

**CANADA
PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
MUNICIPALITY OF LOW**

MINUTES of the regular meeting of members of the Council of the Municipality of Low, held this 3rd day of March, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in Heritage Hall, 4A d'Amour Rd., Low, Quebec, J0X 2C0 and presided over by Mayor Morris O'Connor.

Those present are: Councillors Lynn Visentin, Amanda St. Jean, Joanne Mayer, Michèle Logue-Wakeling, Christopher Brownrigg and Charles Kealey.

The Director General/Secretary-Treasurer Franceska Gnarowski is also present.

(1) OPENING

Quorum is established and the meeting is officially opened by his Worship the Mayor, Morris O'Connor.

(2) BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Response to letter from Louise Schnubb

(3) MINUTES

#29-03-2014

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of February 3rd, 2014 and those of the special meeting held February 27th, 2014 be adopted as presented.

MOVED BY Councillor Christopher Brownrigg
SECONDED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(4) AGENDA

#30-03-2014

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted as presented and that it remain open.

MOVED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean
SECONDED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(5) BILLS TO BE PAID

#31-03-2014

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the list of invoices #03-2014, totalling \$185,501.93 be hereby accepted as presented;

AND THAT the Director General/Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to make the necessary budgetary transfers.

MOVED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean
SECONDED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin
ADOPTED

CERTIFICATE

I, undersigned, Director General/Secretary-Treasurer, do hereby certify that funds are available for the expenses mentioned in resolution #31-03-2014, as approved by Council.

Director General/Secretary-Treasurer

(6) ADMINISTRATION

(6.1) MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor provides no report on February's activities due to month-long absence.

(6.1.1) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

A brief report is presented by Councillor Joanne Mayer, Chair of the Executive Committee.

(6.1.2) SEASONAL HIRE

#32-03-2014

BE IT RESOLVED THAT council authorize the hiring of Fern Rochon to staff the waste disposal site from May – October 2014 at a rate of \$65/day as well as Albert Maloney as assistant to Public Works from June-November 2014.

MOVED BY Councillor Charles Kealey

SECONDED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.1.3) LINE OF CREDIT

#33-03-2014

BE IT RESOLVED THAT council authorize the renewal of the line of credit at the Caisse Populaire in Gracefield in the amount of \$600,000.

MOVED BY Councillor Charles Kealey

SECONDED BY Councillor Joanne Mayer

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.1.4) TRANSFER TAX – EXCISE TAX

#34-03-2014

BE IT RESOLVED THAT council authorize the transfer of \$103,441 (approximately) from the reserved funds to the general accounts in order to clear the expenses incurred during the excise tax program of 2010-2013.

MOVED BY Councillor Christopher Brownrigg

SECONDED BY Councillor Charles Kealey

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.1.5) FINANCIAL REPORT ON LOCAL ROAD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

WHEREAS the ministry of transport compensated the municipality in the amount of \$368,506 for local road maintenance for 2013;

WHEREAS this compensation is for actual and preventive maintenance of local roads 1 and 2 as well as bridges that are located along these roads and for which the municipality is fully responsible;

WHEREAS the present resolution refers to annex "A", which identifies the work that was done by the municipality on the roads in question;

WHEREAS an external auditor will present annex "B" or the audited report of activities as per the ministry's guidelines;

#35-03-2014

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT council provide the Ministry of Transport with a report of its application of the compensation for the maintenance of local roads 1 and 2 and the bridge in conformity with the objectives of the Local Roads Maintenance Assistance Program.

MOVED BY Councillor Charles Kealey

SECONDED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.1.6) MODIFICATION TO RESOLUTION #10-01-2014 - AIRPACKS

#36-03-2014

BE IT RESOLVED THAT council authorizes the modification of resolution #10-01-2014 concerning the purchase of air packs for the fire service in order to adjust the estimated costs from \$32,400 to the actual amount of \$29,606.29 and to

modify the reimbursement schedule to the working fund to 2015 over 4 years instead of 2014 over the same period.

MOVED BY: Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling
SECONDED BY: Councillor Christopher Brownrigg
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.1.7) ADVERTISEMENT

#37-03-2014

BE IT RESOLVED THAT council authorize the purchase of a full page ad in the Gatineau Skating Club's program for the amount of \$150.

MOVED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin
SECONDED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.1.8) SIGNING AUTHORITY

#38-03-2014

BE IT RESOLVED THAT council assigns signing authority in the name of the municipality to the Mayor, Morris O'Connor, the Deputy Mayor, Joanne Mayer as well as to the DG, Franceska Gnarowski and to Liette Hickey, Finance Officer for the accounts 60050 and 70241 as of March 3, 2014.

