

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 30, 2020
8:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of Montreal West held by telecommunications means on March 30.

Present:	Mayor:	Mr. Beny Masella	
	Councillors:	Mr. Dino Mazzone	Seat 1
		Ms. Elizabeth Ulin	Seat 2
		Ms. Colleen Feeney	Seat 3
		Ms. Maria Torres	Seat 4

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

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

There were no residents and visitors in attendance.

NOTE This Council meeting was held in camera, and was attended by Council members using telecommunications means, as authorized by the Ministerial Order 2020-004 of March 15, 2020 from the Quebec Minister of Health and Social Services (page 4, third paragraph).

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
#20200330-001

The Mayor called the Meeting to order at 8:15 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, March 30, 2020 modified as follows:

- by deferring item 11 a): **Awarding of contract – equipment purchase (backhoe loader)**.

Carried unanimously
#20200330-002

4. Approval of the Minutes

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

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

- Regular Meeting of February 24, 2020;
- Special Meeting of March 13, 2020;
- Special Meeting of March 24, 2020.

Carried unanimously
#20200330-003

5. **Correspondence**

There was nothing under this item.

6. **Report of the Mayor**

Mayor Masella commented the very particular circumstances prevailing in society at large which have an impact on the Town's operations as well as on the residents' lives, including the fact that this Council meeting was held without any people in attendance and by means of telecommunications. He reminded the residents of the safety and health guidelines issued by the different levels of government, and thanked the people who still work to provide others with basic and essential services, like municipal employees, health workers and merchants. Finally he invited everyone to stay safe.

7. **First Public Question Period**

The Mayor announced the beginning of the First Public Question Period at 8:25 p.m.

Given the circumstances, residents had been invited to submit in advance their questions concerning matters of general interest to the Mayor and Councillors.

1. Dany Holland

Asked if the Town has data on elderly residents, who they are and where they live, if it has reached out to them and share its plan relating to seniors and the COVID-19 fight. Also asked if the Town needs people's assistance in supporting them.

2. Norbert Bedoucha

Suggested that the Town send out an email to all residents asking them to keep a watchful eye out for their senior neighbors.

Proposed a simple system of notification for seniors, green item on their window meaning they are ok and a red item meaning they need something or aid. This could be monitored by designated individuals and/or public security

3. Sharon Frank

Suggested that the Town set up a telephone check in service for seniors. A telephone call each day to touch base with seniors could be done by a team of volunteers. It is especially important during this critical time and should continue on a regular ongoing basis afterward. Other municipalities already have this valuable, effective and much appreciated service in place.

4. Anne-Marie Christoffersen-Deb

Asked Council to confirm the number of COVID-19 cases that have been diagnosed in Montreal-West.

Also asked if it would be possible to increase the level of security patrol on the streets to enforce social distancing more effectively. It has been noted that social distancing is not being observed (especially on Westminster and Bedbrook) in the afternoon when families take a walk.

5. Peter Cooney

Asked when the resurfacing work on Avon will start.

6. Farah Issa

Asked what are Council's plans with the resurfacing of Avon Road as it is becoming dangerous for cyclist or drivers, while other sections have been done for some time in Ville Saint-Pierre and Notre-Dame-de-Grâce.

Also asked if Council has given a permit for a greenhouse facility to a commercial entity on Ronald Drive.

7. Françoise Filion

Asked if a yoga activity organized by the Town for this summer (starting in June) will be cancelled, or if it is waiting for more information from Public Health experts and the CIUSSS before a decision is made.

8. Carol Foster

Asked if there are presently any confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the Town and how will residents be notified when any occur, and how will the minutes of this Council meeting be made public. She also expressed her heartfelt thanks to all the Town employees who remain on the job, all the merchants who keep their shops open and all the residents who maintain social distancing with a smile as they pass by.

9. Victor Fu

Asked if public security officers can enforce social/physical distancing? Noticed that there are still quite a few people that congregate or teenagers who are obviously not family interacting with each other.

10. Terry Spigelman

Asked if April 30 is still the last day the residents can contest the new property assessment (evaluation) of their house, and if the answer is yes, would a certified cheque or money order (as opposed to a personal cheque) still be required, since many bank branches are now closed.

11. Johnny Di Ionna

Asked if landscapers are allowed to work.

12. Lynne St Louis

Noted that there is considerably more waste, with everyone staying/working from home. Asked if garbage could be picked up more than once a week during this crisis.

13. Cynthia Nichols

Asked if Council is still planning to go ahead with its re-zoning plans, since COVID-19 rules have made it impossible for the community to organize and mobilize a true submission of opposition to the proposed by-laws and governments all over world have taken a pause.

Also asked if the Town was informed she handed to the Town Clerk a signed petition against M-1 zoning.

Said that in recent times she has seen used drug needles and used sanitary products/used toilet paper in her garden, the basement stairs and behind the cedars in front of the garage beside her driveway.

14. Anna Roop

Thanked the Town for all the efforts and measures taken to keep residents informed and safe. Even the little things like reducing parking restrictions are well appreciated - one less stress. Loved seeing locals out walking and cycling (safe distances apart of course). There is a positive, healthy vibe in this little town.

15. Ellen Moore

Asked if rubber bands are compostable or recyclable, and if plastic bags are recyclable.

