



TOWN OF COMOX
Minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee Meeting,
held in Council Chambers on Wednesday February 11, 2026

Present: Mayor N. Minions
Councillors S. Blacklock, K. Grant, C. Haslett,
J. Kerr, J. Meilleur, M. Swift

Absent: Nil

Staff Present: S. Russwurm, Corporate Officer
E. Henley, Director of Finance
R. Houle, Director of Development Services
G. Schreiner, Fire Chief
S. Ashfield, Director of Operations

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

The Agenda was Adopted

Mayor Minions acknowledged that the Town of Comox is standing on the unceded traditional territory of the K'omoks First Nation, the traditional keepers of this land.

Mayor Minions acknowledged the recent tragedy in Tumbler Ridge, BC, and extended condolences to the affected families and community. Appreciation was expressed to first responders, and support was extended to any members of the local community impacted.

1. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES REPORT:

a. Strategic Plan Scorecard

Council raised no questions on the scorecard, and updates from Parks and Youth Recreation were deferred to a future meeting due to lack of representation and ongoing work.

2. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a. Discussion with External Development Consultants on Amenity Cost Charges and Development Cost Charges

Council received input on DCC and ACC costs and development viability, including confirmation of a recent financial feasibility analysis, discussion of tools such as assist factors, phased approaches and surety bonds, clarification on small scale multi unit housing charges, and consideration of balancing infrastructure funding with measures to support housing delivery.

TOWN OF COMOX - STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

- (1) Tools and Options to Facilitate Development

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council direct Administration to prepare a report outlining all available tools and options to encourage and facilitate development in the Town, including both existing tools that could be amended and additional measures beyond adjusting the DCC and ACC project lists.

CARRIED

THE MEETING RECESSED AT 6:19 PM AND RECONVENED AT 6:26 PM

b. Budget Discussion - how to reduce taxes

Council discussed options to reduce the proposed 8.65 percent 2026 tax increase and directed staff to prepare a 5 percent scenario budget, including a reduction to the Special Projects allocation, with analysis of service level and long term financial impacts.

- (1) Scenario Budget with 5% municipal tax increase

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council direct Administration to prepare a scenario budget based on a 5 percent municipal tax increase, including a reduction to the Special Projects allocation from \$500,000 to \$350,000, and report back with the associated service level and long term financial impacts.

CARRIED

Adjournment:

Regularly moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn at 7:10 p.m.
Certified correct pursuant to Section 97(1)(b) of the Community Charter.

CARRIED

CHAIR 