MOVED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean
SECONDED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.1.9) SPCA

WHEREAS the municipality pays the SPCA Gatineau approximately \$1800/year by virtue of an agreement that allows the municipality to return lost and found animals to the SPCA;

WHEREAS municipal employees are not trained to trap and catch dogs or other animals, which constitutes a risk for the municipality and the employee in terms of insurance claims;

WHEREAS each trip to the SPCA to return an animal represents expenses of approximately \$150-\$250 in terms of real costs and in lost time;

WHEREAS the SPCA received 61 animals from Low in 2013;

#39-03-2014

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT council give a mandate to the municipal legal counsel, Nerio de Candido, to collect taxes unpaid taxes dating from before December 2013.

MOVED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean
SECONDED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.1.10) SUPPORT FOR RESOLUTION ELECTION DATE

WHEREAS the general municipal elections in Quebec are held on the first Sunday of November every four years;

WHEREAS this date constitutes a disadvantage for rural municipalities who rely on tourism;

WHEREAS members of council believe that voter participation would be much higher if the date for the elections was the second Sunday of the month of September, when residents and non-residents could participate in greater numbers;

WHEREAS the general elections are held during the hunting season, which also impacts the participation of voters:

#40-03-2014

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Low Municipal Council support the Municipality of Gracefield's resolution in requesting that the Premier of Quebec, the Honourable Pauline Marois, to look at the possibility of modifying the Elections and Referendums Act to facilitate the participation of non-residents; that a copy of the resolution be sent to the provincial MNA Stéphanie Vallée, to the Federation of Quebec Municipalities, the Union of Quebec Municipalities, the

MRCVG as well as those municipalities that are part of the MRCVG to obtain their support.

MOVED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean
SECONDED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2 ROADS

(6.2.1) REPORT

A brief report is provided by Councillor Charles Kealey, Chair of the Public Works Committee.

6.3 PUBLIC SAFETY

(6.3.1) REPORT

A brief report is provided by Michèle Logue-Wakeling, Chair of the Public Security Committee.

6.4 ENVIRONMENT

(6.4.1) REPORT

A brief report is provided by Councillor Christopher Brownrigg, Chair of the Environment Committee.

6.5 URBAN PLANNING

(6.5.1) REPORT

A brief report is provided by Councillor Amanda St. Jean, Chair of the Urban Planning Committee.

(6.5.2) NEW MEMBERS

WHEREAS the Urban Planning advisory committee requires two new members from the community;

WHEREAS two candidates, Paul Rockwell and John Edwards, have been considered and accepted by the advisory committee;

WHEREAS the two candidates have agreed to be members of the advisory committee;

#41-03-2014

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that council accept the recommendations of the advisory committee; that John Edwards and Paul Rockwell be named members of the Urban Planning Advisory Committee and that the municipality prepare terms of reference concerning the missions, objectives and the nominations processes for each of the council's advisory committees.

MOVED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean
SECONDED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.5.3) SUPPORT RESOLUTION – MAPPING FLOOD ZONES

WHEREAS following an agreement between the governments of Quebec and Canada, the flood zone maps of the territory are those of the early eighties;

WHEREAS many of the municipalities on this territory contain flood zones;

WHEREAS based on the actual cartography, the limits of the flood zones should be updated given current research and given that the flood zones are over 30 years old;

WHEREAS construction and renovation projects are further challenged due to old bylaws being applied based dated flood maps;

WHEREAS the MRCVG is currently in the process of revising its zoning plan;

WHEREAS municipalities need to update their own urban plans which include flood zones;

WHEREAS a new flood zone mapping initiative would represent costs beyond the capacity of local municipalities;

#42-03-2014

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that council support the Municipality of Grand Remous' resolution and request that the MRCVG undertake the steps to map the flood zones on the territory and more precisely the recurrence zone of 20 years along the Gatineau River, which runs through several municipalities on the territory.

MOVED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin

SECONDED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

6.6 RECREATION & CULTURE

(6.6.1) REPORT

A brief report is provided by Councillor Lynn Visentin, Chair of the Recreation and Culture Committee.

6.7 MISCELLANEOUS

(7) QUESTION PERIOD

(8) ADJOURNMENT

#43-03-2014

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting be closed at 7:45 PM

MOVED BY Councillor Charles Kealey

SECONDED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

Morris O'Connor
Mayor

Franceska Gnarowski
Director General/Secretary-Treasurer

"I, Morris O'Connor, Mayor, certifies that the signature of these minutes is equivalent to my signature on all resolutions in the above document and this according to article 142 (2) of the Municipal Code."