



**VILLAGE OF SAYWARD  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES  
March 31, 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

**In Attendance:** Andrew Young, CAO/CO  
Jennifer Redshaw, Office Administrator  
Jeannie Bradburne, 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 C26/15**

**MOVED AND SECONDED**

THAT the agenda for the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council for March 31, 2026, be approved as presented.

**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 – Version 3

#### **MOTION C26/16**

#### **MOVED AND SECONDED**

THAT BrightHR software be removed from the budget in 2027

**Opposed Mayor Baker, Cllr Coates, Cllr Johson**

**DEFEATED**

#### **MOTION C26/17**

#### **MOVED AND SECONDED**

THAT the legal budget be reduced by \$100,000 to save the constituents of Sayward 10% in taxes in 2026.

Cllr Poulsen and Cllr Burchett left the meeting at 6:37pm, prior to the vote being taken.

**Opposed Mayor Baker, Cllr Coates, Cllr Johson**

**DEFEATED**

#### **MOTION C26/18**

#### **MOVED AND SECONDED**

THAT staff conduct an ROI (return on investment) analysis and liability for adding a fob system to the weightroom and report back to council.

**CARRIED**

#### **MOTION C26/19**

#### **MOVED AND SECONDED**

THAT Council receives the updated Draft Financial Plan 2026–2030 for information, discussion, and input.

**CARRIED**

## 12. New Business - None

## 13. Public Question Period

- a) Melissa Holmes of 611 MacMillan Drive believes that HR programs are beneficial, and she wished there was one in place when she was a village employee.
- b) Neil MacDougall of 611 Macmillan Drive provided some background about his experience and his dedication to providing youth programs. He reported how well attended the local youth group is, and how critical these programs are. Mr. MacDougall then urged Council to stop the bleed of money for legal fees and to think of local youth. He also encouraged Council to thank the youth volunteer group for the recent work they did to improve the Working Waterfront Trail.

## 14. In Camera – None

**15. Adjournment**

**MOTION C26/20**

**MOVED AND SECONDED**

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

**CARRIED**

**Time: 7:08pm.**

Original signed by "M.Baker"

Mayor

Original signed by "A.Young"

Corporate Officer