

December 18th, 2018

At an extraordinary meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Stanstead Township, held on the **EIGHTEEN** day of the month of **DECEMBER** in the year **TWO THOUSAND AND EIGHTEEN**, at the same place of regular meetings.

PRESENT: Councillors Louise Hébert, Jean DesRosiers, Mary Cartmel, Pierre Martineau Andrew Retchless and Christian Laporte.

ALL FORMING A QUORUM chaired by Mayor Francine Caron Markwell.

The Director General and Secretary Treasurer Mrs. Josiane Hudon was also present in accordance with the *Law of Municipal Code*.

They were thirty-six (36) persons in the audience.

1. Opening of the sitting

Mayor Francine Caron Markwell opens the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Members of the Council certify that they have received the notice referred to in section 156 of the Municipal Code, at least two days prior to this meeting.

The Mayor reminded the members of the Council and the citizens that the deliberations and question period, during this session, will exclusively focus on the budget and triennial program of capital projects, in accordance with article 153 of the Municipal Code.

18-12-290

2. Adoption of the agenda

***Proposed by Councillor Jean DesRosiers
Seconded by Councillor Mary Cartmel
It is resolved***

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

18-12-291

3. Appointment of a citizen member to the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC)

WHEREAS the departure of the citizen member of the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC), it is therefore necessary to replace him;

WHEREAS Mrs. Tanya Rhodes has expressed her interest in filling the position;

***Proposed by Councillor Mary Cartmel
Seconded by Councillor Pierre Martineau
It is resolved***

THAT Council appoints Ms. Tanya Rhodes as a member of the EAC.

CARRIED

18-12-292

4. By-law no. 427-2018 establishing the budget and fixing the tax rates for the financial year 2019 - adoption

WHEREAS at the regular meeting of December 3rd, Councillor Andrew Retchless gave a notice of motion announcing the adoption at a later meeting of By-law no. 427-2018;

WHEREAS the purpose of this by-law is to establish the tax rate and the budget for the year 2019;

***Proposed by Councillor Louise Hébert
Seconded by Councillor Andrew Retchless
It is resolved by majority (5 for, 1 against)***

Councillor Pierre Martineau votes against this motion.

THAT Council adopts by-law no. 427-2018 establishing the budget and fixing the tax rates for the fiscal year 2019 ".

THAT Council members acknowledge having received a copy of the by-law no later than three days before the meeting and waive its reading.

THAT copies of the said by-law have been made available to the public since the beginning of the meeting.

CARRIED

18-12-293

5. Budget 2019- Intermunicipal Waste Management Board (RIGDSC)

WHEREAS under section 603 of the Municipal Code, the budget of the Intermunicipal Solid Waste Management Board of the Coaticook Region (RIGDSC) must be adopted by resolution by at least two-thirds of the municipalities;

***Proposed by Councillor Christian Laporte
Seconded by Councillor Jean DesRosiers
It is resolved***

THAT Council approves the 2019 budget of the Intermunicipal Solid Waste Management Board of the Coaticook Region (RIGDSC) demonstrating balanced revenues, expenditures and allocations of \$ 2 040 804.

CARRIED

18-12-294

6. Appointment of the Acting Mayor

WHEREAS as stipulated in article 116 of the Municipal Code, the council may, at any time, appoint one of the councillors as acting mayor, who, in the absence of the mayor or during the vacancy of this office, acts as mayor, with all the privileges, rights and obligations attached;

WHEREAS Council appointed Mr. Pierre Martineau to perform this function from December 2018 to November 2019, as indicated in motion no. 17-11-988, but the latter wishes to withdraw;

WHEREAS Mr. Christian Laporte has expressed his interest in replacing him;

***Proposed by Councillor Andrew Retchless
Seconded by Councillor Louise Hébert
It is resolved***

THAT Council mandates Mr. Christian Laporte as alternate mayor from the present until the end of November 2019.

CARRIED

18-12-295

7. Renewal of Aquatech's services

WHEREAS the agreement with Aquatech to ensure the operation of the drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities must be renewed for 2019;

***Proposed by Councillor Mary Cartmel
Seconded by Councillor Pierre Martineau
It is resolved***

THAT Council renews the agreement with Aquatech for \$ 15 093.30 for drinking water and \$ 2 663.51 for each of the sewage treatment plants in Georgeville and Fitch Bay, all taxes in addition, for 2019.

THAT the amount is appropriate from the budget lines 02 41200 444, 02 41401 445 and 02 41402 445, budget 2019.

