

June 1st, 2020

At a regular session of the Council of the Municipality of the Township of Stanstead held on the **FIRST day of the month of JUNE of the year two thousand and TWENTY**, via videoconference.

**ARE PRESENT:** Mrs. Louise Hébert, Mrs. Mary Cartmel, Mr. Jean DesRosiers, Mr. Christian Laporte, Mr. Pierre Martineau and Mr. Andrew Retchless.

**ALL FORMING QUORUM** under the chairmanship of Mayor Francine Caron Markwell.

The Director General and Secretary-Treasurer, Me Josiane Hudon, is also present in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Code.

**1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

Mayor Francine Caron Markwell called the meeting to order at 5:53 pm.

20-06-694

**1.1 In-camera and Videoconference Council Meetings**

**WHEREAS** decree number 177-2020 of March 13, 2020, which declared a state of health emergency throughout the territory of Quebec for an initial period of ten days;

**WHEREAS** subsequent decrees extending this state of emergency until June 3, 2020;

**WHEREAS** the ministerial order number 2020-029, dated April 26, 2020, of the Minister of Health and Social Services, which specifies that any meeting may be held using a means that allows all members to communicate immediately with each other;

**WHEREAS** according to the same order, where the law provides that a meeting must be public, it must be publicized as soon as possible by any means that allows the public to know the substance of the discussions among the participants and the result of the deliberations of the members;

**WHEREAS** it is in the public interest and to protect the health of the public, members of Council and municipal officers that this meeting be held in camera and that members of Council and municipal officers be permitted to be present and take part, deliberate and vote at the videoconference session;

*It is proposed by Councillor Jean DesRosiers  
Seconded by Councillor Pierre Martineau  
It is resolved*

**THAT** this meeting of Council be held in camera with the possibility of videoconferencing for members of Council and municipal officers.

20-06-695

**2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**CARRIED**

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

**THAT** the agenda be adopted as tabled.

20-06-696

**3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

**CARRIED**

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

**THAT** the minutes of the meeting of May 4, 2020 be adopted as submitted.

**CARRIED**

**4. FOLLOW-UP TO THE LAST PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD**

**5. MINUTES OF THE MEMPHRÉMAGOG MRC ASSEMBLY**

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Jean Hogue, director of the MRC's economic development department will be leaving his position to take on new challenges. A big THANK YOU for the work accomplished during his 4 years at the MRC.
- Local purchasing platform and delivery service for merchants  
The local purchasing platform is coordinated by Magog Technopole and the delivery service by the Chamber of Commerce. Following a pilot project, the service is now offered to everyone. The web platform developed in the Memphrémagog MRC is now used in about ten MRCs in Quebec. Free prevention coaching service for businesses. With the reopening of businesses, all prevention measures must be put in place to protect consumers and employees. In collaboration with the Cégep de Sherbrooke and Services Québec, a prevention accompaniment service for businesses is offered free of charge to businesses in the Memphrémagog MRC. Third-year students in industrial hygiene techniques supervised by professors will be able to visit companies and recommend interventions.

## CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

- Appointment of the co-opted persons 2-year mandate.  
4 positions were to be filled, following a call for candidates 2 people had their mandate renewed: Sophie Charbonneau (representative of the heritage sector) and Raphael Bédard -Chartrand (letters sector) and 2 new ones. The two new members are: Monique Cantin (visual arts sector) and Lorraine Beaudry (performing arts sector).
- FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR CULTURAL INITIATIVES OF THE MRC DE MEMPHRÉMAGOG  
  
Some changes have been made to the program.  
A second call for projects will probably take place in the fall, the amount available is \$30,000 from the FRR (Fonds Région Ruralité), formerly the FDT.
- FRR  
Adoption of annual intervention priorities, of the policy of support for businesses, of the policy of support for structuring projects to improve living environments.

## PLANNING

- Regional Wetlands and Water Plan

A geomatics resource will be shared with the Centre-du-Québec region for regional characterization (Estrie). Almost all municipalities have access to preliminary data from Ducks Unlimited. Municipalities also have access to preliminary flow bed data produced by the MFFP as part of a partnership with the region for municipal culvert data in order to update the flow bed layer.

