

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 27, 2020
8:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of Montreal West held on January 27, 2020 at the Town Hall located at 50 Westminster Avenue South.

| | | | |
|----------|--------------|--------------------|--------|
| Present: | Councillors: | Mr. Dino Mazzone | Seat 1 |
| | | Ms. Elizabeth Ulin | Seat 2 |
| | | Ms. Colleen Feeney | Seat 3 |
| | | Ms. Maria Torres | Seat 4 |

Absent: Mayor: Mr. Beny Masella

Also present: Me Raffaele Di Stasio, Director General
Me Claude Gilbert, Town Clerk

In the absence of the Mayor, a Councillor had to be appointed chairperson of the meeting. Mr. Claude Gilbert, Town Clerk, acted as secretary of the meeting.

Eighteen (18) residents and visitors were in attendance.

1. Opening of the Meeting

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

That the Meeting be declared open and that, the Mayor being absent, it be presided by Councillor Councillor Colleen Feeney who shall act as Chairperson.

Carried unanimously
#20200127-001

The Chairperson called the Meeting to order at 8:07 p.m.

2. Acknowledgement of Visitors

There was nothing under this item.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

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

To adopt the Agenda of the Regular Meeting of Monday, January 27, 2020 as presented.

Carried unanimously
#20200127-002

4. Approval of the Minutes

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

To approve the Minutes of the Council Meetings held on the following dates:

- Special Meeting of December 6, 2019;
- Special Meeting of December 16, 2019;
- Regular Meeting of December 16, 2019;
- Special Meeting of January 14, 2020.

Carried unanimously
#20200127-003

5. Correspondence

There was nothing under this item.

6. Report of the Mayor

In the absence of Mayor Beny Masella, there was nothing under this item.

7. First Public Question Period

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

Residents were invited to ask the Councillors questions concerning matters of general interest.

Norbert Bedoucha noted the International Holocaust Remembrance Day was today. He commented a request for access to information he had made some time ago, concerning the development project on the library's site. He did not receive a positive answer for confidentiality reasons, but supposed the stakeholders would have some of that information. Councillor Feeney confirmed the Town is in contact with the Library Board itself, not with the Friends of the Library as such. Of course the Town will make an announcement at a later stage. The resident asked if the Town was aware of the existence of grants that may cover up to 70% of purchase, rental or renovation costs. The Director General, having been invited to answer, said yes.

Kathy Minorgan noted that the snow removal budget increased by \$53,000 compared to last year. She expressed her concern over the fact that it should be decreasing instead, given climate changes. Councillor Feeney said the budget on that item had remained the same since 2015 while the gas price have increased since then, and salt price last year too, so the real budget ended up costing more as a result, contrary to budget planning. Councillor Ulin noted that the Town has planned this year starting to use electric trucks, and of course there are start-up costs.

Thomas Spiegler introduced Mr. Mitchell White, president of the Royal West Academy Foundation. Mr. White first noted there have been unfortunate anti-Semitic incidents, very much out of character with this town and school. Councillor Ulin suggested that the school invite survivors to tell their stories. The visitor said the activity calendar is already full, apparently, and the school authorities said that a random conference would not be enough, like for anti-bullying campaigns that need more planning. On another point, he said that the Foundation got a \$900,000 grant from the school board for the purpose of a new Performing Arts Center. The cost is estimated to two or three millions \$. He said that the Foundation was seeking the Town's support but at no cost. Councillor Feeney invited him to contact the Building Inspector at a later stage.

Cynthia Nichols complained about a neighbor dumping snow on her lot, which broke her fence and damaged plants. Councillor Feeney noted this is a civil law issue, in which the Town cannot intervene. Councillor Mazzone advised her to take pictures and contact the neighbor herself. Also, the resident said there has been an intruder in her house. Councillor Mazzone noted that such an incident was not mentioned in the last monthly report he received from the Montreal Police Department. Finally, the resident said again that her garbage, recycling and compost are not picked up every week.

Norbert Bedoucha mentioned that senior citizens often are not aware of all the government programs that exist to their benefit, and that it would be good to better inform them. Councillor Feeney agreed and said it could be an idea to mention them in The Informer.

The First Question Period ended at 8:35 p.m.

8. Contracts and Town Clerk's Office

a) Contribution agreement – cannabis legalisation

WHEREAS the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, through the Agglomeration of Montreal, offers a financial assistance to the related municipalities of the Island, in order to offset a part of the expenses they had to support as a consequence of the legalisation of cannabis;

WHEREAS this financial assistance is intended for, among others, the adaptation of signage in public places, the modification of public security by-laws and internal policies, the training of employees, and so forth;

WHEREAS the Town of Montreal West has already incurred such costs and could make use of a grant to undertake other adaptation tasks in this respect;

THEREFORE:

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

1) That the Town agree to the terms and conditions of a contribution agreement with the City of Montreal, for the purposes stated in the preamble of this resolution, by which Montreal West will receive an amount of \$7,971.00 to this effect.

2) That the Director General, Me Raffaella Di Stasio, be authorized to sign this agreement on behalf of the Town and be designated as its representative to implement the provisions of said agreement.

Carried unanimously
#20200127-004

9. Administration and finances

a) Approval of disbursements – December 12, 2019 to January 22, 2020

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

That the list of accounts payable from December 12, 2019 to January 22, 2020 totaling \$1,109,252.02 be approved and paid as listed.

