler
Executive Director
Jasper Park Chamber of Commerce