

**CANADA  
 PROVINCE OF QUEBEC  
 MRC LA VALLÉE-DE-LA-GATINEAU  
 MUNICIPALITY TOWNSHIP OF LOW**

At an extraordinary meeting of the Council for the Municipality Township of Low, held on March 29, 2021 at 6:37 p.m. remotely and in accordance with the ministerial decree concerning meetings of municipal council, the mayor is present. Carole Robert, Councilors Joanne Mayer, Maureen Rice, Anne Bélisle and Councilor Luc Thivierge and Ghyslain Robert forming a quorum under the chairmanship of Mayor Carole Robert

Madame Joanne Owens, Director General is also present, acting as secretary and advises the Council that:

- The meeting on zoom is recorded as prescribed by law and that this recording will be available to citizens on the Municipality's website.

**OPENING OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF MARCH 29, 2021 - 1**

Mayor Carole Robert opens the extraordinary meeting at 6:37 p.m. after quorum has been established.

# 71-03-2021

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA - EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF MARCH 29, 2021 - 2**

Extraordinary meeting of council-March 29,2021

**Agenda**

**1- Administration**

- 1- Opening of the extraordinary meeting for March 29, 2021.
- 2- Adoption of the agenda for March 29,2021
- 3- Receipt of notice of meeting - extraordinary meeting
4. Minor derogation Chemin Taylor
5. Filing of the draft by-law financing for the backhoe
6. Request to the board of directors of SOPFEU as well as to the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks - Maintenance of the main base of SOPFEU on the territory of the MRC of La Vallée-de-la-Gatineau without modification of its workforce
7. Purchase of balaclavas for the fire department
8. Request for financial assistance under the Local Roads Assistance Program, Recovery and Acceleration Component
9. Pilot project for the post of public works coordinator
10. Exchanges of municipal services
11. Question period
12. Closing of the extraordinary meeting of March 29, 2021
13. Adjournment of the extraordinary meeting of March 29, 2021.

Given to the Municipality Township of Low, this 29th day of March 2021.

**PROPOSED** by Councilor Joanne Mayer

**SUPPORTED** by Councilor Luc Thivierge

**AND RESOLVED** to adopt the agenda of the extraordinary meeting of March 29, 2021 as tabled by the Director general.

		Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
<b>Carole Robert</b>	Mayor	X			
<b>Joanne Mayer</b>	Seat # 1	X			
<b>Maureen Rice</b>	Seat # 2	X			
<b>Anne Bélisle</b>	Seat # 3	X			
<b>Luc Thivierge</b>	Seat # 4	X			
<b>Vacant</b>	Seat # 5				
<b>Ghyslain Robert</b>	Seat # 6	x			

**Adopted**

**RECEIPT OF MEETING NOTICE - EXTRAORDINARY MEETING -3**

The present members of council acknowledge having received their notice of meeting for the extraordinary meeting of March 29, 2021 in accordance with the municipal code of Quebec and agree to continue this extraordinary meeting.

**# 72-03-2021**

**MINOR EXEMPTION FOR LOT 5,595,207 and 5,595,209, LOCATED ON TAYLOR - 4 ROAD**

**WHEREAS** a minor exemption request to authorize the installation of a sewage field 2 meters from the front property line instead of 9 meters.

**WHEREAS** the exemption does not affect the enjoyment, by the owners of neighboring buildings, of their right of ownership.

**WHEREAS** the owner of Taylor Road is in favor of the minor exemption.

**WHEREAS** the exemption complies with the Regulation respecting wastewater disposal and treatment for isolated dwellings (Q2R22).

**WHEREAS** for the above reasons, the CCU recommends that municipal council accept the minor exemption for lots 5,595,207 and 5,595,209, located on Taylor Road.

