

**CANADA
PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
MUNICIPALITY OF LOW**

MINUTES of the regular meeting of members of the Council of the Municipality of Low, held this 2nd day of March, 2015 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, Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling Amanda St. Jean, Joanne Mayer, 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. Questions from Louise Schnubb – responded in English and French as requested

3) MINUTES

#38-03-2015

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of February 2nd 2015 and those of the special meeting of February 11th, 2015 be accepted as presented..

MOVED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin

SECONDED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

4) AGENDA

#39-03-2015

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

MOVED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling

SECONDED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

5) BILLS TO BE PAID

#40-03-2015

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the list of expenses #03-2015, from February 3, 2015 to March 2, 2015 totalling \$163,325.06 be hereby accepted as presented;

THAT the net salaries paid for the period covering the 3 of February, 2015 to March 2, 2015 totalling the amount of \$21,397.82 be accepted as presented;

AND THAT the Director General/Secretary-Treasurer is 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 #40-03-2015, as approved by Council.

Franceska Gnarowski
Director General/Secretary-Treasurer

(6) ADMINISTRATION

(6.1) MAYOR'S REPORT

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

(6.1.1) ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

A brief report is presented by Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling, Chair of the Executive Committee.

(6.1.2) REIMBURSEMENT

WHEREAS councillors and colleagues of Normand Schnob celebrated his retirement from public service with a small party and that expenses were incurred as a result:

#41-03-2015

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that council approve the reimbursement of \$160.53 for the expenses incurred for Normand Schnob's retirement party.

MOVED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean

SECONDED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.1.3) AD

#42-03-2015

BE IT RESOLVED that council approve the purchase of a one-page ad in the Gatineau Skating Clubs program for the amount of \$150.

MOVED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin

SECONDED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.1.4) CREDIT CARD

WHEREAS the Municipal Inspector must have some purchasing flexibility to ensure the smooth running of the Public Works department;

WHEREAS oftentimes those purchases must be made spontaneously due to the nature of public works;

#43-03-2015

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT council authorizes that Roch Courville, Municipal Inspector, be given a VISA credit card with a spending ceiling of \$5000.

MOVED BY Councillor Charles Kealey

SECONDED BY Councillor Joanne Mayer

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.1.5) LINE OF CREDIT

WHEREAS council must ensure that the necessary tools are in place to assist in the smooth functioning of the municipality;

WHEREAS a line of credit of \$600,000 provides the capacity for the municipality to meet its obligations at all times:

#44-03-2015

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT council approves the renewal of the line of Credit at the Caisse Desjardins.

MOVED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean

SECONDED BY Councillor Christopher Brownrigg

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2 ROADS

(6.2.1) REPORT

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

(6.2.2) TRAINING

WHEREAS the new Municipal Inspector has no prior knowledge of the law governing the agricultural zone;

WHEREAS the municipality is comprised of 45% agricultural zone;

WHEREAS training on the agricultural zone is offered in March in St-Hyacinthe, QC;

#45-03-2015

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that council approves the training for Roch Courville, Municipal Inspector;

THAT the municipality assume the costs of travel and accommodation on the 24, 25 and 26 of March for 2 nights.

MOVED BY Councillor Charles Kealey
SECONDED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin
ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.2.3) LOCAL ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

WHEREAS the ministry of Transport provided a grant of \$36,222 for maintenance of the local road network in 2014;

WHEREAS the grant attributed to the Municipality is targeted for current and preventive maintenance on local 1 & 2 roads as well as elements of bridges whose responsibility is the municipality's;

WHEREAS the present resolution is attached to annex "A" identifying the work done on the Burrough Rd. and Lac Bernard North;

WHEREAS an external auditor will prepare a report, annex "B" within the prescribed deadlines or an external special audited report duly completed;

#46-03-2015

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Council to inform the Ministry of Transport regarding the grant expenditure for the maintenance of local roads 1 & 2 as well as elements of bridges on these roads, for which the municipality of responsible, in conformity with the objectives of the Local Road Maintenance Program.

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

6.3 PUBLIC SAFETY

(6.3.1) REPORT

A brief report is provided by Amanda St-Jean, Chair of the Public Security Committee.

