



Minutes

Meeting Regular Council Meeting
Date November 15, 2022
Time 7:00 PM
Place Municipal Hall - Council Chambers and by electronic means

Present Mayor Martin Davis
Councillor Meggan Joseph by video
Councillor Sarah Fowler by video
Councillor Cheryl Northcott by video
Councillor Douglas Elliott

Staff Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer
Adia Mavrikos, CPA, CA, Director of Finance by video
Janet StDenis, Corporate Services Manager by video
Wanda Waksdale, Admin Assistant
Lauren, Roth, Finance Assistant

Public 13 Members of the public 9 (4 by video)

A. Call to Order

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement

Mayor Davis acknowledged and respected that Council is meeting upon Mowachaht/ Muchalaht territory.

B. Introduction of Late Items

Under New Business as "M5" an application for Tahsis Recreation Center facility rental for the PAC CMESS and under "M6" the Knights of Columbus Community Christmas Hamper Fund Registration form.

C. Approval of the Agenda

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0373/2022

THAT the Agenda for the November 15, 2022 Regular meeting of Council be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

D. Petitions and Delegations

None.

E. Public Input # 1

A member of the public commented on attending Council meetings by electronic means.

A member of the public expressed concern over the ability of the new councillors to "get up to speed" to which Council responded.

Several members of the public spoke to the borrowing bylaws on the agenda.

There was a discussion on aspects of the Council Meeting Agenda(s).

F. Adoption of the Minutes

1 Minutes of the Inaugural/ Regular Council Meeting held on November 1, 2022.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0374/2022

THAT the Inaugural /Regular Council Meeting minutes of November 1, 2022 be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

G. Rise and Report

None.

H. Business Arising

1 Report to Council Re: Rural Dividend Program Conditional Grant Re-purposing

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0375/2022

THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

The CAO provided Council with the chronological history of the Rural Dividend Project Grant and an update on its current status. A discussion of the options to move forward followed.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0376/2022

THAT option #1 (approve re-purposing the Rural Dividend Program (RDP) grant for a project to develop an economic strategy for the Village of Tahsis, including the broader region, and invite further input from the Village of Zeballos (VoZ), the Mowachaht/ Muchalaht First Nation (MMFN) and the Ehattesaht/Chinehkint First Nation (EFCN)) be approved.

CARRIED

J. Council Reports

Mayor Davis

No report.

Councillor Joseph

No report.

Councillor Fowler

Fowler Report Nov 15

As my annual custom I now have Knights of Columbus hamper forms and have made them available, as in previous years at the Tahsis Building Supply. The forms are due to be returned to me on December 3rd (the date of the CMESS PAC BAZAAR) so I can return them to Kevin Gearey. Delivery day is December 20th. I will need to recruit some volunteers that day to distribute them locally. I requested the use of the Tahsis Recreation Centre gym that day to load and organize the hampers before getting them to the recipients. I also request the PAC be permitted to use the tables from the Tahsis Recreation Centre in the school gym as has been done in previous years.

submitted respectfully,
Councillor fowler

Councillor Northcott (verbal report)

Thank you to Sgt Kim Rutherford for all her work and I wish her all the best in her new position.

Councillor Elliott (written report)

Well, if you were all RCMP officers, there would be more councillors here.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At our last council meeting, a member of our community asked if the new councillors understood the details of the flood protection project. I believe he made a very important point. I voted to postpone and against the decision to proceed with phase 3. This was highly irregular that we were asked to vote on this project with so little time to research the details of the project and cost overruns that amounted to over 1 million dollars. I apologise to the community for my lack of experience to postpone this decision. I am disappointed that this item was on the agenda on my first day of being sworn in. This was highly irregular and a reflection of the lack of integrity that inspired me to run for council in the first place.

Although I am not familiar with the plans to upgrade our waste water system, I do believe that grants that assist us with our ailing infrastructure are beneficial and part of our core responsibilities. Due to my previous experience working for Public Works, I have been aware of the fact that the north plant is dysfunctional and needs to be phased out. Once the property has been cleared, this will also give the village an opportunity to create more economic development, at a strategic location in our community. I hope to be more familiar with this project over the winter months. Our south plant requires minor upgrades to improve the flow of waste water which I hope will be included in the plan. This is a 1.8 million dollar upgrade. Our portion is approx. 475K. I do not feel we should borrow any funds for this project and that our portion comes out of existing cash reserves if we wish to pursue this grant.

