

MINUTES
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 18, 2017
7:30 p.m.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council of Montreal West held on December 18, 2017 at the Town Hall located at 50 Westminster Avenue South.

Present: Mr. Beny Masella, Mayor
Mr. Dino Mazzone, Councillor
Ms. Elizabeth Ulin, Councillor
Ms. Colleen Feeney, Councillor
Ms. Maria Torres, Councillor

Also present: Me Raffaella Di Stasio, Director General
Me Claude Gilbert, Town Clerk
Ms. Valentina Maria Todoran, Treasurer

Mayor Beny Masella acted as chairman of the meeting.
Mr. Claude Gilbert, Town Clerk, acted as secretary of the meeting.

Fourteen (14) residents and visitors were in attendance.

1. Opening of the Meeting

It was moved by Councillor Maria Torres, seconded by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin and resolved:

That the Meeting be declared open.

Carried unanimously
20171218-001 (1)

The Mayor called the Meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

It was moved by Councillor Dino Mazzone, seconded by Councillor Colleen Feeney and resolved:

To adopt the Agenda of the Special Meeting of Monday, December 18, 2017, as presented.

Carried unanimously
20171218-002 (1)

NOTE A presentation was made by Councillor Colleen Feeney of the Montreal West 2018 budget and of the 2018, 2019 and 2020 Program of Capital Expenditures.

3. Presentation and adoption of the 2018 Budget for the Town of Montreal West

It was moved by Councillor Colleen Feeney, seconded by Councillor Maria Torres and resolved:

1) To adopt the 2018 Budget of the Town of Montreal West, for an amount of \$15,648,000.00.

2) To deposit a copy of the 2018 Budget in the Town of Montreal West Archives.

Carried unanimously
20171218-003 (1)

4. Presentation and adoption of the 2018–2019–2020 Program of Capital Expenditures

It was moved by Councillor Maria Torres, seconded by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin and resolved:

1) To adopt the 2018, 2019 and 2020 Program of Capital Expenditures for the Town of Montreal West as follows:

a) For 2018, an amount of THREE million THIRTY-FIVE thousand dollars (3,035,000.00);

b) For 2019, an amount of SIXTEEN million TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-FIVE thousand dollars (16,265,000.00);

c) For 2020, an amount of ONE million ONE HUNDRED FORTY thousand dollars (1,140,000.00).

2) To deposit a copy of the program in the Town of Montreal West Archives.

Carried unanimously
20171218-004 (1)

5. Question period

The Mayor announced the beginning of the Public Question Period at 8:10 p.m.

The residents were invited to ask their questions to the Mayor and Councillors, solely on matters related to the budget and program of capital expenditures.

Norbert Bedoucha asked why the budget was not made available to the public in advance, as Council undertook to do from his understanding. Councillor Feeney said there was a misunderstanding, since it is the draft tax by-law that was made available according to law. The budget has never been tabled in advance. The resident said that many other people had understood the same thing as he.

Daniel Markuze reminded a suggestion that was made last year to increase the number of instalments regarding the payment of taxes. Councillor Feeney said there is already the possibility to pay in two instalments when the amount exceeds \$300. Otherwise, the Town does not have the cash flow to wait, it needs the money to pay its contribution to the agglomeration on due dates. The resident made the suggestion that the snow should be dumped on private lawns. He said that there was never an estimate made of how much money could be saved this way. Councillor Feeney answered that these potential savings are not the only factor consider; there is also the matter of damages and claims. The Mayor added that dumping snow would necessarily slow down the operations along the way, and that there are security issues.

Paul Kenton said it is difficult to have a discussion about budget numbers when these were not known in advance. The resident noted that administration costs went up over the last few years. Councillor Feeney noted that the administrative structure is still rather small compared to other municipalities on the Island.

Harold Knowles asked if the Town get to negotiate its share with the agglomeration. The Mayor answered that Montreal West, like the other demerged municipalities, votes at the agglomeration council but they cannot overrule the City of Montreal.

Ian Robinson asked about what is the status of the arena in the Town's projects. Councillor Feeney said it is part of a wish list. Mayor Masella noted that it may be done in phases.

Paul Kenton noted that surpluses in 2014 and 2015 were used to finance some capital projects because the Town budgeted above actual spending or underestimated revenues. The Mayor explained that the Town would do this sometimes rather than adopting loan by-laws, but of course, it can only work for small projects. The resident said he would find it preferable to go through loan by-laws in such cases.

David Superstein said he got the email bulletin announcing tonight's meeting Saturday and could not get a copy of the tax by-law until today, because it had to be requested from the front desk. He said the Town should not start removing snow until 3 cm have fallen. The Mayor said it is done after 2.5 cm.

6. Termination of the meeting

At 8:35 p.m., no other questions being asked,

It was moved by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin, seconded by Councillor Dino Mazzone and resolved:

That the Meeting be terminated.

Carried unanimously
20171218-005 (1)

Beny Masella
Mayor

Claude Gilbert
Town Clerk

The annexes mentioned above are deposited
in the municipal archives in File *Archives-20171218 (1)*