



## Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Tahsis Village Council  
Held February 15, 2011 at the Council Chambers  
Municipal Hall, 977 South Maquinna

**Present:** Mayor Corrine Dahling  
Councillors A. Cameron; J. Schooner; M. Davis; S. Atkinson

**Staff:** April Roth, Acting Corporate Officer

10 members of the public

### Call to Order:

Mayor Dahling stated that she would like to acknowledge and respect that we are upon Mowachaht Muchalaht traditional territory, and called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

### Introduction of Late Items:

### Approval of the Agenda:

**/2011**

Davis/Schooner

**THAT:** the agenda for the February 15, 2011 Regular Council meeting be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED-UNANIMOUS**

### Petitions and Delegations:

**/2011**

**Adoption of Minutes:**

**1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting held February 1, 2011**

**/2011**

Davis/Atkinson

**THAT:** the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held February 1, 2011 be adopted with corrections.

*There were 2 spelling errors and one omission-Barb Wanless had commented on the issue of one way access on Rugged Mountain road.*

**CARRIED-UNANIMOUS**

**Business Arising:**

**Public Input:**

Dave McIntosh enquired as to why the LGMA Conference travel expense request was brought forward to the meeting when the travel expenses were defeated at the last meeting.

Mayor Dahling stated that the conference is for continuance and transitioning to a new council.

Barb Wanless enquired about when a sign is going to be put up on Rugged Mountain road. Mrs. Wanless also enquired as to when the fence to Western Forest Products property is going to be repaired as she is concerned about the sidewalk.

Mayor Dahling stated that Public Works will do the work when weather permits.

Sumeet Sharma stated that he does not support his tax dollars being spent on the LGMA Conference. Mr. Sharma recommended that a staff member would be a better choice to send as they would be in office before and after the election, for the transitional period.

**Reports & Questions:**

**COUNCIL:**

**Mayor Dahling:**

Reported verbally on an issue regarding her llamas. She stated the gate to their pen was opened and the llama's escaped and 2 bags of garbage were dumped in the llama pen. Mayor Dahling asked the public to watch for mischief such as this.

**Councillor S. Atkinson:**

I attended, along with other members of Council, two Special Closed meetings. These meetings were regarding land, finance and personnel.

**/2011**

I did internet research regarding all of the items of the detailed program of the Local Government Leadership Academy Forum on Governance Success: Post-Election Strategies which is this evening's agenda. This research involved the elements of effective governance, its key issues, development strategies and orientation.

From this research in my frank opinion, what is required is a meeting of candid interaction for as long as two days between staff and all of Council. The items covered at such a meeting would be the history, evolution and review of goals, issues and challenges facing the Village including policies, procedure, facility tours, roles and responsibilities of staff and Council. In conclusion, through this research and for Council to show due diligence and fiscal responsibility attendance for this Forum is not required.

**Councillor A. Cameron:**

Thank you for coming out tonight, and welcome. This won't be a long report, I promise. We've had special closed meetings, and I've attended and tried to contribute, and I've spent a lot of time... and I mean a LOT of time... on the internet, trying to research our position with regard to our drinking water, McKelvie Creek, water rights, and the proposed changes in legislation which are closing in on us.

Last Council meeting I had an article on water which I had copied so some of you could take it home, read it, and study it, and tonight...I have an article which I have copied for you. I hope this time I have enough copies.

The provincial government is considering changes, and while Progress is always needed, and our present water rules are old and in some ways out-dated, still, change just for the sake of change isn't exactly well reasoned or well considered. When you read both of these articles, and see how one of them relates to the other, you are probably going to feel that we're very close to seeing the day when water becomes marketable property, like real estate or used cars.

If we look at water and then look at oil, we can see parallels and similarities. And it is no secret that the everyday people in what are termed "oil rich nations" haven't benefited very much from the billions of dollars worth of what has been extracted from the land under their very feet. Some families have become rich beyond any belief, some corporations have accumulated more wealth than you or I could even imagine, but the ordinary people are no better off than their ancestors were when they were roaming the desert with their camel herds, looking for water to drink. We've been inundated with reports about Egypt in the past three weeks. Egypt is one of the oil rich nations, Egypt has the Suez Canal, Egypt ought to be a place where everyone lives a comfortable life but those people demonstrating in that square are, in most cases, trying to keep body and soul together on less than two dollars a day while the oligarchs live lives more lavish than anything any of us will ever experience.