Which brings to the next point, I have read over the plan to replace our beloved fire hall and I am completely disappointed with this plan. In fact, it's hard to describe without profanity.

The school is by far, the worst location to relocate both our firetrucks, if the river overflows possibly wiping out the bridge, this will eliminate any fire protection for most of the town. Although it claims to be out of the flood plain, it is not a Tsunami friendly location, thus if the lower portion of Tahsis was devastated by a tidal event, the upper portion of our community would again be without fire protection.

This also doesn't take into consideration that we would no longer own the fire hall as it would be located on provincial property under the control of the school district. We would be renters and lose the control of our investment. If evicted, for whatever reason, we again would be faced with huge expenditures replacing the facility at higher real estate costs and starting all over from scratch. Since the grant is not guaranteed, we would quite possibly be responsible for the entire project resulting in over 2 million dollars in debts. That's 30 years of payments with rising interest rates starting at 4.14 percent. This would be the worst investment in the history of this village condemning us to huge tax increases for decades. This plan does not address any long term solution and devalues our present location.

The existing fire hall is no different than any other building in this town. If it requires repairs, then you need to address the issues if you consider yourself as a responsible property owner. Abandoning this property and leaving it in a condemned state is another sign of poor management that we as taxpayers, cannot afford. This building needs to be properly managed, after all it is located on one of the most prestigious locations in our village. If repaired and brought back online, its resale value could fetch a fair market value. This would give our community a chance to fund a solution that would improve our fire protection through the entire community.

In the meantime, we could be storing the two fire engines in separate locations until the existing fire hall is repaired. Public works and the marine center are affordable options, this would improve the fire department's ability to serve the entire community in the case of any disaster. We, as taxpayers, own both of the facilities and any improvements could be retained for future use.

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In summary,

The grant is by no means guaranteed, Our CAO is pushing forward, with the support of the last council, to adopt all three readings tonight to support a loan of over 2 million dollars at high interest rates. A loan that will take 30 years to pay back. Thirty years of higher taxes for a plan that does not include ownership of the facility, no mention of what we would owe the school district for a lease agreement, no public input, no referendum, no committee input nor give any time for the new councillors to be part of the planning process. This will quite possibly be the most shameful act, in the history of our community, by our CAO and by any councillor if these three readings are passed tonight.

My next topic,

I have attended the first of many meetings concerning the next budget for the village. I have asked the CAO for reports concerning the expenditures for legal fees, engineering fees, consulting fees and expenses spent with out of town contractors. Although our accountant offered us any information we needed upon being elected, this is not the case. Our CAO has indicated that I need a resolution by council to receive this information. Furthermore, when I asked for a breakdown in legal fees by department, one of the existing councillors objected to this, stating that this would increase our accounting costs to provide this information. This didn't seem to be a concern when she voted on the last pay raise issued to our CAO. Thankfully our Mayor supported me and felt my request was legitimate and it turns out that the ledger has already reflected legal expenditures per department in the past. They merely didn't wish to present it this way.

I'm expected to sign off on the budget and one of our councillors believes I should be kept in the dark, go with the flow and not question anything. Although I have no influence on what has been spent from Jan 1st to date, which will be reflected on our taxes next July, I hope that my contributions will return taxes to a reasonable increase in future budgets. I have spent a considerable time throughout my career as a Novell Network Engineer designing computer networks that increase profits and improve the overall efficiency of their office staff in both the private sector and the Ministry of Education.

It is absolutely horrifying that any one of us would object to having the mayor or any councillor receive information that would allow them to make intelligent decisions concerning the budget thus providing you as the taxpayer, ethical representation concerning this matter. I will continue to update you on this process and encourage you as the taxpayer to join our meetings. After all, if you are not making in excess of 150K per year and plan on living in Tahsis over the long term, these meetings may have a profound financial effect on your future in our beloved small village.

On the lighter note,

The mayor and I had a great experience meeting the new owner of the farm last week. This lad has energy, vision and a deep affection for this beautiful property. We had a chance to reflect on the history of the property and discuss the possibilities. My personal impression was that he is here for the long term and I look forward to future discussions on how this property will enhance the overall community. Our Mayor was very instrumental in opening the door for future opportunities and what I hope to be a long and prosperous relationship.