## ENVIRONMENT

- Tributary sampling program

The sampling schedule has been postponed by 2 weeks and will start in mid-June.

- Temporary closure of the sorting center for the installation of new equipment  
4 municipalities would have refused, it would be strongly suggested that the bill for the costs incurred be passed on to them.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### **Fire safety**

MSP requires each municipality to make a resolution to confirm the accuracy of the data.

## ADMINISTRATION

Tabling and adoption of the 2019 financial report

## 6. QUESTIONS FROM CITIZENS

A request for the possibility of putting a permanent removable speed sign on Fitch Bay Road.

Two points were raised with respect to the fire hall: one is why the municipality has to pay for the new construction on its own and the other is that council is not transparent because the title of the borrowing by-law would not disclose the entire project (room not mentioned) and the fact that the project would be restarted when council sits in camera.

A citizen inquired as to whether there will be a lifeguard at Georgeville Beach this summer.

A question as to what the municipality intends to do to enforce the public health guidelines (covid-19).

A question regarding the Auberge McGowan project - parking lots and local architects, etc.

## 7. FILING OF THE MONTH'S CORRESPONDENCE

A list of correspondence received during the past month was tabled with Council members. The documents will be kept in the archives, if necessary, the other non-archived documents may be destroyed at the end of the current month. Correspondence will be handled as directed by the Board.

## 8. PLANNING AND URBANISM

### 8.1 Filing of the Permit Issuance Summary Report

The report of permits issued during the month of May is tabled to the members of council.

### 8.2 Filing of the Forest Inspection Report

The forest inspection report for the month of May was tabled to council members.

### 8.3 Tabling of the Planning Advisory Committee Minutes

The minutes of the Planning Advisory Committee meeting of May 13th were tabled to council members.

20-06-697

### 8.4 Handling of all minor deviations during the declaration of a health emergency

**WHEREAS** the Planning Department of the Municipality has informed Council that the current period is conducive to the filing of requests for minor variances;

**WHEREAS** the state of health emergency currently in effect which was decreed in accordance with the Public Health Act;

**WHEREAS** in the context of this declaration of a state of health emergency, the Minister of Health and Social Services issued a by-law dated May 7, 2020 (2020-033) suspending any procedure, other than a referendum, that is part of the decision-making process of a municipal body and that involves the movement or gathering of citizens, unless Council decides otherwise;

**WHEREAS** waiting until the end of the declaration of a health emergency to process requests for minor variances would significantly and adversely delay the realization of the projects of the citizens concerned;

**WHEREAS** the present (summer) period is a period conducive to the carrying out of work and that Council wishes to promote their realization in compliance with the municipal by-laws (and any derogation that may be filed);

**WHEREAS** it is indeed difficult to predict to date the end of the declaration of a state of health emergency, but in the current context, it is possible that it will be extended for several weeks;

**WHEREAS** Council believes that it is in the public interest not to deprive citizens of the opportunity to have their requests for minor variances processed as long as Council otherwise obtains input from citizens, thereby not depriving them of the

opportunity to make their views known and submit their comments for consideration by Council;

**WHEREAS** Council wishes to replace the procedure set out in the Land Use Planning and Development Act with respect to a minor variance with a 15-day written consultation, pre-announced by public notice, as permitted by Ministerial By-law 2020-033, with respect to any application for a minor variance to be processed during the declaration of a state of health emergency, unless additional or other measures are taken by government authorities.