THEREFORE, it is

**PROPOSED** by Joanne Mayer

**SUPPORTED** by Anne Bélisle

**AND RESOLVED** by the present members of Council to accept the minor exemption for lots 5,595,207 and 5,595,209

		Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
<b>Carole Robert</b>	Mayor	X			
<b>Joanne Mayer</b>	Seat # 1	X			
<b>Maureen Rice</b>	Seat # 2	X			
<b>Anne Bélisle</b>	Seat # 3	X			
<b>Luc Thivierge</b>	Seat # 4	X			
<b>Vacant</b>	Seat # 5				
<b>Ghyslain Robert</b>	Seat # 6	x			

**Adopted**

**BACKHOE FUNDING DRAFT BY-LAW SUBMITTAL - 5**

It is hereby filed by Mayor Carole Robert, the draft by-law number # 01-2021 loan by-law for the financing of the backhoe for an amount of \$ 218,468 plus taxes, which will be adopted at a subsequent meeting. Any questions on this subject can be sent to [Direction@lowquebec.ca](mailto:Direction@lowquebec.ca).

**# 73-03-2021**

**REQUEST TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SOPFEU AS WELL AS TO THE MINISTER OF FORESTS, WILDLIFE AND PARKS - MAINTENANCE OF THE MAIN BASE OF SOPFEU ON THE TERRITORY OF THE MRC OF LA VALLÉE-DE-LA-GATINEAU WITHOUT MODIFICATION OF ITS WORKFORCE - 6**

**WHEREAS** the recent publication of the economic vitality index by the Institut de la statistique du Québec (ISQ), at the request of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MAMH), which classifies the MRC de La Vallée- de-la-Gatineau 102nd out of 104 RCMs in Quebec.

**WHEREAS** to design this index, three indicators are taken into account, in particular the labor market (rate of workers aged 25 to 64);

**WHEREAS** the MRC works in collaboration with employers in the region to try to keep as many workers as possible, particularly in the context of a pandemic, but also in order to successfully counter this low vitality index.

**WHEREAS** among the major employers in the region, the MRC can count on the presence of a main base of the SOPFEU in the Val-Gatineau territory, which hires many employees representing a payroll of over \$ 4 million.

**WHEREAS** in addition to the jobs created, the presence of this main base is also profitable for many businesses in the region because of the purchases and services made for its operation.

**WHEREAS** the infrastructures of the Intermunicipal Board of Maniwaki Airport (RIAM), located on the outskirts of SOPFEU, allow this main base to be optimal for the fulfillment of the responsibilities devolved upon it and that operational statistics demonstrate the high level of annual activities taking place there.

**WHEREAS** the recent decision of the Board of Directors of SOPFEU to review its organizational structure, removing the main base title of SOPFEU from Maniwaki and transferring the management of this base to Val-d'Or.

**WHEREAS** the density in urban and semi-urban areas of the southern sector of the territory served by the Maniwaki base and that this proximity is necessary for the protection of people and material goods.

**WHEREAS** part of western Quebec, the La Vérendrye wildlife reserve to the south of the Gouin reservoir as well as the Laurentians are 30% covered by the Maniwaki base, compared to 18% for the Val- base. Golden.

**WHEREAS** the little information obtained from the board of directors to date, apart from the fact that there would not be, for the moment, any change to the internal functioning, which is however questioned by several actors concerned by the file.

**WHEREAS** the previous requests made many times by the political representatives of the MRC de La Vallée-de-la-Gatineau for the maintenance of a main base of the SOPFEU on its territory.

**WHEREAS** the will of the Council of the MRC de La Vallée-de-la-Gatineau and the commitment of elected officials, the population, the MRC business community and the Unifor union affiliation to mobilize for avoid any restructuring that would abolish or provide for the relocation of positions currently established in Maniwaki and, once again, to reiterate that the main base and all its activities must remain in the Val-Gatineau region.

**WHEREAS** the commitment of Premier François Legault, during a meeting held on July 3, 2020 in the Outaouais, to continue the work of decentralizing services to rural regions.

**WHEREAS** the negative response addressed to the Council of the MRC de La Vallée-de-la-Gatineau following the adoption of resolution 2017-R-AG147, asking that a seat can be reserved for a representative of the MRC on the council administration of SOPFEU.

**WHEREAS** the establishment of an MRCVG emergency committee and the recommendation to grant a mandate to the prefect to carry out all the necessary actions with the competent authorities in this file.

**WHEREAS** the recommendation and the unanimous position of the members of the Council of the MRC of La Vallée-de-la-Gatineau in this file.