My last drive around the community has again confirmed that we need to address the state of some of the front yards. For the sake of attracting future investors to our community, there is room for improvement. I hope the community on a whole will work towards a solution on this matter. I also attended the Remembrance Day memorial. Our Deputy Mayor did a fine Job and the village staff were instrumental in conducting the ceremony in a professional manner. Well done. I also wish to take this opportunity to thank my supporters. I have been engaged in a number of positive conversations and it is overwhelming to see so many of us take pride in our community.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0377/2022
THAT the Council Reports be received.

CARRIED

K. Bylaws

Report to Council Re: Upcoming Capital Projects And Loan Authorization Bylaw Procedures

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0378/2022
THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

1 Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 652, 2022

A bylaw to authorize the borrowing of the estimated cost of the Tahsis Firehall Relocation Project.

1st , 2nd and 3rd Reading

The Director of Finance provided council with the background information on the Firehall Relocation and Wastewater Reconfiguration & Upgrade Project (Phase 1) which was approved and committed to at the September 6, 2022 Regular Council meeting.

The alternative procedures and financial implications for long-term borrowing was explained in detail. A discussion followed.

Elliott/ Joseph: VOT 379/2022

THAT a motion be permitted to be brought forward to postpone the readings of Loan Authorization bylaw No. 653, 2022.

CARRIED

There was a discussion regarding alleged conflict of interest of some Councillors with respect to the Firehall Relocation Project. No conflicts of interest were declared.

Elliott/Northcott: VOT 480/2022

THAT the Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 652,2022 be postponed to a future meeting.

CARRIED

**1 registered
"no" Councillor
Fowler**

2 Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 653, 2022

A bylaw to authorize the borrowing of the estimated cost of the Tahsis Wastewater Treatment Reconfiguration & Upgrade Project.

1st, 2nd and 3rd Reading

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0381/2022

THAT the Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 653,2022 be received for consideration.

CARRIED

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0382/2022

THAT the Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 653,2022 receive a first reading this 15th day of November 2022.

CARRIED

**1 registered
"no" Councillor
Elliott**

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0383/2022

THAT the Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 653,2022 receive a second reading this 15th day of November 2022.

CARRIED

**1 registered
"no" Councillor
Elliott**

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0384/2022

THAT the Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 653,2022 receive a third reading this 15th day of November 2022.

CARRIED

**1 registered
"no" Councillor
Elliott**

L. Correspondence

- 1 Letter to Mayor and Council from Jennifer Woodland, Managing Director , Grieg Seafood BC Ltd. Re: Congratulations to Mayor Davis, Councillor Fowler and Councillor Northcott on their return to Council and to the two new Councillors- Councillor Joseph and Councillor Elliott.**

2 **Email to Mayor Davis from Josie Osborne, Minister of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship Re: Congratulations on re-election and thankyou for meeting at the 2022 UBCM.**

3 **Email from the Honourable Mitzi Dean, Minister of Children and Family Development Re: Adoption Awareness Month.**

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0385/2022

THAT these correspondence items be received.

CARRIED

M. New Business

1 **2022 Report to Council Re: End of Season Report for The Tahsis Information Center and Museum.**

Northcott/Fowler: VOT 0386/2022

THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

2 **Councillor Fowler Resolution Re: UBCM health benefit options for elected officials and travel rates.**

WHEREAS the Union of BC Municipalities has a time-limited opportunity for local government elected officials to sign up for one of the nine Pacific Blue Cross health benefits program options;

AND WHEREAS program eligibility requires a majority of Tahsis Council to sign up for the same option;

AND WHEREAS Village business travel rates have not been increased in over 8 years;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a majority of Council members enroll in the same UBCM health benefit option; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff prepare a report with travel rate increase options for Council's consideration.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0387/2022

THAT this motion be received .

CARRIED

Councillor Fowler spoke to the resolution and responded to questions from Council.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0388/2022

THAT this resolution be approved.

CARRIED

3 Grant Application Re: 2023 Celebrate Canada

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0389/2022

THAT this grant application be received.

CARRIED

There was a brief discussion on this grant application.

Elliott/Fowler: VOT 0390/2022

THAT this grant application be approved.

CARRIED

4 Councillor Fowler's Notice of Motion Re: Food Costs and Climate Change Impact Stories Project

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0391/2022

THAT the resolution seeking approval for Tahsis participating in the Food Costs and Climate Change Impact Stories Project be considered.