CARRIED

18-12-296

8. Joining the intermunicipal engineering service group

WHEREAS the Val-Saint-François RCM has carried out a study concerning the pooling of an inter-RCM engineering service integrating the territory of the Memphrémagog RCM and the Coaticook RCM;

WHEREAS a forward engineering service will provide support and accompaniment as well as engineering assignments to municipalities signatories to the intermunicipal agreement;

WHEREAS the Val-Saint-François RCM presented the results of this pooling study of an engineering department in the three RCMs;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Stanstead Township has e-mailed its intention to be included in the financial package of the pooled engineering service;

WHEREAS the Val-Saint-François RCM has prepared the financial package for the engineering department on the basis of the number of municipalities that indicated their interest in the e-mail of intent sent out at the end of November 2018;

WHEREAS the municipalities that have confirmed their interest want to officially position themselves on their membership during the transmission of the final financial package, before the signing of the intermunicipal agreement;

WHEREAS the funding of the pooled engineering service is based on a share shared between the municipalities and MRC members to cover the fixed costs of the service and on the user-pay principle at a very advantageous cost for the municipalities;

WHEREAS a bank of 15 hours in the first year and 10 hours in subsequent years must be taken and included in the share in order to allow the engineering department to meet the municipalities and plan their annual needs;

WHEREAS the terms and conditions such as the duration of the intermunicipal agreement and the method of prioritizing the work will be agreed between the municipalities that have joined the service;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Stanstead Township is interested in participating in the pooled engineering service project, all to be confirmed by the signing of the intermunicipal agreement;

WHEREAS, in spite of the will of the parties, certain elements beyond the control of the RCMs or municipalities may have an influence on the realization of the project such as the availability of labor;

***Proposed by Councillor Jean DesRosiers
Seconded by Councillor Christian Laporte
It is resolved***

THAT the Municipality of Stanstead Township agrees to be included in the final financial package of the intermunicipal engineering service, under the proposed conditions and according to the financial package presented;

THAT the Municipality of Stanstead Township agrees to participate in a meeting to define and establish the terms of the intermunicipal agreement of the engineering department;

THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the MRC of Val-Saint-François and the MRC of Memphrémagog.

CARRIED

18-12-297

9. Fire hall / town hall file

WHEREAS following the public consultation of December 3rd and many thoughts about the construction of a new town hall and multipurpose room;

WHEREAS it appears that the Council still wants to go ahead with the construction of the fire hall, but wishes to further analyze the needs and options for the town hall / multipurpose room;

***Proposed by Councillor Andrew Retchless
Seconded by Councillor Christian Laporte***

It is resolved by majority (5 for, 1 against)

Councillor Pierre Martineau votes against the present resolution and wishes that his dissent be recorded in the minutes: he mentions that the meeting of last December 3rd was not a public consultation because especially composed of a group of very targeted people, and does not reflect the opinion of the entire population according to him. Also, he remains convinced that the project as a whole meet all needs and still believes in it, and indicates that this decision sends the wrong message to employees.

The mayor speaks and mentions that when she was elected, it was to represent the entire population and not just a small group. That's why she wanted to go further in the process so that everyone could decide.

Councillor Jean DesRosiers wishes to reassure the employees and mentions that he is aware and sensitive to the current problem. He is of the opinion that the project has not been sufficiently evaluated and therefore wants to look at all possible options and assess needs, all by professionals.

Councillor Andrew Retchless mentions that one thing is certain, the fire hall must be changed, this is a priority. He mentions that the population seems to have a strong attachment to the current building of the Town Hall so more reason to analyze all the options.

Councillor Christian Laporte states that there is a lack of elements to check and wants to assess how much the fire hall will cost alone in order to evaluate the opportunity to complete the project. He also wants to know all the other avenues possible.

Councillor Louise Hébert is of the opinion that the file needs to be thoroughly evaluated when it comes to raising taxpayers' taxes. She is convinced that a new fire hall is necessary but for the rest, we must analyze everything and also involve and inform the population in the process. She also said that it would be nice if the Town Hall stayed on the main street to revitalize the area.

Councillor Mary Cartmel agrees with the council's decision and with the statements of her colleagues.

THAT the Council mandates the Director General to modify the mandate given to Archidesign for the preparation of plans for a fire hall only, removing the part for the administrative offices and the multipurpose room on the 2nd floor.

THAT the Council undertakes at the same time to give a mandate to evaluate the needs for expansion and the upgrading of the administrative offices as well as the evaluation of alternative solutions for the Town Hall and the community center.

CARRIED

10. Questions from citizens

18-12-298

11. Closing of the sitting

Closing of the meeting was proposed by Councillor Pierre Martineau it is 19:42 P.M.

Mrs. Francine Caron Markwell
Mayor

Me Josiane Hudon
**Director General and Secretary-
Treasurer**

THE PRESENT VERSION IS NOT OFFICIAL; THUS, THE FRENCH TEXT PREVAILS.