

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 31, 2020
8:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of Montreal West held on August 31, 2020 at the Town Hall located at 50 Westminster Avenue South.

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 Claude Gilbert, Town Clerk
Ms. Elisabeth Roy, Communications Supervisor

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

NOTE This Council meeting was held in camera, and was attended by Council members using telecommunications means, as authorized by the Ministerial Order 2020-029 of April 26, 2020 from the Quebec Minister of Health and Social Services (page 2, last paragraph).

1. Opening of the Meeting

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

That the Meeting be declared open.

Carried unanimously
#20200831-001

The Mayor called the Meeting to order at 8:00 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, August 31, 2020 as presented.

Carried unanimously
#20200831-002

4. Approval of the Minutes

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

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

- Regular Meeting of June 29, 2020;
- Special Meeting of July 9, 2020;
- Special Meeting of August 6, 2020.

Carried unanimously
#20200831-003

5. Correspondence

There was nothing under this item.

6. Report of the Mayor

Mayor Masella mentioned that later, during this meeting, he would be depositing a petition received from residents on Ronald Drive, Brock South and Ballantyne South, seeking the Town's assistance and support with their complaint to the Canadian Transport Agency, in order to help resolve a matter with CN operations. The Town does not have any jurisdiction on rail operations, but the Mayor said that with every complaint, he reaches out to his contacts at CN and to Minister Marc Garneau's office. CN usually responds and temporarily fixes their problem. He reminded the audience that the Town passed a motion in June 2018 calling upon CN to eliminate the problems they are causing. However, there was an incident again this weekend where CN was repairing a train. As a result, he emailed Mr. Sean Finn, Executive Vice-President, Corporate Services and Chief Legal Officer and his team, and immediately received a response that Mr. Finn had requested to have this issue addressed ASAP. Now, it is time for a permanent resolution, and the Mayor respectfully requested that he make it your point to address and permanently fix these problems with CN's operations.

7. First Public Question Period

The Mayor announced the beginning of the First Public Question Period at 8:07 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. Tara Gerrie

Noted that with the return to school, it is extremely unsafe for children using the east sidewalk to cross the street at Northview and Westminster in order to get to Edinburgh. Therefore she requested that the Town remove or make exceptions to the rule of one-way sidewalks for children and families who are getting their kids to school.

2. Joyce Teiber

Asked if the Town has any idea what is going into the Bank of Montreal building.

3. Bronia Saks

Asked if it would be possible to cover the swimming pool with a blowup type tent (same as used at Concordia University over the football field) so as to continue the operate of the pool in the winter the same way it is presently done.

4. Kevin Brothaler

Noted that she had requested a third speed bump on Ballantyne North, like on the same section of Brock, and that Council said something would be done, but nothing has been yet. He pointed out the importance of this request for safety on a local street where a park is located nearby.

Thanked the Town for adding home facing shields to the LED streetlights. However, the lights still contribute to light pollution and driver glare. Asked if the Town has longer term plans to find a middle ground between using LED lighting and preserving the residential atmosphere.

Noted that the pedestrian crossings on Westminster south of Sherbrooke all have warning signs, but the one immediately north of Sherbrooke has no signage. Also, cars going south have a stop but cars going north don't. At least there should be a sign since the other crossings have one.

5. Catherine Eustace

Concerning the prohibition of temporary garages in Montreal West, asked if the Town would consider allowing residents to install such garages exceptionally this winter (either in driveways or backyards), in order to have a sheltered area in which to have socially distanced outdoor visits.

Concerning the prohibition of block parties at the moment, asked if the Town would consider allowing residents to have socially distanced block parties on Halloween. This would allow parents to plan outdoor Halloween activities with their direct neighbors in lieu of children going to trick-or-treating door-to-door considering the COVID crisis.

6. Doug Brice

Asked for an update on the proposed sale of the corner lot at Avon and Westminster and the library building. Wondered if offers to purchase have been submitted and if testing for contamination by a possible developer has been completed, as a number of barrels have been left on the property.

Also asked for an update on the Avon roadwork, and in particular, when is it scheduled to begin, and what part of Avon will be redone.

7. Louise Chenevert

On Thursday August 27 through yesterday August 30, witnessed a Thornless Honey Locust ('Gleditsia triacanthos') being cut down in front of 417 Westminster north and thus a municipal street tree. Wonder what was the reason for its removal.

8. Julian Mazzone

Complained about the garbage contractor. Almost every Friday this summer, he noticed the collectors will empty the bins but instead of putting them in the driveways, they would end up on the street sometimes on the other side of the street. Asked if the Town may cancel the contract in the event of repeated failures to give the service properly.

