

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 28, 2022
8:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of Montreal West held on February 28, 2022 at the Town Hall located at 50 Westminster Avenue South.

Present:	Mayor:	Mr. Beny Masella	
	Councillors:	Ms. Lauren Small-Pennefather	Seat 1
		Ms. Colleen Feeney	Seat 3
		Ms. Maria Torres	Seat 4

Absent:		Ms. Elizabeth Ulin	Seat 2
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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.

NOTE This Council meeting was held in camera, and was attended by Council members using telecommunications means, in accordance with 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 Maria Torres, seconded by Councillor Colleen Feeney and resolved:

That the Meeting be declared open.

Carried unanimously
#20220228-001

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 Lauren Small-Pennefather and resolved:

To adopt the Agenda of the Regular Meeting of Monday, February 28, 2022 as presented.

Carried unanimously
#20220228-002

4. Approval of the Minutes

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

To approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on January 31, 2022.

Carried unanimously
#20220228-003

5. Correspondence

There was nothing under this item.

6. **Report of the Mayor**

Mayor Masella said his report would mention two points, one positive and one negative. On the positive side, he noticed the contributions of winter Olympians who are from Montreal West. The Dufort-Lapointe sisters competed in downhill skiing; as well, Maxime Noreau, who now lives in Europe, competed on Canada Hockey team. Maxime and his brothers grew up in Montreal West playing hockey at the Legion Rink. On a less pleasant note, everyone is aware of the problems in the Ukraine. No matter what those may be called, it is a war, and the Ukrainian people are suffering because of it. There are many Ukrainians in this Town and they are concerned about their family and friends still there. Council's thoughts and prayers are with them.

7. **Councillors' Reports**

a) **Seat Number 2**

Councillor Elizabeth Ulin being absent, there was no report 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 Small-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 8:18 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. **Richard Morin**

Asked if the firm that obtained the contract for architectural services on the new Recreation Center was in the lowest conforming bidder, and if information about this matter is available.

2. **Sandra Primiano**

Said that on Ballantyne South the lamp posts are old and do not emit enough light. As a result, she does not feel safe outside at night. Asked the Town to consider adding additional lamp posts.

3. **Linda Hammerschmid**

Said that the Town should allow residents in the North to continue walking their dogs in Hodgson Field after April 15. Asked for a permanent dog run/park to be included in the eventual Arena project design.

4. **Réetta Hasanen**

Noted that the adapted swing at Strathearn Park has been gone since the beginning of the pandemic. Asked the Town to bring it back soon, for the benefit of the not able-bodied park users.

5. **Harold Knowles**

Asked for the return of all of the swings in Montreal West parks, especially in Strathearn Park. Also invited the Town not to consider banning the use of fireplaces. They contribute a minuscule amount of air pollution and are needed at times.

6. **Jennifer Melnick**

Concerned about the rising incidence of gun violence in Montréal. It seems that a surveillance camera has been set up in Lachine on Camille street between Ouellette and Saint-Pierre avenues. Since this is only a few blocks away, she asked what steps are taken to prevent such violence from spilling over in Montreal West.

7. Norbert Bedoucha

Considering the high traffic along Westminster and the train crossing issues for pedestrian safety, he noted that there are three crossing points on Westminster between Sherbrooke and Milner, and suggested that the pedestrian crossing at Sherbrooke and Westminster be blocked and pedestrians redirected to either of the ones at Milner.

8. Ellen Moore

Asked what response the Town did get from the Public Works Department about the use of salt. If it was negative, she questioned how that response could be reconciled with the Town's efforts to help the environment. Also wondered why the Town would not help the Library re-locate to the new recreation and community center.

9. Rachel Ricci

In view of parking problems on Westminster North, asked the Town to consider adopting a zone-based parking fee structure, as Westmount and CDN-NDG have. Those problems have nothing to do with snow removal; actually, the Town did a great job in that area.

10. Laura Cousineau

Spring being around the corner, asked for an update on the Town's plans for implementing the Proposal for Pollinator Gardens put forward by the Environmental Action Committee, and that the Mayor's Monarch Pledge be published on the website.

The First Question Period ended at 8:37 p.m.

9. Contracts and Town Clerk's Office

a) Earth Hour 2022

WHEREAS the "Earth Hour" is a yearly international event sponsored by the World Wildlife Fund;

WHEREAS this event is intended to increase public awareness of the importance of saving energy to fight climate change;

WHEREAS in 2021, municipalities in 190 countries participated in this initiative;

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

1) That the Town of Montreal West agree to turn off all nonessential lighting for one (1) hour on Saturday, March 26, 2022 starting at 8:30 p.m.

2) That all residents of Montreal West be encouraged to join this event in the same way.

3) That the Town of Montreal West invite all Montreal Island municipalities to take part in the Earth Hour 2022.

Carried unanimously
#20220228-004

10. Administration and finances

a) Approval of disbursements – January 29 to February 24, 2022

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

That the list of accounts payable from January 29 to February 24, 2022 totaling \$ 538,076.63 be approved and paid as listed.

