

**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 November, 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

1. None

(3) MINUTES

#163-11-2014 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the regular meeting of October 6th, 2014 be adopted as presented.

MOVED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin

SECONDED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(4) AGENDA

#164-11-2014 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the agenda be adopted as presented and that the agenda remain open.

MOVED BY Councillor Christopher Brownrigg

SECONDED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(5) BILLS TO BE PAID

#165-11-2014 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the list of invoices #11-2014, totalling \$185,360.01 be hereby accepted as presented;

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

MOVED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin

SECONDED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

CERTIFICATE

I, undersigned, Director General/Secretary-Treasurer, do hereby certify that funds are available for the expenses mentioned in resolution #165-11-2014, as approved by Council.

Director General/Secretary-Treasurer

(6) ADMINISTRATION

(6.1) MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor provides a report on his activities for the month of September.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

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

LVBRA CONTRIBUTION

#166-11-2014 **BE IT RESOLVED** that council approves the payment of the second installment of the LVBRA grant in the amount of \$7924, which includes \$4200 for the grant, \$900 for the day centre, \$400 for the phone and \$2424 for the rent for council meetings.

MOVED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling

SECONDED BY Councillor Joanne Mayer

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

AD IN NEW PUBLICATION

#167-11-2014 **BE IT RESOLVED** that council approves the purchase of 1/8 of a page (\$75) in the new local publication "Ma Gazette", which will feature content from the south of the MRCVG.

MOVED BY Councillor Joanne Mayer

SECONDED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

UNITED WAY

WHEREAS the municipality of Low benefits from having the "*Contacte femmes enfants*" program as well as the meals on wheels service;

WHEREAS both programs are supported by the United Way;

WHEREAS United Way organisers are requesting a donation;

#168-11-2014 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** council authorizes a donation of \$150 to United Way.

MOVED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling
SECONDED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

MEMBERSHIP FQM

WHEREAS article 178.1 of the Municipal Code states that a municipality must participate in the financing of either the *Union des municipalités du Québec* or the *Fédération Québécoise des municipalités (FQM)*;

WHEREAS the FQM specializes in offering services to smaller municipalities and it is the organizer of the biggest municipal conference in Quebec;

#169-11-2014 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** council approves the membership cost of \$1202.68 to the FQM for 2015.

MOVED BY Councillor Joanne Mayer
SECONDED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.1.6) GROUP PURCHASE COLLECTIVE INSURANCE –UMQ SOLUTION

WHEREAS in conformity with the Municipal Code of Quebec, the Union des municipalités du Québec (UMQ) did a public call for proposals to obtain the services of a consultant with expertise in group insurance for employees of municipalities and of municipal organizations that are consolidated under the banner of the UMQ;

WHEREAS Mallette actuares inc was given the contract by the UMQ for those services;

WHEREAS the commission being charged by Mallette as per the contract is 0.8%;

WHEREAS Low would like to be part of the UMQ collective and to retain the services of Mallette actuares inc.;

WHEREAS the MRCVG has estimated (resolution 2014-R-AG347) that the value of the contract accorded to Mallette actuares inc. is actually less than \$25,000 for the entire five-year contract (tax included);

WHEREAS Low declares that there are no other contracts in place regarding group insurance and none will be in place when the Mallette actuares inc begins;

#170-11-2014 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the preamble forms an integral part of this resolution;

THAT Low confirms its commitment to the UMQ collective insurance in order to obtain, through Mallette actuares inc., professional services for municipal employee group insurance, at a commission rate of 0.8%;

THAT the UMQ collective agreement will be in place for 5 years;

THAT Low mandates the UMQ to go to public tender for a collective insurance for municipal employees and that it grants access to its insurance files on the condition that privacy laws are respected;

THAT Low commits to paying the UMQ 1% of the premiums as administrative costs for the length of the contract as well as costs associated to the publication of the call for proposals, estimated at \$500 (to be shared with participating municipalities);

THAT Low commits to respecting the clauses and conditions of the contract with the insurer that wins the bid;

MOVED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean

SECONDED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.1.7) UNPAID TAXES

WHEREAS article 1022 of the Municipal Code states that the Director General/Secretary Treasurer provides a list of unpaid taxes for the year 2014 and previous years (if applicable), in November of every year;

WHEREAS that the amount of unpaid taxes is over \$300,000;

WHEREAS the effect of unpaid taxes on the operations of the municipality is negative;

#171-11-2014 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that council accepts the list of unpaid taxes as presented;

THAT council approves sending the unpaid accounts to the municipal legal counsel for collection.

