



**VILLAGE OF SAYWARD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
February 17, 2026
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
Jennifer Redshaw, Office Administrator
Jeannie Bradburne, CPA, Financial Consultant

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Public Input – None

3. Introduction of Late Items – None

4. Approval of Agenda

MOTION C26/1

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the agenda for the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council for February 17, 2026, be approved as presented or as amended.

CARRIED

5. Petitions and Delegation – None

6. Correspondence – None

7. Council Reports – None

8. Reports of Committees – None

9. Mayor's Report – None

10. Unfinished Business – None

11. Staff Reports

- a) **Draft Financial Plan 2026-2030 and Process**

12. New Business – None

13. Public Question Period

- a) Lee Ettinger of 220 Sayward Heights thanked Ms. Bradburne for providing clear and competent information. She also complimented CAO Young for highlighting that several previous councils had made financial, administrative, and operational decisions without being fully informed, contributing to the challenges Sayward faces today. M.s Ettinger stated that, in her view, issues like this will persist in British Columbia until residents have the ability to recall elected officials. She added that this concern is one of the reasons she is advocating for the dissolution of the Village of Sayward as a municipality and for joining the Strathcona Regional District instead.
- b) Maureen Haslehurst of 520 MacMillan Drive expressed disbelief that a councillor that has been so vocal about legal expenses would then request indemnification from the Village in relation to censure allegations and the quorum hearing.
- c) Ellie Sampson of 710 Sayward Road shared that she retired here five years ago seeking an affordable rural lifestyle, but each year it becomes increasingly difficult to remain in the community on a fixed income. She acknowledged the challenging financial position the Village is facing yet expressed disappointment that internal conflicts have contributed to the current situation.

14. In Camera – None

15. Adjournment

MOTION C26/2

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Village of Sayward adjourns its February 17, 2026, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

CARRIED

Time: 8:03pm

Original signed by "M.Baker"
Mayor

Original signed by "A.Young"
Corporate Officer