Are we to sit here, like sheeple, and let the same thing happen with water? Everyone in Tahsis lives under a rain cloud at least half the year. We see water, it falls from the sky. After a few months of heavy gray skies and soggy squishy ground we all get just a bit sick and tired of rain. We take extra vitamin D3 to try to offset the depression which comes with lack of sunlight. And interests not ours are readying to make a fortune out of that very rain which we all experience.

If anyone is to make any profit at all from drinking water pulled out of our region, it should be the citizens of the Village of Tahsis. Not a Canadian registered branch plant of a foreign corporation but us, our children, and our grandchildren. Right now North American Free Trade Agreement does not allow the bulk sale of water across our border. But as soon as that water is taken out of the bulk tank and put into bottles, it can be exported. If anyone is going to export bottled water from McKelvie or any other creek in our region the benefit should be shared equally between the citizens of the Village of Tahsis and the members of the Moachat-Muchalat in whose traditional territory we are privileged and blessed to live.

I do not know how to make this happen. I ask you...all of you... to put aside any political axes we may all have been grinding until now, and to contribute your knowledge and skills to helping find a way for us to beg, borrow, or somehow acquire the funding necessary to set up a bottling plant, possibly on the old mill site, and for us, not foreign interests, to get the economic benefit of the rain we've been enduring all winter.

**Councillor J. Schooner:**

Good evening.

Since the last council meeting I attended the Parent Advisory Council meeting on February 7th where Principal Scott Cobbe reported on the success of the field trip to Gold River where students were able to partake in both skating and swimming activities. Observations made by PAC members were that extra curricular activities such as these provide students the opportunity to work on skill sets including social development and social responsibilities. The students experience new environments and gain an understanding of appropriate behavior while on the field trip.

An update on the Farm to School Salad Bar reported that Sylvie Keen was selected coordinator for the program and that a Food Safe Program will be offered in the near future for volunteers and students.

I would like to remind everyone that the Missoula Children's Theatre is returning with a production of *Treasure Island* with a matinée at 1:00 pm on February 19th followed by an adult-only dinner theatre showing at 6:00 p.m. The public will notice that there is a charge for the performances this year and that is to insure that funding will be available for the theatre group to return in future years with more productions. The presentation this year is funded through a grant from the *Tahsis Literacy Society*.

Mr. Cobbe spoke to the impact on the community regarding the decrease in the number of students recognizing that Tahsis witnesses a high degree of transients, though strongly feels that School District 84 supports Captain Meares staying open. The principal finished the meeting off with a conversation about the need of a Mental Health worker in Tahsis.

Also council should be aware that the school is hoping for some discussions regarding a shared-use agreement with the Village concerning the school and the rec center.

On the 8th of February I attended a special closed meeting that saw several minutes from previous meetings adopted and had an agenda that covered legal and personnel issues. I excused myself from the meeting due to 'conflict of interests' regarding rental leases. I would like to take this opportunity to advise council as a councillor and as a renter that the most equitable solution to rental properties is to do it as a cost per square footage and that way there would be no appearance of favoritism.

Also since the last council meeting Councillor Atkinson and myself met with Public Works to obtain advice on the infrastructure grant that we applied for concerning a water leak detection survey for the Village. We finished the grant application and it was sent today.

Thank you for attending and that is my report.

**Councillor M. Davis:**

Reported verbally on attending a Vancouver Island Regional Library Meeting and apologized for not being at the previous regular meeting. He also mentioned the upcoming stakeholder meeting regarding water which will have IPP (Synex Energy Ltd.), Public Works, Salmon Enhancement, VIHA, Department of Fisheries, and Ministry of Environment in attendance. Councillor Davis stated that he has been working on the agenda for this meeting with Tia Russell, Administrative Assistant, which will be held on February 21, 2011.

**STAFF**

**April Roth, Finance Assistant:**

**Bylaws:**

**Correspondence:**

**1. Melina Fraser**

**Re: Request for Permission to Build a Bench**

**/2011**

Schooner/Davis

**THAT:** the item be received.

**CARRIED-UNANIMOUS**

**2. Maureen Roth, Pitch-In Canada Coordinator**

**Re: Community Clean Up**

**/2011**

Davis/Schooner

**THAT:** the item be received.

**CARRIED-UNANIMOUS**

**/2011**

**3. Nootka Sound Economic Development Corporation  
Re: NSEDC 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report 2010**