9. Gniobou Traore

Noticed that Côte Saint-Luc does not allow Montreal West residents to take swimming courses on the same terms as before. Asked if the Town may contact the City to allow Montreal West residents to register for any places left on these courses.

10. Aubri Marchand

Being concerned with lead contamination of water supply pipes, asked if the Town has applied for a grant under a new government program for water infrastructures. Wondered how the Town ensure to get informed and apply for any and all government funding to address this public health and safety problem.

11. Ellen Moore

About recycling problems, had sent a letter in which she brought up the possibility of placing one or two separate bins just for glass in a central location, because glass breaks and when it does so in a recycling bin it ruins the whole content. Asked for an answer.

Also asked if the Town would consider a re-education program for residents concerning the contents of recycling bins.

12. Angus Mackay

Asked how the Town expects residents to properly dispose of styrofoam packaging from the grocery store, which is not collected curbside.

13. Anna Pawulski

Asked for regular reports on the CoVid situation in Montreal cWest. Number of cases, deaths, number recovered, number in hospital, number in ICU, age range, gender, and source of infection be it travel, indoor retail/service establishments, community spread.

14. Farah Issa

Regarding the resurfacing of Avon road in the near future, asked if the Town would consider the following: 1) the speed limit on Avon compared to Saint-Jacques in Lachine; 2) on the bridge is a 4-1/2 lane road getting into a very tight 3 lane road with no road signage indicating such; 3) Avon road is the only passage for a cyclist to connect to Lachine canal bike path, there should be a bicycle lane dedicated to cyclists for going both directions.

15. Mike Elie

Asked for more speed and safety signage on Ronald similar to Ballantyne/Brock. The radar installed on Ronald works maybe 10% of the time.

Asked what the Town will do to address the increasing CN train idling noise and pollution south of Ronald, as it causes great anxiety and stress and is getting worse.

Also asked if some wood chips could be added and raking be done at Ronald Park. There is metal sewer cover partially exposed and hidden in the middle of the play yard.

16. Emily Kaufer

Raised an issue about a Town tree which is impacting her family's quality of life.

17. Nicholas Knowles

Recalling that on Earth Day in 2019, forty cars were vandalized in Montreal West, and that a self-proclaimed antifascist group claimed responsibility for the property damage as well as for the recent destruction of the Sir John A. MacDonald statue downtown, the resident asked what new measures are being taken to protect historical monuments and residents in Montreal West.

18. Kirsten McGraw

Asked what steps need to be taken in order to secure dedicated "drop off" spaces in front of Edinburgh elementary school.

19. Andy Malolepszy

Asked if there is any progress on an overpass on West Broadway and Cavendish, in order to alleviate traffic on Westminster.

20. Domenica Pulcini

Complained that CN trains are being serviced in the back of houses on Ronald Drive where residents live.

Asked why are trains being left idling with engines on, and why do residents continuously have noise, smoke and dirt pollution in back yards.

Asked if the Town will follow up and support the petition concerning the lack of adequate safety and protection measures along the CN tracks from increased train noise, vibrations and emissions affecting the health and the well-being of those residents.

21. Gerry Ahronheim

Said that garbage pickup has been more careless than usual, and that some basic care need to be taken.

Also asked how long does it take for a problem tree to be trimmed, after reporting to the Public Works Department.

22. Harold Knowles

Asked when the swings in the parks of the Town will be restored to full capacity, as they are in the parks on Mount Royal and St. Henri. Fully equipped parks encourage kids and parents to be outside, the safest place to be during the pandemic.

Also asked if the Town has heard anything about how much additional tax revenue Valérie Plante will be asking from suburban municipalities.

23. Andre Lavoie

Complained about the speed of garbage trucks on Percival and Nelson, as well as of speeding in general. Suggested that the Town should not just use bumps or humps but also flexible poles as traffic calming devices, as often seen in Montreal and Westmount.

The First Question Period ended at 8:52 p.m.

8. Contracts and Town Clerk's Office

a) Municipal age-friendly policy

WHEREAS the residents of Montreal West value this town as a living environment with accessible services that help make it a community to which they have an enduring sense of loyalty and attachment;

WHEREAS it is expected that with demographic changes the number of senior residents in Montreal West will grow significantly in the years to come, while it is known that many among them wish to remain here;

WHEREAS the municipality has embarked upon a plan to elaborate a policy that will address the issues facing seniors in this community and what local actions can be taken;

WHEREAS this policy was drawn up under the auspices of a steering committee which conducted a survey, held interviews and widespread consultations, benefitted from the input of focus groups and received expert advice;

THEREFORE:

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

1) That the Town of Montreal West adopt a Municipal Age-Friendly Policy (Municipalité Amie des Aînés) aimed at adapting its structures and services to be accessible to and inclusive of older people with varying needs and capacities.