MOVED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling

SECONDED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean

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.

(6.3.2) JAWS OF LIFE

WHEREAS there is a recommendation from the Chief of the fire department, Ghyslain Robert, to purchase jaws of life in partnership with the municipality of Denholm;

#172-11-2014

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT council accepts the recommendation of the Chief of the fire department, Ghyslain Robert, to purchase the jaws of life in partnership with the municipality of Denholm for a price not exceeding \$1000;

A vote is called for:

FOR	AGAINST
<u>Joanne Mayer</u>	<u>Michèle Logue-Wakeling</u>
	<u>Amanda St. Jean</u>
	<u>Lynn Visentin</u>
ABSTENTION	<u>Charles Kealey</u>
<u>Christopher Brownrigg</u>	<u>Morris O'Connor</u>

The resolution is not adopted.

6.4 ENVIRONMENT

(6.4.1) REPORT

No report is provided by Councillor Christopher Brownrigg, Chair of the Environment Committee.

(6.4.2) WATER PROTECTION

Postponed until next meeting

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) CPTAQ REQUEST BY DAVID LEBLANC

WHEREAS David Leblanc is applying to the CPTAQ to request authorisation to subdivide, sever and use for a purpose other than agriculture, half a hectare of lot 44-B range 5 on the Municipality of Low in the riding of Gatineau;

WHEREAS the agricultural potential of the lots in the sector in question has not been capable of sustaining any agricultural development thereby not retaining its families;

WHEREAS the MRCVG, the CLDVG and MAPAQ are united in seeking to provide agricultural producers the resources which will permit new options in diversifying their activities;

WHEREAS agriculture has played an important role in the history of this municipality and the municipality is keen to encourage those interested in investing in new agricultural activity in order to ensure the municipality's continuing viability;

WHEREAS Statistique-Québec has revised its demographic projections downward for the territory of the MRCVG to take into account the increasing exodus of its young people;

WHEREAS the current proposal will favour the establishment of a young person wishing to revive agricultural activity in the proposed sector;

WHEREAS the part of lot being considered does not actually possess the resources necessary for sustaining agricultural development;

WHEREAS the municipality keenly appreciates the agricultural sectors need for young talent;

WHEREAS in being able to live in close proximity to the farm, the son will be in a position to provide much needed assistance to the farm and to the development of new agricultural activity;

WHEREAS the municipality is conscious of its responsibilities as stewards of economic development in an MRC that is recognized as being among the poorest in the province;

WHEREAS the crisis in forestry and its economic impact continues to be felt locally;

WHEREAS the proposal conforms with municipal bylaws;

#173-11-2014 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Municipality of Low supports the proposal being submitted by David Leblanc, which seeks the authorization from CPTAQ to use a half-acre hectare for uses other than agriculture in order to build a residence.

MOVED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean

SECONDED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling

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.

(6.6.2) TRAINING

#174-11-2014 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** council will assume the costs of travel to the no-cost training session for Lise Legros, Library Clerk and Sherrill Owen, President of the Library Committee.

MOVED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin
SECONDED BY Councillor Joanne Mayer
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

6.7 MISCELLANEOUS

(6.7.1) HUNTERS

WHEREAS hunters are using the linear park for their hunting activities;

WHEREAS these activities represent a real danger for those using the park and those living near it;

#175-11-2014 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that council requests that the MRCVG increase its patrol of the park;

THAT the MRCVG open the park only after hunting season is finished;

THAT the resolution be sent to the MRCVG and to neighbouring municipalities for support.

MOVED BY Councillor Joanne Mayer
SECONDED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(7) QUESTION PERIOD

- Presentation by Pierre Dionne on the result of the school board elections
- Maureen Rice asks the councillors who voted against the purchase of the Jaws of Life why they did so and requests an update on the first responders.

(8) ADJOURNMENT

#176-11-2014 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the meeting be closed at 7:40 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."