



**VILLAGE OF SAYWARD
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
April 14, 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, Financial Consultant

1. Call to Order

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

2. Public Input - None

3. Introduction of Late Items

- a) CAO Young emailed council prior to the meeting an updated agenda to include an addition of a potential resolution under 10) Mayor's Report.
- b) CAO Young noted the updated agenda also included a change from the date of March 16, 2026 to March 25, 2026 under 10) Mayors Report to reflect the date of the Strathcona Regional District Board meeting.
- c) CAO Young provided Council a new second page to Tax Rate Bylaw 523, 2026 to include updated Regional Hospital tax rates which were received earlier that afternoon.
- d) CAO identified that Resolution C26/16 in the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes dated March 31, 2026, was recorded as having "No Second" as the seconder could not be clearly determined from the video recording. Council will have the opportunity to confirm the seconder when this agenda item is considered.

e) Cllr Burchett requested a verbal report be added to the agenda under 8) Council Reports.

MOTION R26/55

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT a verbal report regarding the editing of Council meeting recordings be added to the agenda under 8) Council Reports.

Opposed Mayor Baker, Cllr Coates, Cllr Johnson

DEFEATED

4. Approval of Agenda

MOTION R26/56

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council for **April 14, 2026**, be approved as amended.

Opposed Cllr Burchett, Cllr Poulsen

CARRIED

5. Minutes of Previous Meetings

MOTION R26/57

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Cllr Poulsen's statement be recorded in these meeting minutes.

Opposed Mayor Baker, Cllr Coates, Cllr Johnson

DEFEATED

MOTION R26/58

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the minutes from the **Committee of the Whole Meeting** held on **March 31, 2026**, be adopted as amended.

Opposed Cllr Burchett, Cllr Poulsen

CARRIED

6. Petitions and Delegations – None

7. Correspondence

- a) Heritage Conservation Act Transformation Project- Technical Policy Paper for Review, dated March 26, 2026
- b) Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs Circular RE Parental Leaves and Code of Conduct dated April 2, 2026
- c) Union of BC Municipalities RE New legislation targets standard Code of Conduct for local officials, dated April 8, 2026
- d) Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Funding Announcement dated April 4, 2026

MOTION R26/59

MOVED AND SECONDED

That Council direct staff to review all opportunities to be ready for, and apply to, the Build Community Strong Fund for priority 1 and 2 infrastructure needs.

Opposed Cllr Burchett, Cllr Poulsen

CARRIED

e) Local Basic First Aid Training – May 8, 2026

8. Council Reports – None

9. Reports of Committees – None

10. Mayor’s Report

a) Kelsey Centre Regional Recreational Study

MOTION R26/60

MOVED AND SECONDED

1. THAT Council consider the Kelsey Centre Recreation Service Study report that was presented to the Strathcona Regional District Board on March 25, 2026; and,
2. THAT Council considers and confirms that the Village of Sayward is interested in sharing ownership, governance, and/or financial support with the Strathcona Regional District for the Kelsey Recreation Centre; and,
3. THAT Council supports the Village of Sayward and the Strathcona Regional District jointly supporting a non-binding referendum in conjunction with the General Elections taking place in October 2026 with the purpose of determining public support in the Village of Sayward and in the Sayward Valley within Electoral Area “A” of the Strathcona Regional District for providing long-term financial support to operate the Kelsey Recreation Centre and recreation programs in it.

CARRIED

11. Unfinished Business – None

12. Staff Reports

a) Village of Sayward Five Year Financial Plan 2026-2030

MOTION R26/61

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council receives the Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 522, 2026 staff report for information and discussion.

Opposed Cllr Burchett, Cllr Poulsen

CARRIED

MOTION R26/62

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council gives first, second, and third readings to Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 522, 2026.

Opposed Cllr Burchett, Cllr Poulsen

CARRIED

b) Village of Sayward Municipal Property Tax Rates 2026

MOTION R26/63

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council gives first, second, and third readings to Tax Rates Bylaw No. 523, 2026.

Opposed Cllr Burchett, Cllr Poulsen CARRIED

c) Village of Sayward Fees and Charges Bylaw

MOTION R26/64

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council receives the Proposed Updates to Bylaw No. 451 – Village of Sayward Fees and Charges Bylaw, 2019 report for information and discussion.

Opposed Cllr Burchett, Cllr Poulsen CARRIED

MOTION R26/65

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the deposit for Community Garden keys be removed from the Fees and Charges Bylaw.

Opposed Mayor Baker, Cllr Coates, Cllr Johnson DEFEATED

MOTION R26/66

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council endorses the proposed amendments to the Villages' Fees and Charges Bylaw presented in this report; and,

THAT Council gives first, second, and third reading to Bylaw 524, Fees & Charges Amendment Bylaw as presented.

Opposed Cllr Burchett, Cllr Poulsen CARRIED

d) Official Community Plan Amendments

MOTION R26/67

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council gives second reading to Village of Sayward Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 520, 2026; and,

THAT Council directs staff to schedule a public hearing for Village of Sayward Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 520, 2026 for May 12, 2026, and to give notice of the public hearing in accordance with the Local Government Act and the Village's public notice procedures.

Opposed Cllr Burchett CARRIED

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

14. Bylaws – None

15. New Business – None

16. Public Question Period

- a) Art Bowbrick 77 Kelsey Lane wondered what was the point in doing anything about the Kelsey Centre unless you get the building (seismically) tested first.

17. In Camera – None

18. Adjournment

MOTION R26/68

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Village of Sayward Council adjourns its April 14, 2026 Regular Meeting.

CARRIED

Time: 8:12pm

"Original signed By" M. Baker"
Mayor

Original signed by "A. Young"
Corporate Officer