



Minutes

<u>Meeting</u>	Regular Council Meeting
<u>Date</u>	December 5, 2023
<u>Time</u>	7:00 PM
<u>Place</u>	Municipal Hall - Council Chambers and by electronic means

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

Absent Councillor Meggan Joseph

Staff Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer **by video**
Adia Mavrikos, CPA, CA, Director of Finance **by video**
Janet StDenis, Corporate Services Manager **by video**
Lauren Roth, Finance and Administrative Assistant **by video**
Paige Sawyer, Rural Business Advisor **by video**
Wanda Waksdale, Administrative Assistant

Public 7 members of the public. **2 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

None.

C. Approval of the Agenda

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0400/2023

THAT the Agenda for the December 5, 2023 Regular meeting of Council be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

D. Petitions and Delegations

None.

E. Public Input # 1

A member of the public had questions regarding the Flood Wall Project to which Mayor Davis responded.

There was an inquiry as to when the Firehall Relocation Project would begin to which Council responded.

A member of the public commented on the Community Questionnaire regarding Head Bay Forest Service Road. A discussion followed.

F. Adoption of the Minutes

1 Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on November 15, 2023.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0401/2023

THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes of November 15, 2023 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

2 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on November 21, 2023.

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0402/2023

THAT the Regular Council Meeting minutes of November 21, 2023 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED
1 Registered "no"
Councillor Elliott

H. Business Arising

None.

J. Council Reports

Mayor Davis (written report)

We have a new fire chief who will be starting his position in January 24 after he moves with his family to Tahsis. Kyle Wilkinson has an extensive career as a first responder in Ontario and Alberta. On behalf of our village I would like to extend a warm welcome to them.

Our Rural Business Advisor, Paige Sawyer, has announced her availability to the community regarding their business needs by hosting one on one meetings at the rec centre. She is here to work with potential and existing businesses to answer questions and work to come up with solutions for any barriers to achieving your goals. Please note, advisory services are provided on a first come first serve basis. Depending on demand, this program may run on an appointment basis in the future.

I would like to note that there were questions regarding the amount that the Village spends on legal services. I have been advised by our lawyer that we are not required to disclose specific information as this can prejudice cases in progress. Legal costs will be stated in aggregate in our Statement of Financial Information which will be posted mid-2024. I will also state that in regard to our longest running case, the Municipal Insurance Association of BC has stepped in and will be paying the legal costs for defending our staff and elected officials from here on, so as to mitigate further financial impact to our taxpayers.

You may have already noticed that we now have an increased RCMP presence in Tahsis. This is in response to ongoing concerns from citizens. I have heard repeatedly that people do not feel safe in our community and that there has been a rise in thefts. I have also been made aware that citizens had often been under-reporting incidents as they felt that the response was too little, too late. In response, the RCMP will be spending more time in our community, including overnight stays, and will be reactivating their office space to facilitate this. Staffing at the Nootka Detachment has been increased with vacant positions being filled and we welcome this.

Councillor Joseph

None.

Councillor Fowler (verbal report)

My only thing to report is that the Christmas concert for the school is on December 13th and the Knights of Columbus Christmas Hampers are arriving December 19th. If you are able to help with the heavy lifting and deliveries, I would appreciate every effort.

Thank you.

Councillor Northcott

No Report.

Councillor Elliott (written report)

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In light of what the village has spent sending this council to the UBCM meeting, it is very disappointing that they have no reports for the community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of this community that have reached out to me with their concerns for my well being. Tahsis is an amazing place. Furthermore, my wife and I continue to enjoy our interaction with this community.

In the past two terms, there has been no residential development in this village. Instead, we have deficit spending, cost overruns, a dramatic tax increase in 2022, a failure to properly maintain our decrepit buildings and a dramatic increase in legal expenditures when services have suffered. I did not pursue this position to engage in such activities that will result in more increases in taxation.

That said, I have one more task to work on before my resignation date takes effect. Until that date, I do not wish to interfere with this council in their pursuits. It is abundantly clear that changes are due within the provincial government concerning the oversight of local government.

In the meantime, I look forward to more conversations with members of the community concerning the fate of our village. It is still not too late to implement changes that will ensure a more affordable future and far more peaceful community.

Thank you for your support and I wish you all the best in the upcoming winter festivities.

Councillor Doug Elliott

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0403/2023

THAT the Council Reports be received.

CARRIED

K. Bylaws

None.

L. Correspondence

1 November 28, 2023 email from Kelly Greene, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship to Mayor Davis Re: Recap of Meeting at UBCM.

2 November 10, 2023 email from Doug Routley, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Forests to Mayor Davis Re: Recap of meeting at UBCM.

3 November 10, 2023 email from Honourable Bowinn Ma, Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness to Mayor Davis Re: Follow up from September 20, 2023 meeting at UBCM.

4 November 16, 2023 email from Honourable George Heyman, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy to Mayor and Council Re: Follow-up on Parliamentary Secretary Singh's meeting with Tahsis Representatives at UBCM.

5 **November 27, 2023 email from Honourable Anne Kang, Ministry of Municipal Affairs Re: Meeting at UBCM.**

6 **November 28, 2023 email from Marie Crawford, General Manager, Richmond Operations, Union of BC Municipalities Re: Minister Kang's Referral to UBCM.**

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0404/2023

THAT these correspondence items be received.

CARRIED

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0405/2023

THAT correspondence item # 5 be pulled for discussion.

CARRIED

L5 **November 27, 2023 email from Honourable Anne Kang, Ministry of Municipal Affairs Re: Meeting at UBCM.**

Councillor Fowler spoke to this correspondence noting that UBCM LGMA recently collaborated to develop an online module called Responsible Conduct Every Day and Further.

M. New Business

None.

Public Input #2

None.

Public Exclusion

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0406/2023

THAT this meeting is closed to the public in accordance with section 90 (1)(a) of the Community Charter – personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality; and 90 (1) (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality.

CARRIED

Recess:

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0407/2023

THAT the Regular Council Meeting recess at 7:25 p.m. to go into the in camera meeting.

CARRIED

Reconvene:

Fowler/Northcott: VOT 0418/2023

THAT the Regular Council Meeting reconvene at 8:38 p.m..

CARRIED

Rise and Report

1 At the December 5th, 2023 Closed Special Council Meeting Council approved extending the Master Standing Agreement with McElhanney.

2 At the December 5, 2023 Closed Special Meeting Council approved sub-dividing DL 443, Nootka Land District (PID 009-809-244).

Adjournment

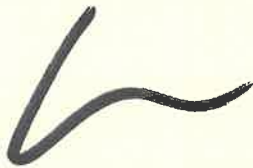
Northcott/ Fowler: VOT 0419/s023

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified Correct this

2nd Day of January, 2024



Chief Administrative Officer