



Minutes

<u>Meeting</u>	Regular Council Meeting
<u>Date</u>	September 2, 2025
<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 Brenda Lenahan
Councillor Ryan Moore
Councillor Cheryl Northcott by video

Staff Mark Tatchell, Chief Administrative Officer by video
Adia Mavrikos, CPA, CA, Director of Finance by video
Paige Sawyer, Economic Development Coordinator by video
Janet StDenis, Corporate Services Manager

Public 12 members of the public. 3 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 **Moore/Fowler: VOT 0311/2025**

THAT the Agenda for the September 2, 2025 Regular meeting of Council be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

E. Public Input # 1	<p>Members of the public expressed their concerns over the design, ecological impact, traffic and roadway changes and community consultation/ communication process with regards to the Flood Mitigation Project, Phase 3.</p> <p>A member of the public commented on the cost of the Tahsis Tourist Centre Upgrade Project.</p>	
F. Adoption of the Minutes	<p>1 August 5, 2025 Standing Committee of Business Liaison Meeting Minutes</p>	
	<p>Fowler/Moore: VOT 0312/2025 THAT the Standing Committee of Business Liaison Meeting minutes of August 5, 2025 be adopted as presented.</p>	CARRIED
	<p>2 August 5, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes</p>	
	<p>Moore/Fowler: VOT 0313/2025 THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes of August 5, 2025 be adopted as presented.</p>	CARRIED
	<p>3 August 5, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Minutes</p>	
	<p>Moore/Fowler: VOT 0314/2025 THAT the Regular Council Meeting minutes of August 5, 2025 be adopted as presented.</p>	CARRIED
	<p>4 August 21, 2025 Standing Committee of Business Liaison Meeting Minutes</p>	
	<p>Moore/Fowler: VOT 0315/2025 THAT the Standing Committee of Business Liaison Meeting minutes of August 21, 2025 be adopted as presented.</p>	CARRIED
G. Rise and Report	None.	
H. Business Arising	<p>1 2025 UBCM Small Talk Forum - Potential agenda / discussion topics.</p>	
	<p>Fowler/Moore: VOT 0316/2025 THAT this information be received.</p>	CARRIED

Councillor Fowler spoke to the Village of Tahsis "success stories" that she plans to speak about during the 2025 UBCM Small Talk Forum.

2 Report to Council Re: Village of Tahsis Q2 Operating Results to June 30, 2025.

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0317/2025

THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

The Directed of Finance presented the Q2 operating results to Council, detailing the revenue and expenditure variances to date and projected variances for year end. Both revenue and expenditure variances were explained.

A net operating surplus was projected for year end.

The Q3 report will be presented in October and this report will include expenditures over \$10,000 as requested by Mayor Davis.

J. Council Reports

Mayor Davis

I hope everybody has had a good summer. Once again, the road to Tahsis started the summer in good condition but was allowed to deteriorate to a dangerous state that is always harmful to our economy as it is the chief deterrent to tourism. There have also been a few accidents this summer. We have always heard the same excuses as to why it isn't maintained regularly: too dry, too wet. We know that dry roads can be graded in concert with water trucks. This has been done in the past, but the contractor is unwilling to do this. I have said it before, but maintaining roads for profit is a failed model and will never lead to maintenance levels that we used to enjoy before it was passed to the private sector.

The Union of BC Municipalities Convention is coming up in September, a time to meet with provincial ministers and ministries regarding our local issues. We have once again been turned down by the Minister of Transportation and Transit for a direct meeting. At the last Strathcona Regional District meeting I brought forward a motion for the SRD board to provide support in advocating for a direct meeting with Minister Farnworth; it passed unanimously. This is not necessarily tied to UBCM and is in fact a better option in my opinion, given our poor history there in regard to road advocacy. If this works, I believe our best strategy is to use the history of this road and its politics, along with the growth in tourism and other economic activity to advocate for full sealcoating and other improvements. I personally spent \$1000 last week replacing a spring and shocks due to pothole damages.

As an update to our wharf plan, the revised tender is going out to rebuild our boat launch to the proper grade and to build a launch float beside it.

Our old airplane dock was recently closed due to safety concerns. Repairs will be quite expensive and we will be meeting soon to discuss our options. In the meantime, it is fenced off. Please do not attempt to use it as we don't want anybody getting hurt or worse.

The museum rebuild is proceeding with replacement of rotted sections, strengthening foundations, replacing wiring and plumbing, new windows and interior renovations. It will be reopening next year with new displays that will include First Nation history, mill history, natural history and an expanded display of the unique cave resources of the region.

Its pleasing to see the uptick in tourism in our area as it expands beyond sport fishing to include growth in cycle tours, kayaking and hiking, primarily of the Nootka Trail. Water taxi use is expanding rapidly with more boats entering service. While US tourism may have decreased due to political instability south of the border, we have seen a flood of European and Canadian tourism to Tahsis. The opening of new meal services provide more choice and are popular new additions to our community.

Last week I attended the ceremonies in Gold River around the launch of the 'Explore Nootka' water taxi, a recent acquisition of Mowachaht/ Muchalaht First Nation. It will be used to provide direct access for MMFN members to Yuquot and other communities in the region. It was good to meet again with Chiefs Maquinna and Jack and to keep those paths of communication open. The MMFN have recently begun land claim negotiations over their traditional territory. This will not impact municipalities or privately held lands.

A boardwalk has been built on the south side of Malaspina Lake, with a small landing platform to be built soon. A composting toilet is also under construction nearby.