Carried unanimously
#20200127-005

b) Delegation of powers for the months of December 2019 and January 2020

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

To approve the report of the Director General concerning the exercise of powers delegated under By-Law No. 2005-002 for the months of December 2019 and January 2020.

Carried unanimously
#20200127-006

c) Art Etc.

It was moved by Councillor Dino Mazzone, seconded by Councillor Maria Torres and resolved, Councillor Elizabeth Ulin having abstained after declaring she had an interest in the matter under review:

1) Given the total number of hours being requested for rent, and in keeping with past practices, that Council agree to rent the Assembly Hall on the occasion of the Arts and Craft Fair that will take place during three days in November 2020, for a bulk discount amount of \$2,850.00 (taxes included), in consideration of a total of twenty-four hours (24h) of rental for the event, setup and cleanup, and to keep the other terms and conditions of the previous agreement in effect.

2) That Council accept that the deposit to secure the reservation be of \$500.00 upon signing the agreement, followed by a payment of \$2,350.00 no later than May 1, 2020.

3) That a further amount of \$500.00 be paid before the event takes place as a reimbursable safety deposit.

Carried unanimously
#20200127-007

d) National Holiday Grant

It was moved by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin, seconded by Councillor Colleen Feeney and resolved:

That the Town of Montreal West apply for a subsidy to the "Mouvement national des Québécoises et Québécois" through the "Fête nationale du Québec 2020" program of the Provincial Government, and authorize its Director of Recreation and Cultural Services to sign any necessary documents for this purpose.

Carried unanimously
#20200127-008

10. Urban Department

a) Site Planning Projects and Architectural Integration Programs (SPAIP)

It was moved by Councillor Colleen Feeney, seconded by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin and resolved:

1) To acknowledge receipt of the minutes of a meeting held by the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) on January 22, 2020.

2) To approve as presented under the SPAIP the following plans submitted to this meeting, in accordance with the recommendations of the PAC as outlined in the minutes:

| Address | Project |
|-------------------|---|
| 23 Nelson | Removal of window on rear façade; |
| 119 Strathearn N. | Replacement of the front door and transom; |
| 225 Wolseley N. | Replacement of five windows as well as replacement of two small windows by a larger window; |
| 83 Percival | Replacement of two windows. |

3) To defer the examination of the following plans to a next meeting of this Council, in accordance with the recommendations of the PAC as outlined in the minutes:

| Address | Project |
|----------------|---|
| 414-416 Hudson | Replacement of front entrance railings; |
| 23 Nelson | Removal of window on side façade. |

Carried unanimously
#20200127-009

11. Public Works

There was nothing under this item.

12. Human Resources

There was nothing under this item.

13. Appointments

a) Assistant Town Clerk

WHEREAS Me Mathieu Boissonneault has been hired as a part-time employee in a fixed-term contract by the Director General, in virtue of her powers delegated in By-Law No. 2005-002;

THEREFORE:

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

1) That Me Mathieu Boissonneault be appointed Assistant Town Clerk for as long as he will remain in the service of the Town of Montreal West, without considering the schedule or duration of his contract, in the event it is extended or renewed.

2) That this appointment be deemed effective as of January 22, 2020.

Carried unanimously
#20200127-010

14. Councillors' Reports

a) Seat Number 1

Councillor Dino Mazzone reported on matters pertaining to Public Security and to Special Projects Fundraising.

b) Seat Number 2

Councillor Elizabeth Ulin reported on matters pertaining to Communications, Recreation and Culture.

c) Seat Number 3

Councillor Colleen Feeney reported on matters pertaining to Urban Planning, Finance, Administration and Human Resources.

d) Seat Number 4

Councillor Maria Torres reported on matters pertaining to Environment, Public Works and Buildings.

15. Deposit of Documents

There was nothing under this item.

16. Notice of Motion, Reading and Adoption of By-Laws

There was nothing under this item.

17. Second Public Question Period

The Chairperson announced the beginning of the Second Public Question Period at 9:00 p.m.

Residents were invited to ask the Councillors questions concerning the matters on the agenda of this meeting.

Cynthia Nichols questioned some aspects of the new budget in relation to tax increases. Councillor Feeney pointed out, among other things, the importance of orientations taken in the recently adopted Town's Strategic Financial Plan.

Norbert Bedoucha said that some compost bins are not picked up and he had to call the Town about that. He noted that Councillor Toores had mentioned a water main break on Edinburgh and wondered if that road section had not been repaired recently. Councillor Torres said that particular section was not. The resident said there had been several water breaks in the last few years around that sector and so he was surprised.

Kadeja Lefebvre said she saw many patients with problems related to mold in their homes. She advised the Town not to complicate things too much with respect to demolition, because there might be no other way to deal with the issue in old houses. On another point, she was happy to say that the Holiday Train in Montreal West allowed to raise \$500 for Meals on Wheels.

18. Termination of the Meeting

At 9:07 p.m., no other questions being asked,

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

That the Meeting be terminated.

Carried unanimously
#20200127-011

Colleen Feeney
Chairperson of the Meeting

Claude Gilbert
Town Clerk

*The annexes mentioned above are deposited
in the municipal archives in File Archives-20200127*