16. Ed Cukier

Said that in his opinion it is time for the Federal Emergency Act, and asked Council to discuss this matter and bring it to the Agglomeration, then to the Quebec Premier and the Prime Minister.

Noted that the latest research study in epidemiology indicates that surgical masks offer some protection for people not infected when out in public. Asked that this matter be also brought up to the Agglomeration, and to advocate mega production.

17. Steven Mohn

Asked for an update on the status of the library lot, and on of the Montreal West Public Library, vis-a-vis its continued existence, as this pertains to the eventual sale of the lot.

The First Question Period ended at 8:45 p.m.

8. Contracts and Town Clerk's Office

There was nothing under this item.

9. Administration and finances

a) Approval of disbursements – February 29 to March 25, 2020

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

That the list of accounts payable from February 29 to March 25, 2020 totaling \$3,727,657.89 be approved and paid as listed.

Carried unanimously
#20200330-004

b) Delegation of powers for the month of March 2020

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

To approve the report of the Director General concerning the exercise of powers delegated under By-Law No. 2005-002 for the month of March 2020.

Carried unanimously
#20200330-005

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 March 25, 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
441 Brock N.	Construction of an extension on the second floor (attic);
64 Brock N.	Replacement of the front door;
8031 Avon	Replacement of seventy-five windows and six doors;
342 Ballantyne N.	Reconstruction of front stairs and landing in pavers;
208 Wolseley N.	Replacement of fourteen windows;
150 Easton	Replacement of roofing material;
91-93 Ronald	Replacement of fourteen windows;
418-420 Wolseley N.	Replacement of eight 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
325 Brock N.	Demolition of a one-floor rear extension and construction of a two-floor extension.

Carried unanimously
#20200330-006

11. Public Works

a) Awarding of contract – equipment purchase (loader/backhoe)

This item was deferred to another meeting.

12. Human Resources

a) Agreement on suspension of time limits – SCFP 301 (blue collars)

It was moved by Councillor Maria Torres, seconded by Councillor Dino Mazzone and resolved:

1) That Council approve the terms and conditions of Letter of Agreement No. 2020-01 with the blue collars' union (SCFP local 301) with respect to the suspension of certain time limits under the collective agreement concerning grievances and arbitration, in consideration of the situation created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

2) That Council ratify the signature by the Director General of the said letter of agreement on behalf of the Town of Montreal West, as well as of any renewal or extension to the same effect.

Carried unanimously
#20200330-007

b) Agreement on suspension of time limits – SFMM 429 (white collars)

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

1) That Council approve the terms and conditions of an agreement with the white collars' union (SCFP local 429) with respect to the suspension of certain time limits under the collective agreement concerning the arbitration of active grievance files, in consideration of the situation created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

2) That Council ratify the approval by the Director General of this agreement reached by way of emails exchanged between March 13 and March 19, 2020, as well as of any renewal or extension to the same effect.

Carried unanimously
#20200330-008

13. Appointments

There was nothing under this item.

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

a) Adoption of By-Law No. 2020-002 – By-Law consolidating the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Montreal West and modifying various other provisions

WHEREAS a copy of this By-Law in draft version was previously tabled at a Council meeting when the notice of motion was given, and made available in accordance with the law;

WHEREAS the purpose and scope of this by-law were summed up at the present meeting;

THEREFORE:

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

That By-Law No. 2020-002 entitled "By-Law consolidating the Zoning By-Law of the Town of Montreal West and modifying various other provisions" be adopted.

Carried unanimously
#20200330-009

b) Adoption of By-Law No. 2020-003 – By-Law to establish a financial assistance program for the revitalization of commercial facades and signs and the accessibility to businesses for persons with disabilities

WHEREAS a copy of this By-Law in draft version was previously tabled at a Council meeting when the notice of motion was given, and made available in accordance with the law;

WHEREAS the purpose and scope of this by-law were summed up at the present meeting;

THEREFORE:

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

That By-Law No. 2020-003 entitled "By-Law to establish a financial assistance program for the revitalization of commercial facades and signs and the accessibility to businesses for persons with disabilities" be adopted.

Carried unanimously
#20200330-010

c) Notice of Motion and Deposit of Draft By-Law for a By-Law repealing By-Law No. 2008-005 concerning swimming pools

Mayor Masella gave notice of motion that it is intended at a subsequent Meeting of Council to submit for adoption a "By-Law repealing By-Law No. 2008-005 concerning swimming pools".

The said By-Law, in draft version, was tabled with Council and made available to the public.

d) Notice of Motion and Deposit of Draft By-Law for a By-Law amending By-Law No. 2019-007 concerning taxes of the Town of Montreal West for the fiscal year 2020

Mayor Masella gave notice of motion that it is intended at a subsequent Meeting of Council to submit for adoption a "By-Law amending By-Law No. 2019-007 concerning taxes of the Town of Montreal West for the fiscal year 2020".

The said By-Law, in draft version, was tabled with Council and made available to the public.

17. Second Public Question Period

The Mayor noted that there could be no second public question period in the present circumstances.

18. Termination of the Meeting

At 9:20 p.m., no questions being asked,

It was moved by Councillor Dino Mazzone, seconded by Councillor Maria Torres and resolved:

That the Meeting be terminated.

Carried unanimously
#20200330-011

Beny Masella
Mayor

Claude Gilbert
Town Clerk

*The annexes mentioned above are deposited
in the municipal archives in File Archives-20200330*