

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 13, 2021
8:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of Montreal West held on December 13, 2021 at the Town Hall located at 50 Westminster Avenue South.

Present:	Mayor:	Mr. Beny Masella	
	Councillors:	Ms. Lauren Small-Pennefather	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
Ms. Elisabeth Roy, Communications Officer

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

Six (6) residents and visitors were in attendance.

1. Opening of the Meeting

It was moved by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather, seconded by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin and resolved:

That the Meeting be declared open.

Carried unanimously
#20211213-001

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 Colleen Feeney, seconded by Councillor Maria Torres and resolved:

To adopt the Agenda of the Regular Meeting of Monday, December 13, 2021 modified as follows:

- by postponing item 16 a): **Adoption of By-Law No. 2021-005 – By-Law enacting a Code of Ethics and Good Conduct for Elected Municipal Officers and replacing By-Law No. 2017-009.**

Carried unanimously
#20211213-002

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:

- Regular Meeting of November 15, 2021;
- Special Meeting of November 25, 2021.

Carried unanimously
#20211213-003

5. **Correspondence**

There was nothing under this item.

6. **Report of the Mayor**

Mayor Masella noted that this was the first Council meeting at the Town Hall for a long time. He announced changes to the way question periods will take place from now on. During the first one, Council will answer questions about any topic coming from the floor during 25 minutes maximum, after what it will address similar questions received through the website, also during a maximum of 25 minutes. In each case, residents will start with a short preamble, and then ask a main question and a follow up question, keeping in mind this is not a debate period. At the second question period, questions will follow the same format but will have to address items on the agenda; Council will first answer questions coming from the floor during a maximum of 10 minutes, and then those received on line during the meeting, for a maximum of 10 minutes.

7. **Councillors' Reports**

a) **Seat Number 2**

Councillor Elizabeth Ulin reported on matters pertaining to Public Works, Communications and Environment (1).

b) **Seat Number 3**

Councillor Colleen Feeney reported on matters pertaining to Finance, Recreation and topics related to the status of Age Friendly Municipality.

c) **Seat Number 4**

Councillor Maria Torres reported on matters pertaining to Urban Planning (1) and Environment (2).

d) **Seat Number 1**

Councillor Lauren Pennefather reported on matters pertaining to Public Security and Urban Planning (2).

8. **First Public Question Period**

The Mayor announced the beginning of the First Public Question Period at 8:20 p.m.

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

1. Daniel Boulerice

In previous council meetings, former councillor Mazzone scolded residents for riding their bikes on the sidewalks. Yet cycling on Westminster Street can be quite dangerous. Asked if there any plans to create proper bicycle paths through Montreal West.

2. Julian Mazzone

Asked for an update on the prospective purchase by the Town of the traffic lights at the corner of Westminster and Avon. Also asked for an update on the work planned by EXO for an exit on the North side of the train station.

3. Richard Morin

This is a question received just after the last meeting. Wanted to know if the contract for the architectural firm of the new recreation center and the contract for the dog run at the corner of Westminster and Ainslie were awarded to the lowest bidders.

4. Pat Cunningham

In order to reduce speeding through traffic on Brock North, Ballantyne North and Strathearn North, asked if it could be possible to have inverse one ways. There would be little additional cost and would greatly improve safety of the neighbourhood.

5. Marc Nerenberg

Noted that street signs are back at the Westminster/Westover corner. However, the old signs were on the South East corner; the new ones, on the South West corner, are partly obscured by the telephone pole which they are behind. Asked that they be moved back to the South East corner, or that a Westover sign be attached above the stop sign on the South East corner, or that the signs be moved to the telephone pole where they would be higher up and more visible.

6. Lise Tessier

Asked why tempo car shelters are not allowed in Montreal West. Allowing them would help the Town to be more environmentally friendly by using less salt.

7. Mike Elie

Asked for a status update on the vacant (unfinished) lots at the edge of the Town (Brock South and Ronald). Next to the newly constructed condos/apartments there are lots that are just gravel and weeds. Also wanted to know what the follow up was with the Bellevue developers about the unfinished driveway leading from this apartment complex. This driveway would reduce traffic on Ronald.

8. Peter McLean

Noted that the pothole in front of the bus stop on the sidewalk at Nelson and Westminster still has not been repaired, and asked when it will be done.

9. Laura Cousineau

Proposed to initiate a contest for best wildflower garden in Montreal West. Creating a monarch neighborhood challenge to engage residents in creating habitat for the monarch butterfly would benefit all pollinators.

10. Hailey Roop

This past year council approved the Proposal for Pollinator Gardens in Montreal West put forward by the Environmental Action Committee. Asked the Town to make concrete plans to identify available green spaces on public property where wildflowers can be planted, as well as plant a monarch-friendly demonstration garden at a prominent location.

11. Haley Clarke-Cousineau

Since National Indigenous Peoples Day is June 21 and it will fall on a Tuesday in 2022, and as the Town has long held summer "Community Nights" on Tuesdays, said it could be the first annual "National Indigenous Peoples day" celebration in Montreal West. Moreover, if there is a Canada Day celebration next summer, something could be done to recognize stolen land and possible reparations to indigenous peoples, like a booth in Strathearn Park.

12. Jim Mullaly

At the last council meeting a resident mentioned that a question at a previous meeting had not been answered. He was reassured that it was answered and was available on the previous webcast. The problem is that not all answers are reported in The Informer.

13. Nick Giannias

Said that he and his spouse submitted questions to the Town on two occasions using the forms available on the website. In both cases, they did not receive a reply and had to follow up with emails to Councillors and the Mayor, instead of getting a response from the website.