Carried unanimously
#20220228-005

b) Delegation of powers for the month of February 2022

It was moved by Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather, 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 month of February 2022.

Carried unanimously
#20220228-006

c) Budget transfers

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

To approve the following budget transfers according to the recommendation of the Treasurer, so that the corresponding expenditures as of December 31, 2021 be charged to the operating budget of the last fiscal year instead of the earlier appropriations below:

- \$ 61 227.38 New recreation center project long term financing;
- \$ 12 283.53 New traffic lights Avon Road project unallocated surplus.

Carried unanimously
#20220228-007

d) Grants 2022

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

That the Town of Montreal West award the following grants for the year 2022:

- Montreal West Children's Library \$87,159
- Montreal West Public Library 93,000
- The Informer 19,000
- Community Services Council 5,000
- Dr. Robert Drummond (Roots and Remembrance) 250

Carried unanimously
#20220228-008

11. Urban Department

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

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

1) To acknowledge receipt of the minutes of a meeting held by the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) on February 23, 2022.

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
63 Ainslie	Replacement of the front veranda windows and two mudroom doors;
336 Brock N.	Replacement of two windows.

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
68 Ballantyne N.	Elimination of a kitchen window;
484-486 Westminster N.	Installation of a garden shed;
70 Nelson	Construction of a porch in the front yard and side;
227 Brock N.	Installation of a skylight on the side of the roof.

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
24 Garden	Reconstruction of the front landing, stairs and railings;
227 Brock N.	Replacement of the front door.

Carried unanimously
#20220228-009

b) Minor exemption request – 227 Westminster North

NOTE Councillor Lauren Small-Pennefather summarized the issues involved in the following matter. She also noted that it had been advertised in the newspaper.

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

That the plans and request submitted to the January 26, 2022 meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee be approved, in accordance with By-Laws 2020-002 and G-18-0005, for the following minor exemptions from the schedule of uses and standards in effect under section 3.2.2 and from paragraph 6 of section 4.1.10 of the Zoning By-Law, regarding the immovable located at 227 Westminster North in zone RD-1 in order to:

- Normalize the rear setback of the main building, which is 3.95 metres instead of the minimum 6.1 metres required in that zone, while the minimum setback is of 6.1 metres, the consequence being to reduce this requirement by 2.15 metres.
- Normalize the setback of a rear deck, which is 3.12 metres instead of the minimum 4.3 metres required in that zone including the allowable encroachment, the consequence being to reduce this requirement by 1.18 metres.

Carried unanimously
#20220228-010

12. **Public Works**

a) **Awarding of Contracts – separate collection of recyclable materials**

WHEREAS the Town of Montreal West and the Town of Hampstead have launched a joint public call for tenders, for the purpose of awarding a contract for separate collection of recyclable materials;

WHEREAS the tender document provided that each municipality would issue its own contract as a result of this process;

WHEREAS the tender document also requested bidders to submit prices for two of three designated week days, each municipality having the right to select one of these options;

WHEREAS four tender documents were ordered and three tenders were received and verified;

WHEREAS the contract is for the collection and transportation of secondary recyclable materials once a week;

THEREFORE:

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

1) That the contract for the collection and transportation of secondary recyclable materials from April 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024, be awarded to WM Québec Inc., being the lowest conforming bidder, for a total amount of \$ 442,968.79 (including taxes) on Tuesdays in Montreal West.

2) That the expenditure authorized by this resolution be charged to budget code 02-421-00-492.

3) That the Mayor and the Town Clerk be authorized to sign an agreement with the selected contractor on behalf of the Town, in accordance with the provisions of the documents forming part of the call for tenders, as the case may be.

Carried unanimously
#20220228-011

13. **Human Resources**

a) **Permanent appointment – blue collar**

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

That Employee No. 489 be appointed to a permanent Class 3 position as of February 21, 2022.

Carried unanimously
#20220228-012

14. Appointments

a) Designation of the Pro-Mayor

NOTE The last persons who held the office of Pro-Mayor, starting with the most recent incumbent, were Councillors Elizabeth Ulin, Colleen Feeney, Maria Torres and Dino Mazzone.

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

- 1) That Councillor Maria Torres be appointed Pro-Mayor for the months of April, May, June and July 2022.
- 2) That Councillor Maria Torres be designated to replace Mayor Beny Masella on the Agglomeration Council as necessary, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded, if needed, to the Agglomeration Council.
- 3) That this appointment take effect on April 1, 2022.

Carried unanimously
#20220228-013

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 Mayor announced the beginning of the Second Public Question Period at 8:50 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 8:51 p.m., no questions being asked,

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

That the Meeting be terminated.

Carried unanimously
#20220228-014

Beny Masella
Mayor

Claude Gilbert
Town Clerk

*The annexes mentioned above are deposited
in the municipal archives in File Archives-20220228*