2) That the Town approve, as an integral part of this policy, an action plan from 2020 to 2025 encompassing the following axis of intervention:

- outdoor spaces and buildings;
- transportation;
- communication;
- housing;
- social participation;
- respect and social inclusion;
- community support, health and social services;

- employment and civic participation.

Carried unanimously
#20200831-004

b) Environmental Action Committee – constitution

WHEREAS Council wishes to set up committees to address various matters of interest at the municipal level;

WHEREAS such committees may be helpful as management tools which enable the residents to provide their input and also in order to benefit from the advice of members of society in addressing a number of problematic situations;

THEREFORE:

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

1) To officially constitute the Standing Environmental Action Committee (EAC) of Montreal West which will be tasked with studying current issues pertaining to environment in the Town, and with making recommendations to Council by way of written reports to deal with actual and future needs.

2) To set up the mandate and membership of the EAC as follows.

Mandate:

- Address local environmental issues and offer advice and recommendations to Council;
- Encourage the Town to develop and adopt sustainability policies and strategic plans for a more environmentally friendly community;
- Sensitize Town residents and employees about sustainable practices which will enhance the well-being of the environment.

Membership:

- Two (2) Council members;
- Maximum of nine (9) residents appointed by resolution every two years, or until the end of the mandate of the Councillor responsible for Environment, whichever comes first;
- One (1) representative from the administration (non-voting).

Carried unanimously
#20200831-005

9. Administration and finances

a) Approval of disbursements – June 27 to August 27, 2020

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

That the list of accounts payable from June 27 to August 27, 2020 totaling \$1,135,033.81 be approved and paid as listed.

Carried unanimously
#20200831-006

b) Delegation of powers for the months of July and August 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 months of July and August 2020.

Carried unanimously
#20200831-007

10. Urban Department

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

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

- 1) To acknowledge receipt of the minutes of a meeting held by the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) on August 26, 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
53 Ballantyne N.	Replacement of the front door and a side door, removal of a window and addition of a door on the back façade;
19 Brynmor	Capping of the front stairs, landing and flowerbox;
316 Strathearn N.	Demolition of existing side deck and replacement with a landing and stairs leading to a ground patio;
69-71 Westminster N.	Replacement of the asphalt shingles.

- 3) To approve with conditions 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
259 Strathearn N.	Replacement of the front porch flooring, railings and stairs;
153 Wolseley N.	Replacement of two doors;
34 Wolseley S.	Installation of railings on front landing and stairs;
337-339 Westminster N.	Replacement of the rear façade regular doors and adjacent window on both floors with patio doors as well as the replacement of the rear façade left side windows on both floors with the former windows adjacent to the regular doors;
117-119 Northview	Replacement of the front landing and stairs for both addresses.

- 4) 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
317 Brock N.	Replacement of the front door, garage door, the cladding material on the second floor and soffits and addition of windows shutters;

Carried unanimously
#20200831-008

b) Minor exemption request – 481-483 Hudson

NOTE Councillor Colleen Feeney summarized the issues involved in the following matter. She also noted that it had been advertised; it was mentioned in the public notice that comments could be sent by email and none were received.

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

That the plans and request submitted to the August 5, 2020 meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee be approved, in accordance with By-Laws 2010-002 and G-18-0005, for the following minor exemption from the relevant schedule of uses and standards under section 3.2.2 of the Zoning By-Law, regarding the immovable located at 481-483 Hudson in zone RC-1 to:

- Normalize an encroachment of the main building, which is located at 4.21 metres from the property line, while the minimum front setback is of 4.57 metres, the consequence being to reduce this requirement by 0.36 metre.

Carried unanimously
#20200831-009

c) Minor exemption request – 205 Brock North

NOTE Councillor Colleen Feeney summarized the issues involved in the following matter. She also noted that it had been advertised; it was mentioned in the public notice that comments could be sent by email and none were received.