**/2011**

Atkinson/Schooner

**THAT:** the item be received.

**CARRIED-UNANIMOUS**

**4. Nootka Sound Economic Development Corporation  
Re: NSEDC 2011 Annual General Meeting**

**/2011**

Davis/Schooner

**THAT:** the item be received.

**CARRIED-UNANIMOUS**

**5. Sgt. Jason Fiddler, Nootka Sound RCMP  
Re: Nootka Sound Royal Canadian Mounted Police Youth Academy 2011**

**/2011**

Davis/Cameron

**THAT:** the Village of Tahsis donate \$50.00 to the Nootka Sound Royal Canadian Mounted Police Youth Academy 2011.

**CARRIED  
Mayor Dahling-OPPOSED**

**6. Douglas Nelson, BC Cancer Foundation  
Re: Thank You for Gift in Support of the BC Cancer Foundation**

**/2011**

Davis/Schooner

**THAT:** the item be received.

**CARRIED-UNANIMOUS**

**7. Barry O'Neill, CUPE BC  
Re: Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)**

**/2011**

Dahling/Schooner

**THAT:** the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) be forwarded to the next meeting with the mentioned report attached.

**CARRIED-UNANIMOUS**

**8. Ken Vance, Senior Policy Advisor, Union of BC Municipalities  
Re: Diking Authorities for New Dikes**

**/2011**

Schooner/Atkinson

**THAT:** staff be directed to find out if the Village of Tahsis is Tahsis' diking authority and report back to Council.

**CARRIED-UNANIMOUS  
/2011**

**9. Community Social Services Matter  
Re: Request for Proclamation**

**/2011**

Schooner/Atkinson  
**THAT:** the item be received.

**CARRIED-UNANIMOUS**

**10. Clinton Ekdahl, Founder of "Day of the Honey Bee"  
Re: Request for Proclamation**

**/2011**

Schooner/Davis  
**THAT:** the item be received.

**CARRIED-UNANIMOUS**

**Other Business:**

**1. Upper Island Safety Conference  
Re: Travel Costs to Attend**

**/2011**

Schooner/Davis  
**THAT:** Greg Feser and Gordon Roth be authorized to attend the Upper Island Safety Conference on May 30 & 31, 2011 in Campbell River with expenses paid as per Village of Tahsis policy.

**CARRIED-UNANIMOUS**

**2. Local Government Leadership Academy 2011 CEO Forum  
Re: Travel Costs to Attend**

**/2011**

Davis/Cameron  
**THAT:** the item of the Local Government Leadership Academy 2011 CEO Forum be reconsidered.

*The item was brought forward from the Regular Meeting held February 1, 2011.*

**CARRIED  
Schooner and Atkinson-OPPOSED**

Dahling/Cameron  
**THAT:** Mayor Dahling be authorized to attend the Local Government Leadership Academy Forum with expenses paid as per Village of Tahsis policy, without accommodation costs.

**DEFEATED  
Councillors' Davis, Atkinson and Schooner-OPPOSED**

**/2011**

## **Public Input:**

Judy Burgess commented that the Village of Tahsis should encourage residents to grow flowers that attract bees.

Bev Lynch stated that some people are allergic to bee stings and consideration needs to be given to them.

Barb Wanless commented on the issue of the brush over growth on Head Bay road.

Mayor Dahling stated that she would speak to Emcom regarding the brush over growth.

Barb Wanless enquired about the status of the shellfish tenures.

Mayor Dahling replied that the Village is trying to make contact with potential investors.

Dave McIntosh stated he would like for Councillor Cameron to contact the Ministry regarding an article she put out to the public on bottled water operations opening up on Vancouver Island and get their response on the issue. Mr. McIntosh also stated that he thinks the Village should get on board with bottled water as it will provide employment.

Dave McIntosh stated that Council took his money for a building permit and inspection, and that due to the Village not having a building inspector, no building inspections could be done.

Mayor Dahling stated that there will be a meeting held February 21, 2011 regarding our water. Mayor Dahling also stated that the current IPP plans will not benefit our community.

Kim Anderson enquired about the current status of the “unsightly premises bylaw”.

Mayor Dahling responded that there is no progress due to the office being short staffed.

A discussion ensued regarding the unsightly premises bylaw and enforcement.

**Adjournment:**

**/2011**

Atkinson/Cameron

**That:** the meeting be adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

**CARRIED-UNANIMOUS**

Certified correct this 17th day of February, 2011

Adopted by Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011

\_\_\_\_\_

Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_

Corporate Officer

**/2011**