



**VILLAGE OF SAYWARD
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
December 16, 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 (via Teams)
Councillor Jason Johnson
Councillor Sue Poulsen (via Teams)

In Attendance: Andrew Young, CAO/CO
Jennifer Redshaw, Office Administrator

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

2. Public Input

a) Art Bowbrick of 77 Kelsey Lane expressed his hope of getting through the evening without bothering the RCMP.

3. Introduction of Late Items - None

4. Approval of Agenda

MOTION S25/27

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the agenda for the Special Meeting of Council for **December 16, 2025**, be approved as presented.

Opposed Cllr Burchett, Cllr Poulsen

CARRIED

MOTION S25/28

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Revenue Anticipation Bylaw No. 517, 2026 be deferred to the January 13th, 2026 meeting of council.

Opposed Mayor Baker, Cllr Coates, Cllr Johnson

DEFEATED

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings – None

6. Petitions and Delegations – None

7. Correspondence – None

8. Council Reports – None

9. Reports of Committees – None

10. Mayor's Report – None

11. Unfinished Business – None

12. Staff Reports – None

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

14. Bylaws

a) Revenue Anticipation Bylaw

- i. Bylaw 517 – Revenue Anticipation Bylaw 2026

MOTION S25/29

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Revenue Anticipation Bylaw No. 517, 2026 be adopted; **and**,
THAT Council authorizes the Mayor and Chief Financial Officer to sign the necessary forms to procure short-term financing from the Municipal Finance Authority.

Opposed Cllr Burchett, Cllr Poulsen

CARRIED

15. New Business

a) Extension of Natural Gas Service to Sayward

MOTION S25/30

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Strathcona Regional District (SRD) be requested to undertake a study at the region's expense to determine the cost to extend natural gas service to the Village of Sayward and surrounding area.

Opposed Cllr Poulsen

CARRIED

16. Public Question Period

- a) Milena Gradisar of 261 Ambleside Road asked how the borrowed funds will be used, including whether it might go towards legal costs.
- b) Jackie Lyons of 291 Ambleside commented that Council members know what municipal funds are being spent on.
- c) Darryl Lyons of 291 Ambleside wished to discuss the Village's Code of Conduct.

Councillor Burchett interjected when Ms. Lyons spoke, and Councillors Burchett and Poulsen interjected when Mr. Lyons spoke. At 7:32 pm Mayor Baker called a ten-minute recess in the meeting. The meeting was recalled to order by Mayor Baker at 7:42 pm; however, neither Councillor Burchett or Councillor Poulsen were present. After the CAO confirmed that Councillor Burchett and Councillor Poulsen had both left the meeting, Mayor Baker called the meeting to order again at 7:45 pm.

- d) Maureen Haslehurst of 520 MacMillan Drive shared her understanding of the \$890,000 borrowing noting ongoing confusion about its purpose. Ms. Haslehurst explained that staff had outlined ways to address an anticipated \$234,000 shortfall, including using this line of credit to support cashflow for the MacMillan Drainage project, describing it as proactive financial planning.

17. In Camera

**MOTION S25/31
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*:

- a) 90(1)(c) labour relations or other employee relations.
- b) 90(1)(d) security of the property of the municipality.
- c) 90(1)(g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality;
- d) 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.
- e) 90(1)(m) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting.

CARRIED

18. Adjournment

**MOTION S25/32
MOVED AND SECONDED**

THAT the Village of Sayward Council adjourns its December 16, 2025 Special Council Meeting.

Time: 8:23 pm

Original Signed by "M.Baker"
Mayor

Original Signed by "A.Young"
Corporate Officer