Our wastewater upgrade project is nearing completion but there are still a few bugs in the system that need working out. One interesting finding is that decommissioning the north plant produced a massive amount of wet wipes which caused huge problems for the plants and prevented their proper function. They were removed and landfilled. Now we can extract wet wipes before treatment. Its notable that wet wipes generate 1-2 garbage cans full every day, which public works has to landfill. This takes them away from doing other work and increases costs. Wet wipes are garbage; they are not recyclable or biodegradable. They should be banned or redesigned to be biodegradable as this is a problem wherever they are sold. The city of London, UK is currently removing an 'island' of wet wipes from the Thames River!

One more item of note: starting last year I participated in a radon detection program, as part of a national study. I placed it in my basement and it showed radon gas there to be almost double the safe limit. This is a common problem and there are ventilation strategies to mitigate it. It can cause lung cancer over time.

Councillor Northcott

I attended the Vancouver Island Regional Library Audit Finance Special Committee special meeting on Aug 14 and was briefed on the 2026 member levies. The apportionment is determined using the apportionment calculation legislated by the library act.

The Village of Tahsis levies increased by \$5001, and our total levies will be \$21,167 for 2026. This works out to \$0.06/\$1 00 of shared cost.

Councillor Lenahan

No report.

Councillor Moore

No report.

Councillor Fowler

Please find below the volunteer call out schedule for NSW on the Burman and Gold Rivers.

Submitted respectfully,
Councillor Fowler

From: sarah fowler <farmeveryfoot@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, September 1, 2025 9:40 AM

To: Reception Account <Reception@villageoftahsis.com>

Subject: Fowler report. NSW - Gold & Burman Rivers Broodstock Collection Volunteer Call-out

Hi Everyone,

I hope this message finds you well and you have had a fantastic summer wherever your adventures have taken you.

We have some tentative dates planned for broodstock collection in the Gold and Burman Rivers. We are looking for volunteers to help with this fun and important collaborative event with MMFN, the Conuma Hatchery, and NSW.

The dates and details are as follows. Please let me know if you have any questions at all or plan to attend for an idea of numbers:

Burman River Brood Collection:

September 9th & 10th

Meet at the Gold River dock at 8am

(boats to shuttle volunteers to the sea pen)

Gold River Brood Collection:
September 12th & 13th
Meet at the Pumphouse at 8am

* Fish numbers, locations, temps and forecasts are being monitored and plans may change accordingly

Moore/Fowler: VOT 0318/2025
THAT the Council Reports be received.

CARRIED

K. Bylaws None.

L. Correspondence 1 **August 13, 2025 email from Councillor Trish Mandewo, UBCM President to Mayor and Council Re: Canada Community - Building Fund : First Community Works Fund Payment for 2025/2026.**

2 **August 8, 2025 email from Tony Luck, MLA to Mayor and Council Re: 2025 UBCM Official Opposition Meeting Opportunities.**

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0319/2025
THAT these correspondence items be received.

CARRIED

Lenahan/Moore: VOT 0320/2025
THAT correspondence item "L2" be pulled for discussion.

CARRIED

Councillor Lenahan spoke to this correspondence item and the opportunity to voice Council's concerns regarding Head Bay Forest Service Road (HBFSR).
Council discussed this opportunity.

L2 Lenahan/Moore: VOT 0321/2025
THAT this item be put on the September 16, 2025 Regular Council Meeting agenda.

CARRIED

M. New Business 1 **Report to Council Re: SPARC Local Community Accessibility Grant- Village Website Improvements**

Moore/Lenahan: VOT 0322/2025
THAT this Report to Council be received.

CARRIED

The CAO spoke to this 100% funded grant opportunity that would enable the Village of Tahsis to bring its website into provincial compliance (Accessible British Columbia Act).

Council discussed the proposed Village website improvements and requested more details of the scope of quote.

Alternative uses for the grant along with grant timelines and the decision process were discussed.

Councillor Lenahan advocated for consulting with community members to identify urgent accessibility barriers, such as pool access and privacy in change rooms, before finalizing the grant application.

Moore/Lenahan: VOT 0323/2025

THAT the staff report be tabled and staff investigate other options for this grant opportunity.

CARRIED

2 Village of Tahsis Standing Committee of Business Liaison - Draft Open House event plan - for information.

Moore/Fowler: VOT 0324/2025

THAT the draft plan be received for information.

CARRIED

3 Village of Tahsis Standing Committee of Business Liaison - Strategic Economic Development Plan survey questions.

Moore/Lenahan: VOT 0325/2025

THAT the draft survey questions be received.

CARRIED

Council discussed the draft survey question and made the following recommendations: number the questions; incorporate a rating system for the questions and delete the second survey question on page 47 of the agenda (as it is no longer relevant).

Fowler/Lenahan: VOT 0326/2025

THAT the draft survey questions be approved as amended.

CARRIED

4 August 18, 2025 email from Councillor Lenahan Re: Airplane Dock Closure

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0327/2025

THAT this email be received for discussion.

CARRIED

Councillor Lenahan spoke to her concerns about the air plane dock closure and proposed some potential solutions.

The condition of the airplane dock, safety concerns, repair options, budget constraints, timing of repairs and obtaining a new conditional assessment were discussed.

The CAO noted that the airplane dock repair is an operational matter for which Staff will come up with a plan to address.

N. Public Input #2

A member of the public commented on "M1" the SPARC Local Community Accessibility Grant.

Alternativities and options for the airplane dock were discussed.

A member of the public inquired into which sections of N. Maquinna would become a one-way street to which the CAO responded. The resident was directed to the Village's website for specific details.

<https://www.villageoftahsis.com/community-consultations/>

There was a discussion regarding impaired driving and speeding on North Maquinna Drive and Alpine View Road to which Councillor Moore responded.

O. Adjournment

Fowler/Moore: VOT 0328/2025

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

CARRIED

**Certified Correct this
16th day of September, 2025**



Chief Administrative Officer