(6.3.2) FIREHALL ASSESSMENT

WHEREAS the needs of the fire service regarding storing equipment and administration are greater;

WHEREAS the fire hall dates from the 1950s;

WHEREAS the Chief of the Fire Department, Ghyslain Robert, has submitted a report to council;

WHEREAS the standards for building and fire halls have changed since the 1950s;

WHEREAS council has judged the present time as opportune to assess the fire hall in order to establish its potential relative to renovation or other;

#47-03-2015

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT council approves the hiring of Consultants Yves Auger & Associés to conduct the assessment of the fire hall's structure.

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

(6.3.3) THERMAL IMAGING

WHEREAS the security of firefighters during an incident is paramount;

WHEREAS a thermal imaging machine facilitates the locating of hot spots during a fire;

WHEREAS the Government of Quebec established a grant for volunteer fire fighter training in December 2014;

WHEREAS the Security Committee has recommended that the municipality participate in the purchase of a thermal imaging machine with the municipality of Denholm, who will then assume 50% of the total cost of the apparatus in 2016, once the funds have been secured;

#48-03-2015

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT council reserve \$5000 from the 2014 surplus in order to procure, with Denholm, a thermal imaging machine in 2016, once the necessary funds have been amassed.

MOVED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean

SECONDED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.3.4) MANDATE

WHEREAS the municipality must respect all of the obligations of the MRCVG's Risk Coverage Plan;

WHEREAS the fire services of the municipalities of Denholm, Kazabazua, Low and Lac Ste-Marie want to explore various solutions to increase efficiencies either through amalgamation of services, sharing services or through the creation of a separate service for the 4 southern municipalities;

#49-03-2015

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that council support discussions among representatives of the four fire services of the four municipalities regarding the best solutions for finding efficiencies in the provision of emergency services in the four municipalities.

MOVED BY Councillor Amanda St. Jean

SECONDED BY Councillor Joanne Mayer

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

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.

6.6 RECREATION & CULTURE

(6.6.1) REPORT

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

(6.5.2) CPTAQ REQUEST – HYDRO QUEBEC

WHEREAS the request from Quebec Hydro to install hydro poles along a line that crosses agricultural land in order to provide electricity to residents of a project, which was the subject of another CPTAQ request (#83010-212664);

WHEREAS the excavation required by the installation will affect a surface of 4m² each, or a total of 48 metres squared excavated;

WHEREAS by virtue of article 62.6 of the Act to Preserve Agricultural Land, the land affected is such that it will not impact the homogeneity of the surrounding community or other agricultural activity;

WHEREAS by virtue of article 62.2.2 of the Act to Preserve Agricultural Land, the consequences of a refusal of the request would have a negative impact in the residents who stand to benefit from having electricity from Hydro-Quebec;

#50-03-2015

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that council support the request being made by Hydro-Quebec to the Commission de protection du territoire agricole.

MOVED BY Councillor Joanne Mayer

SECONDED BY Councillor Michèle Logue-Wakeling

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

(6.5.3) CPTAQ REQUEST – PATRICE MAYER

WHEREAS Patrice Mayer is requesting permission from the CPTAQ to subdivide a wooded agricultural lot in order to build cottages and rent spaces for trailers;

WHEREAS by virtue of article 62.9 of the Act to Preserve Agricultural Land, the project would have a positive impact in the economic development of the municipality of Low;

WHEREAS by virtue of article 62.2.2 of the Act to Preserve Agricultural Land, the consequences of a refusal would have a negative impact for the individual who plans on a long-term revenue from the project;

#51-03-2015

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that council supports the application being made by Patrice Mayer to the Commission de protection du territoire agricole.

MOVED BY Councillor Charles Kealey

SECONDED BY Councillor Joanne Mayer

ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY

6.7 MISCELLANEOUS

(7) QUESTION PERIOD

1. Question regarding user pay system for the public boat launch
2. Eclipse Festival - comments regarding the fact that Scogestion, the owners of the scout camp, benefit from a tax exemption, whereas the commentator pays more taxes than they do. This is an injustice.
3. Questions on plans for the building at 400 Route 105
4. Request that a representative of the ministry responsible for the new cadastre be available for another question period.
5. Question regarding where old titles for properties are held. (the registry in Maniwaki)

(8) ADJOURNMENT

#52-03-2015

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the meeting be closed at 9:150 PM

MOVED BY Councillor Charles Kealey

SECONDED BY Councillor Lynn Visentin

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."