



## MINUTES

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**Meeting** Regular Council  
**Date** Tuesday, February 17, 2015  
**Time** 7:00 PM  
**Place** Municipal Hall – Council Chambers

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- Present** Mayor Jude Schooner  
Councillor Louis VanSolkema  
Councillor Randy Taylor  
Councillor Kathy Bellanger  
Councillor Brenda Overton
- Staff** Doug Chapman, Corporate Officer  
April Roth, Finance Assistant
- Regrets** None
- Public** 3 members of the public
- A. Call to Order** Mayor Schooner called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and acknowledged and respected that we are upon Mowachaht / Muchalaht Traditional Territory.
- B. Introduction of Late Items** The following items were introduced as late items under Business Arising:  
#3 – AVICC Resolution on Smart Meters drafted by Councillor Taylor  
#4 – Community to Community Meeting – Date to be Confirmed
- C. Approval of Agenda** /2015  
**Moved, seconded** by Councillors Taylor/Overton that the Agenda for the February 3, 2015 Regular Meeting of Council be adopted as presented.
- D. Petitions and Delegations** None.
- E. Public Input #1** Mr. Dan Dahling spoke about the Nootka Sound Economic Development report on expenses. Mr. Dahling had a question for the Chief Financial Officer as to what is the specific amount in general reserves (surplus).  
  
The Chief Financial Officer replied that he would need to look up information on this request. He also stated that there will be new information in the next couple of months as the budget is prepared.
- F. Adoption of the Minutes**
- Regular Meeting – February 3, 2015 /2015  
**Moved, seconded** by Councillors Van Solkema/Overton that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held February 3, 2015 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

CARRIED

/2015

**G. Rise and Report**

None.

**H. Business Arising**

Rural Out-Patient Accommodation – draft resolution

**/2015**

**Moved, seconded** by Councillors Taylor/Van Solkema to put forward this resolution on Rural Out-Patient Accommodation to AVICC

CARRIED

Volunteer Appreciation/Meet and Greet – March 8

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Volunteer Appreciation event will be held in May. The Meet and Greet will be held separately in March. Council agreed to cook at the BBQ for the Volunteer Appreciation event.

Smart Meter – draft resolution for AVICC

**/2015**

**Moved, seconded** by Councillors Van Solkema/Bellanger to put forward this resolution on Smart Meters to AVICC.

CARRIED

Community to Community Meeting – Date Confirmed

The suggested date put forward by the Village of Gold River is March 24<sup>th</sup>. Council is OK with that date.

**I. Unfinished Business**

1. Tourism Feasibility Study
2. Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development – infrastructure funding applications available (October 21, 2014 meeting)

**J. Council Reports**

Mayor Schooner

Good evening council,

I would like to remind council that we have been invited to help at the “Farm to School” lunch on Thursday this week at CMESS (Captain Meares Elementary Secondary School) at 11:30. Hope to see you all there.

I attended the School District 84’s public consultation on the evening of Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> where I was interested to hear an update of their programs in the district and the challenges. SD 84 faces similar challenges as the Village with increasing cost pressures including hydro, wages and benefits, minor and major capital replacements and general inflation. I spoke to the support that the council maintains in assisting, if possible, the challenges that our school district and CMESS is facing. The good news is that everything is “status quo” for this year and Superintendent Lawrence Tarasoff sees no immediate changes. I also was happy to meet the students from Italy visiting Gold River, that were here in Tahsis, last Sunday to present them with Village pins before they departed early for a day trip to Esperanza.

On the 11<sup>th</sup>, I attended the SRD Board meeting followed by the CSWM (Comox Strathcona Waste Management) and CSRHD (Comox Strathcona Regional Hospital District) the following day. At the Solid Waste meeting we had a presentation by MMBC (Multi-Material British Columbia). MMBC is a non-profit organization, mandated by the provincial government that is over-seeing our new recycling features. I have asked that CSWM educators return to Tahsis to assist the community in what is now being taken for recycling under the MMBC program. MMBC is now taking 80% of all household recyclables in B.C.

**/2015**

Also at the CSWM meeting an award of contract for “gas flaring” was approved for the Comox Valley waste management center with caveats surrounding the harnessing of any gas and the request that an impact report be presented to the Board regarding the flight path of birds. FYI – Gas flare systems attract and unfortunately kill birds. Along with my supported motion that the Board receive a study on the flare gas system and the impact on birds, I was also supported by the Board that staff provide members a tour of the organic/waste composting project using the Gore Cover system that has diverted 1,850 tonnes of organic waste from the Town of Comox and Cumberland in a year.

The proposed budget for the CSWM is alarming in that the proposed taxation would see an increase from below 1 million dollars up to 4 million dollars, within the 5 year plan. A slippery slope indeed, as I reported when they first brought in taxation. Revenue, in the past, was achieved on what was a user-pay program. The difficulty is that the tipping fees will be \$130/tonne in 2016 and at that charge there is the strong possibility of leakage to private companies collecting solid waste and transporting it out-of-country. AVICC is going to provide a venue in the upcoming conference to form a special committee to lobby government for support on the escalating costs of the SWMP. (Solid Waste Management Plan)

The CSRHD meeting went well. This is the year that borrowing takes place to meet our 40% contribution to the NIHP. (North Island Hospital Project) A couple of notes of interest: 61% of the work forces are local employees. Also the Project Manager, Tom Sparrow, and senior staff will be coming to Tahsis to present to the community an overview of the NIHP. This project is still on time and on budget.

On Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> I attended a full morning of budget talks with the SRD (Strathcona Regional District). The proposed/draft budget sees a small reduction of taxation to the citizens of Tahsis, at this time.

In the afternoon strategic planning session a motion was made by the Campbell River Mayor Andy Adams (and I am paraphrasing as the draft minutes have not been published) that in the spirit of collaboration within the SRD Board and due to the fact that the Electoral Area Directors do not want to participate in a Regional Tourism Service; that Campbell River moved that the service not be entertained and since Campbell River holds the majority of a deciding vote - it is final and a Regional Tourism Service will not be established. It may be commendable that Campbell River backed the Electoral Area Directors, but very unfortunate that they disregarded the Sayward, Gold River, Zeballos and Tahsis directors in wanting to participate in a service that would have provided our villages with a cost-effective opportunity on advertising and promoting our communities and surrounding areas.

I will report on the planning strategies set by the SRD Board, in the near future, as there is some final prioritizing to take place.

Councillor Overton No Report

Councillor Van Solkema Good evening Mayor and Council and members of the public.

I did some research regarding our thoughts on a Smart Meter resolution proposal for the upcoming AVICC convention. While I do have some opinions on the smart meter controversy, it seemed that there is already considerable fodder for debate. Thanks to Randy Taylor for his offer of help. Thanks to Councillor Taylor for his resolution on smart meters.

February 6 through 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – I was involved in a Canadian Junior Rangers planning/training session in Squamish and a PHASE (Prevention of Harassment and Abuse through Successful Education) in Victoria. The PHASE program has been developed through the Canadian Red Cross and their Safety Education program. I made a lot of new friends and gained a new appreciation for the immensity of our country.

Councillor Bellanger Good evening Mayor, Council and everyone.

Since Feb 3, I have not attended any meetings but that does not mean I have not been doing any homework. I am constantly on the computer trying to find out any information or ideas that would be helpful for our community and reading tons of emails and paperwork sent to me. I know this is not much a report, but I did sit on the other side of this table in those chairs and hated it when a councillor just said I have no report! That's not what I wanted to hear. I wanted to hear they were doing something, anything. So just to let you know, I am doing something. Not all my reports will be full of information about meetings but I will always have something, and that's my report.

Thank you.

Councillor Taylor

No Report

**/2015**

**Moved, seconded** by Councillors Taylor/Overton that the Council reports be received for information.

CARRIED

**Administrative Reports**

Administrative reports are provided at the second meeting of the month.

CAO/CFO/CO - provided  
Public Works - not provided  
Recreation - provided  
Fire Department - not provided  
Daycare - provided

**Moved, seconded** by Councillors Overton/Bellanger that the staff reports be received.

CARRIED

**K. Bylaws**

None

**L. Correspondence**

**/2015**

**Moved, seconded** by Councillors Van Solkema/Overton that the correspondence items #1, #2, #3, #4, #6, #9, #10, and #11 be received, excluding items #5, #7, #8.

CARRIED

NSEDC – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report

**/2015**

**Moved, seconded** by Councillors Overton/Taylor that Council request that NSEDC submit an amended budget.

CARRIED

AVICC Convention

Mayor Schooner stepped down from the chair and Deputy Mayor Randy Taylor assumed the Chair. Mayor Schooner spoke to reasons she would like to attend the AVICC Convention. The Mayor Schooner then assumed the chair.

**/2015**

**Moved, seconded** by Councillors Taylor/Schooner that Mayor Schooner and Councillor Bellanger be authorized to attend the 2015 AVICC Convention with expenses paid as per village policy.

CARRIED

Public Works Association of BC – National Public Works Week

**/2015**

**Moved, seconded** by Councillors Van Solkema/Taylor that the week of May 17 – 23, 2015 as suggested by the Public Works Association of BC be deemed as National Public Works Week, and if possible, to coordinate this event with the Volunteer Appreciation event.

CARRIED

**/2015**

**Moved, seconded** by Councillors Van Solkema/Bellanger that Council proclaim National Public Works week May 17 – 23, 2015.

CARRIED

**M. New Business**

Tahsis Groundwater  
Project – report to  
Council

**/2015**

**Moved, seconded** by Councillors Taylor/Van Solkema that Council receives the report from the CAO dated February 11, 2015 for early funding approval for the remainder of the Tahsis Ground Water Project; and

**That** Council authorizes the use of \$150,000 Gas Tax Revenue and \$135,100, if needed, from the Capital Works Reserve Fund to complete the Tahsis Ground Water Project.

CARRIED

**N. Public Input #2**

Mr. Dan Dahling suggested to Council that they may wish to adopt the policy of other communities regarding Council travel, that being that each councillor has their own travel budget and they can choose what travel or conferences they wish to participate in.

**O. Adjournment**

**/2015**

**Moved** by Overton/Taylor that the meeting adjourn at 8:06 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified correct this  
3rd day of March, 2015

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Corporate Officer

**/2015**