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

9. Contracts and Town Clerk's Office

a) Statement concerning the protection of Council members against COVID 19

WHEREAS the Agglomeration Council of Montreal adopted Resolution CG 21 0667 on December 2, 2021, by which its members declared that they are adequately protected against the COVID 19 virus;

WHEREAS the Agglomeration Council has invited the Council members of related municipalities to make a similar statement;

THEREFORE:

It was moved by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather, seconded by Councillor Elizabeth Ulin and resolved:

That the members of the Town Council of Montreal West declare that they are adequately protected from COVID 19 so as to carry out their duties.

Carried unanimously
#20211213-004

10. Administration and finances

a) Approval of disbursements – November 12 to December 10, 2021

It was moved by Councillor Colleen Feeney, seconded by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather and resolved:

That the list of accounts payable from November 12 to December 10, 2021 totaling \$1,314,630.12 be approved and paid as listed.

Carried unanimously
#20211213-005

b) Delegation of powers for the month of December 2021

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

To approve the report of the Director General concerning the exercise of powers delegated under By-Law No. 2005-002 for the first half of the month of December 2021.

Carried unanimously
#20211213-006

c) RBC investment certificates

It was moved by Councillor Colleen Feeney, seconded by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather and resolved:

That Council ratify the administrative decisions made by the Treasurer to invest in two guaranteed certificates of \$1,000,000 and one of \$500,000 with the Royal Bank of Canada, each being for one year and cashable after 30 days (interest rate of 0.87%).

Carried unanimously
#20211213-007

d) Budget transfers

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

To approve the following budget transfers according to the recommendation of the Treasurer, so that the corresponding expenditures be charged to the operating budget of the current fiscal year instead of the earlier appropriations below:

- \$20,163.55 Courtney project 22-332-20-721;
- \$17,217.95 Davies Park project 22-332-21-721.

Carried unanimously
#20211213-008

11. Urban Department

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

It was moved by Councillor Maria Torres, seconded by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather and resolved:

1) To acknowledge receipt of the minutes of a meeting held by the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) on December 8, 2021.

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
229 Percival	Renovation of the front porch including the replacement of the front door and four windows as well the replacement of the front landing, stairs and railings;
59 Aislie	Replacement of twelve windows, a regular door and a patio door;
136 Sheraton	Replacement of two windows with a patio door in the back;
349 Ballantyne N.	Replacement of the front door.

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
150 Ballantyne S.	Replacement of twenty-seven windows and a patio door.

Carried unanimously
#20211213-009

b) Minor exemption request – 70 Nelson

NOTE Mayor Beny Masella summarized the issues involved in the following matter. He also noted that it had been advertised. No comments were received since the publication (and none were made after these explanations).

It was moved by Councillor Maria Torres, seconded by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather and resolved:

That the plans and request submitted to the November 10, 2021 meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee be approved, in accordance with By-Laws 2020-002 and G-18-0005, for the following minor exemption from the schedule of uses and standards in effect under section 3.2.2 of the Zoning By-Law, regarding the immovable located at 70 Nelson in zone RB-4 to:

- Normalize an encroachment of the main building, which is located at 2.25 metres from the property line, while the minimum rear setback is of 6.1 metres, the consequence being to reduce this requirement by 3.85 metres.

Carried unanimously
#20211213-010

12. Public Works

There was nothing under this item.

13. Human Resources

a) Permanent appointment – Environnement Coordinator

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

That Employee No. 494 be appointed to a permanent position of administrative manager as Environment Coordinator effective November 1, 2021.

Carried unanimously
#20211213-011

14. Recreation and Culture

a) Grant application – 2022 Platinum Jubilee (Community Projects)

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

That the Town of Montreal West apply to the Department of Canadian Heritage for a grant from the Celebration and Commemoration Program under the component 2022 Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II (community-based projects), undertake to comply with the Application Guidelines, and authorize the Director of Recreation and Cultural Services to sign any necessary documents for this purpose.

Carried unanimously
#20211213-012

15. Deposit of Documents

a) Register of gifts received by Council Members

An excerpt of the register of gifts, marks of hospitality and benefits received by Council members, in excess of a value of \$200 each, was filed. No such benefits were entered on the register.

b) CMQ compliance audit report – budget adoption

The Commission municipale du Québec (CMQ) undertook in 2021 a compliance audit of the municipalities having a population lower than 100,000 residents, with respect to the

applicable rules concerning budget adoption. The CMQ has now released its report and it was tabled at this meeting.

c) CMQ compliance audit report – three-year capital asset plan

The Commission municipale du Québec (CMQ) undertook in 2021 a compliance audit of the municipalities having a population lower than 100,000 residents, with respect to the applicable rules concerning the three-year capital asset plan. The CMQ has now released its report and it was tabled at this meeting.

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

a) Adoption of By-Law No. 2021-005 – By-Law enacting a Code of Ethics and Good Conduct for Elected Municipal Officers and replacing By-Law No. 2017-009

This item was postponed to a subsequent regular meeting.

17. Second Public Question Period

The Mayor announced the beginning of the Second Public Question Period at 8:54 p.m.

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

Abby Shyavitz said that the sound was not very good on line, listening to this first Council meeting held in person at the Town Hall.

18. Termination of the Meeting

At 8:56 p.m., no other questions being asked,

It was moved by Councillor Colleen Feeney, seconded by Councillor Laura Small-Pennefather and resolved:

That the Meeting be terminated.

Carried unanimously
#20211213-013

Beny Masella
Mayor

Claude Gilbert
Town Clerk

*The annexes mentioned above are deposited
in the municipal archives in File Archives-20211213*