



**VILLAGE OF SAYWARD
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
October 21, 2025
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The Village of Sayward respectfully acknowledges that the land we gather on is on the unceded territory of the K'ómoks First Nation, the traditional keepers of this land.

Present: Mayor Mark Baker
Councillor Scott Burchett
Councillor Debbie Coates
Councillor Jason Johnson
Councillor Sue Poulsen (via Teams)

In Attendance: Andrew Young, CAO/CO
John Thomas, Advisor (via Teams)
Jennifer Redshaw, Office Administrator

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm.

2. Public Input

- a) Milena Gradisar of 261 Ambleside Drive thanked the village for the sewer report posted on the website. Ms. Gradisar also told the two councillors mentioned in the petition to hold their heads up high and she is proud of them.
- b) Melissa Holmes of 108-6111 MacMillan Drive expressed thanks to all involved in conducting the investigation. She described having to leave a job she loved and thought she would retire from, due to the toll on her mental health from the disfunction of the village. Ms. Holmes thanked staff who invested countless hours in the investigation and uncovering the truth. She also said this is a wake-up call to the community.
- c) Lee Ettinger of 220 Sayward Heights expressed her concern about the council providing so many grants in aid. She added that these special interest groups are running the village further into debt. Approving the current grant in aid request means we are walking away from \$10,000 in revenue. Ms. Ettinger suggested public input on how money is spent.
- d) Irene Callaghan of 230 Kelsey Way advised that she provided a letter to two previous CAOs, the most recent this February and has received no answer. Ms Callaghan handed CAO Young a copy of her letter.

6. Petitions and Delegations

- a) David Leitch, CAO, Strathcona Regional District presentation regarding Regional Planning functions (materials to be provided by SRD).
- b) Comox Strathcona Waste Management Services (CSWMS) presentation regarding Solid Waste Management Plan renewal including strategies and actions (materials to be provided by CSWMS).

Direction to staff to forward CSWMS contact information to the organizers of the Kusam Klimb event.

7. Correspondence

- a) Letter and Special Report for 2025 from Forest Enhancement Society BC, and BC First Nations Forestry Council – dated September 22, 2025.
- b) Communication from Strong Cities Network regarding webinar on Introduction to Online Harms in British Columbia – Impacts on Municipalities (October 16, 2025).

MOTION R25/269

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council direct staff send the electronic copy of the document with live links so that individual Council members may register for this important training.

Opposed Cllr Burchett, Cllr Poulsen

CARRIED

- c) Communication from BC/Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian Legion regarding 21st Edition of the Military Service Recognition Book - dated October 16, 2025.

MOTION R25/270

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Village of Sayward support the Royal Canadian Legion.

CARRIED

8. Council Reports - None

9. Reports of Committees - None

10. Mayor's Report - None

11. Unfinished Business - None

12. Staff Reports

- a) **Grant in Aid Request – Sayward Community Food Table Society**

MOTION R25/271

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council approves the grant in aid request from the Sayward Community Food Table Society, dated October 5, 2025.

CARRIED

13. Emergency Services/Public Works/Recreation Department Reports - None

14. Bylaws - None

15. New Business – None

16. Public Question Period

- a) Irene Callaghan of 230 Kelsey Way stated that Advisor Thomas did not answer all her questions. Ms Callaghan would like to know who did it and how many times it has been pumped out because there is a problem in my area again.

17. In Camera

MOTION R25/272

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT in accordance with Section 92 of the Community Charter, this Council meeting will be closed to the public at this time in order that Council may give consideration to matters in accordance with the following sections of the Community Charter:

- 1. 90(1)(c) labour relations or other employee relations;
- 2. 90(1)(d) security of the property of the municipality;
- 3. 90(1)(g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality;
- 4. 90(1)(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;
- 5. 90(1)(j) information that is prohibited, or information that if it were presented in a document would be prohibited, from disclosure under section 21 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Opposed Cllr Burchett

CARRIED

18. Adjournment

MOTION R25/273

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Village of Sayward Council adjourns its October 21, 2025 Regular Meeting.

CARRIED

Time and Date: 9:56 pm October 21, 2025.

Original signed by "M.Baker"
Mayor

Original signed by "A.Young"
Corporate Officer