

**TOWN OF COMOX**  
**Minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee Meeting,**  
**held in Council Chambers on Wednesday October 14, 2020**

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**Present:** Mayor R. Arnott  
Councillors K. Grant (electronically), S. McGowan,  
P. McKenna, N. Minions, M. Swift  
Staff Jordan Wall, Chief Administrative Officer  
C. Freundlich, Director of Finance  
M. Kamenz, Director of Development Services (electronically)

**Absent:** Councillor Bissinger

Pursuant to sections 7(1) and 7(2) of the Local Government Meetings and Bylaw Process (COVID-19) Ministerial Order No. 3 M192, the meeting was conducted by electronic means with some or all members of Council participating electronically. Further, in accordance with section 3(1) of the Ministerial Order No. 3 M192, the public was not permitted to be in attendance. Members of the public were able to attend to view the live-streamed proceedings of Council at d'Esterre Seniors' Centre, 1801 Beaufort Avenue.

Mayor Arnott acknowledged that the Town of Comox is on traditional First Nation land.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

The Agenda was Adopted.

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**1. DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES:**

**a. Presentation by Recreation Director: Recreation Service Levels**

The Recreation Director summarized the closure and reopening of the Community Centre due to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the impacts to the 2020 recreation budget. He advised that they are monitoring the fitness studio and program attendance, and have delayed hiring and postponed special and capital projects in order to manage the budget impacts. He also discussed the impacts of further cuts in service, and presented other options to manage budget impacts.

**2. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES REPORT:**

**a. Strategic Priorities Report**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Strategic Priorities Report be amended to include traffic calming measures and speed limits in Town.

*CARRIED*

**3. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**a. Single Use Plastic Bag Ban**

The September 14, 2020 bulletin on Single Use Plastic Bylaws from Lidstone & Company, and the draft Town of Comox Single Use Plastics Regulation Bylaw No. 1923, 2019, were received for information.

**4. STAFF REPORTS:**

**a. Strategic Plan Review**

The October 14, 2020 Report from the Chief Administrative Officer, titled "Strategic Plan Review", was received for discussion.

**b. Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program Grants**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. THAT Council supports an application from the Comox Valley Airport Commission to the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program for the construction of an additional parking area at the Comox Valley Airport.

*CARRIED*

2. THAT Council approves an application to the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program for the construction of a Marine Services Building at the Comox Marina; and further,

THAT Council authorizes funds from Town of Comox capital reserves for any cost overages.

*CARRIED*

3. THAT, given the deadline of October 29th for submission, these projects be given priority for completion.

*CARRIED*

**c. Economic Recovery Task Force Recommendations**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. THAT a communication strategy be launched to highlight the work Council and the Town have undertaken to promote economic recovery in Comox and that this project be added to the Corporate Strategic Plan;

THAT Council authorizes Mayor Arnott to release a letter of support for the Comox Valley Airport's desires to see improvements on health standards and the Airport Capital Improvement Fund;

THAT the Town of Comox support local cultural events through promotion on social media such as Facebook and Twitter when requested by local non-profit cultural societies;

THAT a report on the approval of patios for the spring of 2021 be brought to Council; and further,

THAT a volunteer promotion campaign be added to the Recreation Strategic Plan.

*CARRIED*

2. THAT a communications plan highlighting the need for increased affordable day care spaces be added to the Corporate Strategic Plan.

*CARRIED*

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**d. Planning Services, Strategic Priorities - October 2020 - 2021**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

That the strategic priorities as contained in the October 14, 2020 staff report to the Strategic Planning Committee entitled Planning Services, Strategic Priorities October 2020 – 2021 be approved.

*CARRIED*

**e. Affordable Housing Reserve**

The October 14, 2020 staff report from the Director of Development Services, titled Affordable Housing Reserve, was received for information.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE:**

**a. Michael Day (Comox Valley Presbyterian Church) Options for the use of their undeveloped portion of their land on Aspen Road**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Town engage in a conversation with the Comox Valley Presbyterian Church to explore opportunities that could be presented to the Town.

*CARRIED*

**b. Dave Wolstenholme - Rapid Housing Initiative (1946 & 1950 Comox Avenue)**

The October 6, 2020 letter from Dave Wolstenholme, regarding lands at 1946 and 1950 Comox Avenue, was received for information.

**Adjournment:**

Regularly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 7:00 p.m.

*CARRIED*

Certified correct pursuant to Section 97(1)(b) of the Community Charter.



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CHAIR