***It is proposed by Councillor Louise Hébert  
Seconded by Councillor Jean DesRosiers  
It is resolved***

**THAT** the preamble be an integral part of this resolution;

**THAT** Council resolve that applications for minor variances filed or processed during the declaration of a state of health emergency may be processed once the procedures set out in Ministerial By-law 2020-033 have been followed (written consultation);

**THAT** a notice will be published, in accordance with the usual way of publishing municipal notices, as well as on the municipality's Internet site, explaining the nature and scope of the minor variance application and inviting people to submit their written comments regarding this minor variance application;

**THAT** written comments on the applications may be sent by mail to the municipal office located at 778 Sheldon Road, Attention: or by e-mail to the Municipality no later than 15 days after the publication of this notice;

**AND THAT** upon expiry of the time limit for submitting comments and after Council has considered the comments, a new resolution will be adopted to dispose of the minor variance application.

**CARRIED**

20-06-698

**8.5 Minor Variance Applications - Lot 4 922 956 - 821 Sheldon Road (St-Matthias Anglican Church of Canada)**

**WHEREAS** the owner of Lot 4 922 956, located at 821 Sheldon Road (St-Matthias Anglican Church of Canada) Zone Cb-1, has requested two minor variances in order to :

- allow a minimum front setback of 6.22 metres for an addition located in front of the main building (Church) while the minimum stipulated by Zoning By-law 212-2001, in Section 5.9, c), refers to a minimum required front setback of 9 metres for a main building;
- to authorize a total of 17 parking spaces for the building for Place of Worship and Assembly Square uses, whereas Zoning By-law 212-2001, Section 9.2, h), states that the minimum number of parking spaces required per use for a Place of Worship is one (1) space per four (4) seats in Section 9. 2, (u), states that the minimum number of parking spaces required per use for a place of assembly is one (1) space per five (5) seats, plus one (1) space per 37m<sup>2</sup> of floor area that can be used for assemblies but does not contain fixed seating, which would total 20 parking spaces required.

**WHEREAS** the Planning Advisory Committee has reviewed the facts and recommends to Council to accept these minor variance applications with the following recommendation:

- No front access stairs are permitted. Given the disparity of the plans, the final plan will have to clearly demonstrate this when the plans are submitted for the building permit.

**WHEREAS** these applications relate to a provision that may be subject to a minor variance under the Minor Variance By-law Number 217-2001 and a notice was published pursuant to Section 145.6 of the Community Planning and Development Act (which is replaced by the written consultation pursuant to Ministerial Order 2020-033 during the Health Crisis) dated May 14, 2001;

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

**THAT** City Council endorse the recommendation of the Planning Advisory Committee and accept the requests for minor variances with the condition listed above.

**CARRIED**

20-06-699

**8.6 Minor Variance Requests - Lot 4 922 172 - 216 Elephant Road**

**WHEREAS** the owner of lot 4 922 172, located at 216 chemin de l'Éléphant, zone Va-1 has requested two minor variances in order to :

- permit the construction of a main and accessory building on the selected site with a natural slope of more than 15% whereas Zoning By-law 212-2001, in Section 5.9, Grid (f) item (g) note 4, states that the natural slope of the land must be less than or equal to 15% at the intended location of the building;
- permit the construction of the main building and a detached accessory building that is abutting at a corner that increases the distance to 0 metres, whereas Zoning By-law 212-2001, in Section 7.6, stipulates that an accessory building must be at least 3 metres from any other building.

**WHEREAS** the Planning Advisory Committee has taken cognizance of the facts and recommends to the Municipal Council to accept the present requests for minor variances with the following conditions:

- Proceed with the demolition of the existing house at the very beginning of the construction of the new main building;
- Provide an Enhanced Protection Plan for sediment erosion management, approved by the Municipal Inspector and validated at the construction site prior to the start of construction;
- No work or machinery within the 15-metre shoreline protection zone;
- Provide an approval from the fire department in charge to validate the conformity and safety of the access to the proposed residence.

**WHEREAS** these applications relate to a provision that may be subject to a minor variance under the Minor Variance By-law Number 217-2001 and a notice was published pursuant to Section 145.6 of the Community Planning and Development Act (which is replaced by the written consultation pursuant to Ministerial Order 2020-033 during the Health Crisis) dated May 14, 2001;

***It is proposed by Councillor Mary Cartmell  
Seconded by Councillor Christian Laporte  
It is resolved***

**THAT** City Council endorse the recommendation of the Planning Advisory Committee and accept applications for minor variances with all of the conditions listed above.

