

MINUTES
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 2, 2023
6:30 p.m.

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Council of Montreal West held 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
Absent:	Councillors:	Ms. Maria Torres	Seat 4
		Ms. Colleen Feeney	Seat 3

Also present: Ms. Valentina Maria Todoran, Director General by interim
Me Claude Gilbert, Town Clerk

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

There were twenty (20) residents and visitors in attendance.

1. Opening of the Meeting

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

That the Meeting be declared open.
20230202-001

The Mayor called the Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

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

To adopt the Agenda of the Special Meeting of Thursday, February 2, 2023 modified as follows:

- by removing item 3 **Winter equipment rental contracts**.

Carried unanimously
20230202-002

3. Winter equipment rental contracts

This item was withdrawn.

4. Payment of a compensation for parking places – lot 1 292 196

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

To accept the request presented by the owner of the immovable quoted in title in order to compensate for eleven (11) missing parking places for the construction of a mixed-use building, upon payment of a total sum of \$55,000.00, in accordance with section 5.1.5 of Zoning By-Law No. 2020-002.

Carried unanimously
20230202-003

5. Amendment to the working conditions of directors and middle managers

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

That the document entitled "Working conditions of directors and middle managers" be amended as follows, in accordance with the Director General by interim's recommendation which is included in appendix as an integral part of this resolution by:

- providing for an indexation of salaries of 3.5% as of January 1, 2023;
- ballowing an accumulation of five (5) extra days in the global time bank in 2023.

Carried unanimously
20230202-004

6. Adoption of By-Law No. 2023-001 – By-Law Ordering the Construction of a new Sports and Recreation Centre and Authorizing a Loan of 27,318,686 for this purpose

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 to the public in accordance with the law;

WHEREAS the purpose and scope of this by-law, which has not been modified since the draft version was tabled, were summed up at the present meeting, including the fact that the expenditure it authorizes shall be borne by all the taxpayers of the municipality, and that the loan shall be reimbursed within forty years;

THEREFORE:

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

That By-Law No. 2023-001 entitled "By-Law Ordering the Construction of a new Sports and Recreation Centre and Authorizing a Loan of 27,318,686 for this purpose" be adopted.

Carried unanimously
20230202-004

NOTE Mayor Masella read a report explaining the Town's intentions regarding the construction project of a new Sports and Recreation Centre.

7. Public Question Period

The Mayor noted the beginning of the Public Question Period at 6:47 p.m.

1. Andre Chenier

Wondered how the Town can manage to add \$11 million to its current debt of \$16 million. He said Montreal West cannot afford this new sports centre. Also asked Council members if they know that the pledges that been received until now and which amount to \$1.5 million are not legally binding on the alleged donors.

2. Abby Shyavitz

Asked why the Town is holding the register on the loan by-law before the bids are opened. Also asked for information concerning legal deadlines with referendums.

3. Andy Michelin

Expressed the view that going forward with this project will make the Town richer, given the subsidy and private contributions.

4. Robert Deslauriers

Asked why Council would take such an important decision as adopting this loan by-law in a special meeting and not a regular one. Also wondered if the Town could not open the register on the by-law for more than one day.

5. Jessica Lawson

Wondered what are the differences between a formal referendum versus holding a vote, in terms of organization, costs and so on.

6. Scott MacKenzie

Noted that the members of the committee in charge of the fund-raising campaign are in attendance tonight, and explained that \$1.6 million have either been promised or received at this time, or will be received over time in accordance with donation contracts.

7. Ilan Rose

Said that there should be a “yes” committee and a “no” committee on the project.

8. Paul Desjardins

Said that his children went a lot to the current arena and himself was much involved. They are grown up now and out of town, but he thinks this project is important.

NOTE Counsellors Small-Pennefather and Ulin added their comments regarding the construction project of a new Sports and Recreation Centre.

8. Termination of the Meeting

At 7:12 p.m., no other questions being asked,

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

That the Meeting be terminated.

Carried unanimously
20230202-006

Beny Masella
Mayor

Claude Gilbert
Town Clerk

The annexes mentioned above are deposited
in the municipal archives in File *Archives-20230202*