CARRIED

Councillor Fowler spoke to this resolution and responded to questions from Council.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0392/2022

WHEREAS Councillor Fowler submitted an Expression of Interest in mid-October in response to the Call for Interest: Food Costs and Climate Change Impact Stories Project posted on the BC Food Security Gateway; and

WHEREAS, in response to Councillor Fowler's submission, Tahsis has been selected to participate in the project, which could entail the Village receiving a \$1,000 contribution; and

WHEREAS food security is an important issue for Tahsis Council as it impacts many residents;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Tahsis Council approves the Village participating in the Food Costs and Climate Change Impact Stories project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Tahsis Council appoints Councillor Fowler to lead the Village's participation in this project.

CARRIED

5 Councillor Fowlers application for rental of the Tahsis Recreation Center for the PAC CMESS.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0393/2022

THAT this application be received for information.

CARRIED

6 Knights of Columbus Community Christmas Hamper Fund Registration.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0394/2022

THAT this registration form for the Knights of Columbus Community Christmas Hampers be received for information.

CARRIED

N. Public Input #2

A member of the public had a question regarding the November 1st Regular Council Meeting minutes to which the CAO responded.

There was a discussion around the use of projectors, projector screens, microphones and newsletters to enhance the accessibility, sound and visibility of the council meetings.

A resident commented on the current travel claim form and the portion of HBFSR that is no longer gravel.

There was a question regarding when the last OCP (Official Community Plan) was completed to which the Mayor responded that the last OCP was adopted in 2020.

Public Exclusion

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0395/2022

THAT the meeting is closed to the public in accordance with section 90 (1) (e) of the Community Charter- the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality.

CARRIED

Recess

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0396/2022

THAT the Regular Council Meeting recess to go into the in camera meeting.

CARRIED

Reconvene

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0403/2022

THAT the Regular Council Meeting reconvene at 9:44 p.m.

CARRIED

Rise and Report

At the November 15th, 2022 Closed Council meeting Council approved the Village's October 26, 2022 Property Management Policy.

Adjournment

Fowler/Northcott: VOT0404

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified Correct this

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of fluid, connected strokes that form a stylized, somewhat abstract shape.

the 6th day of December, 2022

Chief Administrative Officer

M5



Late item
Nov 15.

VILLAGE OF TAH SIS

APPLICATION FOR RECREATION FACILITY RENTAL

Renter Information

Name of Renter: Sarah Fowler

Organization: PAC CMSS

Billing Address: request free use.

Telephone Number: 250 - ~~250~~ 934-7713

Rental Information

Room/ Area Requested: Dec 2 2022

Date Room/ Area Required: Dec 4 2022

Time Facility to be Opened: _____ Closed: _____

Number of People Expected: _____

Equipment Required: tables only

Staffing Required or Scheduled

Desk Person Lifeguard Climbing Wall Maintenance

Total Staff Hours Required: NA

ON BEHALF OF THE ORGANIZATION OR INDIVIDUAL NOTED ABOVE, I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD, AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY ALL THE CONDITIONS AND REGULATIONS AS SET OUT ON THE ATTACHMENTS TO THIS APPLICATION FORM.

Signature S. Fowler

Date NOV 15 2022

annual request

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Free Use

Fee Paid

Fee Amount \$ _____

M6

Late item Nov 15

Community Christmas Hamper Fund Registration

Knights of Columbus



Please fill out ALL sections below. **PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.** The main reasons for the rejection of registrations are invalid addresses and unreadable submissions.

Head of Household

NAME: _____ SEX (M / F) AGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____
 NUMBER STREET APT CITY

PHONE NUMBER: _____

Other Household Occupants who live at this address: Adults & Children

Please give the FULL NAME, both First and Last.

NAME: _____ SEX (M / F) AGE: _____

NAME: _____ SEX (M / F) AGE: _____

NAME: _____ SEX (M / F) AGE: _____

NAME: _____ SEX (M / F) AGE: _____

NAME: _____ SEX (M / F) AGE: _____

NAME: _____ SEX (M / F) AGE: _____

NAME: _____ SEX (M / F) AGE: _____

NAME: _____ SEX (M / F) AGE: _____

Name of person registering: _____

PLEASE PRINT

Signature of registrant: _____

DELIVERY DATE FOR OUT OF TOWN HAMPERS IS DECEMBER 20, 2022

REGISTRATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2022

*Contact Sarah Fowler 250-202-8416
do submit correct address