**THEREFORE**, it is.

**PROPOSED** by Luc Thivierge

**SUPPORTED** by Maureen Rice

**AND BE IT RESOLVED** by the present members of Council,

- To ask the board of directors of SOPFEU to maintain the status of the main base in Maniwaki and to keep all the activities currently carried out there, without modifying its activities or abolishing or relocating positions.
- To request again that a position be reserved for a representative of the MRC de La Vallée-de-la-Gatineau on the SOPFEU board of directors.
- To ask the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks, Mr. Pierre Dufour, to intervene in order to prevent any change to the structure that would impact the current status of the SOPFEU main base in Maniwaki;
- To mandate the prefect, Ms. Chantal Lamarche, to carry out all the actions and make all the necessary representations to the authorities concerned in this matter and to create an emergency committee to support him in this mandate.
- To send a copy of this resolution to Mr. François Legault, Premier, as well as to Mr. Mathieu Lacombe, Minister responsible for the Outaouais and to Mr. Robert Bussière, Member of Parliament for Gatineau.
- To send a copy of this resolution for support to the local municipalities of the MRCVG, the MRC de l'Outaouais, the City of Gatineau, the MRC Antoine-Labelle, the Chamber of Commerce of Maniwaki and Vallée-de-la -Gatineau, to the Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg Band Council, to the RIAM Board of Directors, to the Conférence des préfets de l'Outaouais as well as to the members of the Outaouais.

		Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
<b>Carole Robert</b>	Mayor	X			
<b>Joanne Mayer</b>	Seat # 1	X			
<b>Maureen Rice</b>	Seat # 2	X			
<b>Anne Bélisle</b>	Seat # 3	X			
<b>Luc Thivierge</b>	Seat # 4	X			
<b>Vacant</b>	Seat # 5				
<b>Ghyslain Robert</b>	Seat # 6	x			

**Adopted**

**# 74-03-2021**

**PURCHASE OF BALACLAVES FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT - 7**

**WHEREAS** the fire department does not have enough balaclavas for all firefighters.

**WHEREAS** the firefighters get them ready when some are being washing.

**WHEREAS** the risks associated with COVID 19 of sharing their balaclavas.

**THEREFORE**, it is.

**PROPOSED** by Luc Thivierge

**SUPPORTED** by Ghyslain Robert

**AND BE IT RESOLVED** by the present members of Council to authorize the purchase of 40 hoods for a maximum amount of \$ 2079.60 plus tax so that all firefighters have a spare hood when the other is in the wash.

**THAT** the budget item for expenses related to COVID be charged.

Budget item: 02 130 01 691

**(COVID)**

		Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
<b>Carole Robert</b>	Mayor	X			
<b>Joanne Mayer</b>	Seat # 1	X			
<b>Maureen Rice</b>	Seat # 2	X			
<b>Anne Bélisle</b>	Seat # 3	X			
<b>Luc Thivierge</b>	Seat # 4	X			
<b>Vacant</b>	Seat # 5				
<b>Ghyslain Robert</b>	Seat # 6	x			

**Adopted**

**# 75-03-2021**

**REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE LOCAL ROAD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, RECOVERY AND ACCELERATION COMPONENT – 8**

**WHEREAS** the Municipality Township of Low has taken note of the terms of application of the Recovery and Acceleration component of the Local Road Assistance Program (PAVL);

**WHEREAS** the interventions referred to in the financial assistance request concerning level 1 and / or 2 local roads and, where applicable, those aimed at the Recovery component are provided for in the five-year / three-year planning of the intervention plan having obtained a favorable opinion from the Ministry of Transport.

**WHEREAS** only work carried out after the date appearing on the announcement letter is eligible for financial assistance.

**WHEREAS** the Municipality Township of Low undertakes the necessary funding for the realization of the entire project, including the Ministry's share.

**WHEREAS** the Municipality Township of Low chooses to establish the source of calculation of financial assistance according to the detailed estimate of the cost of the work

**WHEREAS** the Director General, Joanne Owens, is acting as her representative to the Ministry in the context of this file.

**Therefore**, it is.

**PROPOSED** by councilor Luc Thivierge  
**SUPPORTED** by Councilor Ghyslain Robert

**AND RESOLVED** by the present members of council to authorize the presentation of a request for financial assistance for eligible work, confirms its commitment to have the work carried out according to the terms of application in force and recognizes that in the event of no -respect of these, the financial assistance will be terminated.

		Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
<b>Carole Robert</b>	Mayor	X			
<b>Joanne Mayer</b>	Seat # 1	X			
<b>Maureen Rice</b>	Seat # 2	X			
<b>Anne Bélisle</b>	Seat # 3	X			
<b>Luc Thivierge</b>	Seat # 4	X			
<b>Vacant</b>	Seat # 5				
<b>Ghyslain Robert</b>	Seat # 6	x			

**Adopted**

**# 76-03-2021**

**PILOT PROJECT FOR THE POSITION OF PUBLIC WORKS COORDINATOR - 9**

**WHEREAS** the need for coordination and planning necessary to maximize the efficiency of the work carried out by the road team.

**WHEREAS** the importance of the road works planned for 2021.

**WHEREAS** the public works committee recommends the hiring of a public works coordinator within our current road team, as part of a pilot project until June 30, 2021.

**WHEREAS** the Public Works Committee recommends Mr. Ryan Draper for the position of Public Works Coordinator on a trial basis.

**THEREFORE**, it is.

**PROPOSED** by Joanne Mayer  
**SUPPORTED** by Ghyslain Robert

**AND BE IT RESOLVED** by the present members of Council to assign Mr. Ryan Draper for the position of Public Works Coordinator on a trial basis until June 30, 2021, and authorizes the Director General, Joanne Owens with the public works committee to establish the job description for Mr. Ryan Draper as well as a salary increase in line with the increase in responsibilities.

**AND** if the trial period does not work for either party, Mr. Draper can return to his old position with the public works team.

		Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
<b>Carole Robert</b>	Mayor	X			
<b>Joanne Mayer</b>	Seat # 1	X			
<b>Maureen Rice</b>	Seat # 2	X			
<b>Anne Bélisle</b>	Seat # 3	X			
<b>Luc Thivierge</b>	Seat # 4	X			
<b>Vacant</b>	Seat # 5				
<b>Ghyslain Robert</b>	Seat # 6	x			

**Adopted**

**# 77-03-2021**

**EXCHANGES OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES - 10**

**WHEREAS** Council shows its interest in reducing costs and maximizing the efficiency of services for the municipality.

**WHEREAS** there is the possibility of exchanging municipal services between the municipalities of Denholm, Kazabazua, Lac Sainte-Marie and Low.

**THEREFORE**, it is.

**PROPOSED** by Anne Bélisle

**SUPPORTED** by Ghyslain Robert

**AND RESOLVED** by the present members of council, to authorize the mayor, the members of council and the director general, to engage with the participating municipalities in order to deepen the municipal services that could be considered in these municipal exchanges and also to see the vision of each municipality before committing monetarily.

		Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
<b>Carole Robert</b>	Mayor	X			
<b>Joanne Mayer</b>	Seat # 1	X			
<b>Maureen Rice</b>	Seat # 2	X			
<b>Anne Bélisle</b>	Seat # 3	X			
<b>Luc Thivierge</b>	Seat # 4	X			
<b>Vacant</b>	Seat # 5				
<b>Ghyslain Robert</b>	Seat # 6	x			

**Adopted**

**QUESTIONS PERIOD-11**

**# 78-03-2020**

**CLOSURE OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF MARCH 29,2021-9**

**PROPOSED** by Councilor Joanne Mayer

**SUPPORTED** by Councilor Maureen Rice

**AND RESOLVED THAT** Council adjourn the extraordinary meeting of March 29,2021 at 6:52 pm.

		Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
<b>Carole Robert</b>	Mayor	X			
<b>Joanne Mayer</b>	Seat # 1	X			
<b>Maureen Rice</b>	Seat # 2	X			
<b>Anne Bélisle</b>	Seat # 3	X			
<b>Luc Thivierge</b>	Seat # 4	X			

Vacant	Seat # 5				
Ghyslain Robert	Seat # 6	x			

**Adopted**

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**ADJOURNMENT OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF MARCH 29, 2021**

The agenda items being exhausted, the Mayor, Carole Robert, adjourn the ordinary meeting of March 29, 2021.

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Joanne Owens  
Director General / Secretary-Treasurer

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Carole Robert  
Mayor