It was moved by Councillor Colleen Feeney, seconded by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin and resolved, Councillor Dino Mazzone having voted against, and Councillor Maria Torres in favor:

That the plans and request submitted to the August 5, 2020 meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee be approved, in accordance with By-Laws 2010-002 and G-18-0005, for the following minor exemptions from the first paragraph of section 4.1.9 and paragraphs 7 and 17 of section 4.1.10 of the Zoning By-Law, regarding the immovable located at 205 Brock North in zone RA-4 to:

- Allow the construction of a patio with a lateral setback of zero (0) metre instead of one (1) metre minimum, the consequence being to reduce this requirement by one (1) metre.
- Allow the construction of a patio with a rear setback of 0.3 metre instead of one (1) metre minimum, the consequence being to reduce this requirement by 0.7 metre.
- Allow the construction of a gazebo with a lateral setback of zero (0) metre instead of one (1) metre minimum, the consequence being to reduce this requirement by one (1) metre.
- Allow the construction of a gazebo with a rear setback of 0.59 metre instead of one (1) metre minimum, the consequence being to reduce this requirement by 0.41 metre.

Carried by a majority
#20200831-010

d) Payment of a compensation for a parking place – 42-44 Ronald

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

To accept the request presented by the owner of the immovable quoted in title (lot number 1 291 596) in order to compensate for one (1) missing parking place for the renovation project of a two-storey residential building and the addition of a dwelling unit, subject to the payment of a total sum of \$5,000.00, in accordance with section 5.1.5 of Zoning By-Law No. 2020-002.

Carried unanimously
#20200831-011

11. Public Works

a) Fuel supply – purchase group (delegation of competence to the City of Montreal)

WHEREAS the Supply Services Department of the City of Montreal has offered the Town of Montreal West to participate in a group call for tenders for the purpose of awarding a contract for the management and supply of fuel oils;

WHEREAS the savings that should be made through this approach make it advisable to accept the proposal;

THEREFORE:

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

- 1) That the Town of Montreal West confirm its participation in a group call for tenders for the management and supply of fuel oils, as proposed by the City of Montreal.
- 2) That the Town of Montreal West agree to delegate its competence to the City of Montreal for the purpose of a three-year contract with two annual renewal options.

Carried unanimously
#20200831-012

b) Supply of road salt

WHEREAS the City of Montreal issued a public call for tender for the purpose of awarding a supply contract for road salt for the winter season 2020-2021;

WHEREAS this call for tender was conducted on behalf of the boroughs and all reconstituted municipalities, including the Town of Montreal West;

THEREFORE:

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

- 1) That this supply contract be awarded to Cargill Limitée, being the lowest conforming bidder, on the basis of a price of \$64.38 per metric ton including delivery costs (plus taxes).
- 2) That this expense be charged to budget code 02-330-00-629.

Carried unanimously
#20200831-013

12. Human Resources

a) Hiring of a communications supervisor (maternity leave replacement)

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

- 1) That Ms. Manon Schalk be hired as temporary Communications Supervisor under a contract to be signed by both parties, for a duration not exceeding one (1) year.
- 2) That Ms. Manon Schalk start working September 3, 2020 conditional to submission of her work permit with the Town of Montreal West, or on a later date to be agreed upon by both parties if it is issued by immigration authorities afterwards.
- 3) That the Director General be authorized to sign this contract on behalf of the Town.

Carried unanimously
#20200831-014

13. Appointments

a) Environmental Action Committee – membership

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

- 1) To appoint the following persons elected members of the Environmental Action Committee constituted by Resolution #20200831-005:
 - Maria Torres, Chairperson
 - Elizabeth Ulin, Vice-Chairperson
- 2) To appoint the following persons resident members of the said Committee:
 - James Stewart
 - Haley Clarke-Cousineau
 - Laura Cousineau
 - John Limeburner
 - Daniel Boulerice
 - Haley Roop
 - Katie McGilton
 - Chloe Commeau

Carried unanimously
#20200831-015

14. Councillors' Reports

a) Seat Number 3

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

b) Seat Number 4

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

c) Seat Number 1

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

d) Seat Number 2

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

15. Deposit of Documents

a) Petition concerning CN train traffic and operations

On August 27, 2020, fifty-three (53) residents on Ronald Drive, Brock South and Ballantyne South submitted a petition asking for the Town's assistance and support in the matter of numerous complaints dealing with excessive noise, vibrations and CO2 emissions linked to the CN trains in their immediate neighborhood.

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

There was nothing under this item.

17. Second Public Question Period

The Mayor announced the beginning of the Second Public Question Period at 9:40 p.m.

Given the circumstances, residents had been invited to send by internet their questions concerning matters on the agenda of this meeting to the Mayor and Councillors.

18. Termination of the Meeting

At 9:41 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
#20200831-016

Beny Masella
Mayor

Claude Gilbert
Town Clerk

*The annexes mentioned above are deposited
in the municipal archives in File Archives-20200831*