**CARRIED**

20-06-700

**8.7 Adoption of the second draft resolution regarding a specific construction, alteration or occupancy project (PPCMOI) of the Municipality of the Township of Stanstead under By-law No. 435-2019 - McGowan Inn, Zone Cc-1**

**WHEREAS** the adoption of the draft resolution dated May 4, 2020 (resolution 20-05-681);

**WHEREAS** the end of the public consultation period (replaced by a 15-day written consultation in accordance with Ministerial Order 2020-033 during the health crisis) dated May 25, 2010;

**WHEREAS** no written comments were sent to the Municipality in relation to draft resolution No. 20-05-681;

**WHEREAS** Council must pass a second draft by-law/resolution for any zoning by-law under the Community Planning Act;

***It is proposed by Councillor Jean DesRosiers  
Seconded by Councillor Pierre Martineau  
It is resolved***

**THAT** the Municipality adopt the 2nd draft resolution concerning a specific project for the construction, alteration or occupancy of an immovable (PPCMOI) of the Municipality of the Township of Stanstead, pursuant to By-law 435-2019, regarding the demolition and reconstruction project of Auberge McGowan, on lot 5 477 205 of the Quebec cadastre, located at 51, rue Carré Copp, which aims to

- Authorize uses: short-stay accommodation establishment, restaurant establishment, marina and two lodging units;
- A building height of 3 storeys, while the maximum permitted in the zone is 2 storeys;
- A minimum front setback of 6.20 metres (garage attached to the west side back to the lake), whereas the front setback must have a minimum of 9 metres;
- A minimum front setback of 5.44 metres (north and west) for the accessory building, whereas the front setback must have a minimum of 9 metres;
- Authorize 15 parking spaces including the 8 spaces reserved for the Inn at the municipal parking lot, whereas the minimum standard is 42 spaces;
- Authorize parking areas within 4 metres of lot lines, whereas the minimum distance is 4 metres from a lot line.

**This is conditional on the following:**

- The applicant shall comply with Development Plan No. 200402\_VVA\_Auberge McGowan\_Arbres, April 02, 2020 regarding the protection and conservation of trees;
- Borders be placed around parking lots;
- The applicant shall demonstrate on a plan, a minimum width of 6 m for access to the interior courtyard of the garage (for boat repairs), related to fire safety;
- In the event of a parking problem due to increased traffic at the Auberge, the applicant agrees to find a solution for additional parking. As for the municipality, it will facilitate the search for solutions;
- The Municipality approves the surface water management and drainage plan which lists the discharge points recently submitted to the Municipality;
- The applicant undertakes to establish a waste management plan in accordance with the Residual Materials Treatment By-law No. 339-2012, in collaboration with the Municipality;
- The connection work to the municipal sewer must be carried out with the Municipality's agreement and must not be carried out during the summer;
- The construction work must be started within 3 years following the coming into force of this PPCMOI.
- The applicant shall submit and have approved by the Municipality a soil contamination test report.

**THAT** these documents hereby requested are essential and conditional to the issuance of the permits.

**CARRIED**

20-06-701

### **8.8 Heritage Renovation Assistance Service (HRAS) Service Offering**

**WHEREAS** the Service d'aide à la rénovation patrimoniale (SARP) offers their expertise to accompany rural and urban communities in the enhancement of heritage and contemporary buildings and territories;

**WHEREAS** as part of the implementation of the Cultural Development Agreement 2018-2020, the Memphrémagog RCM wishes to offer advisory services to municipalities to promote the preservation and enhancement of heritage elements of the territory;

**WHEREAS** SARP offers various components, including component 2 which consists of a renovation consulting service, which allows to accompany the citizen during a renovation request, in residential or commercial;

**WHEREAS** the municipality wishes to retain their services for this component;

***It is proposed by Councillor Louise Hébert  
Seconded by Councillor Jean DesRosiers  
It is resolved***

**THAT** Council accepts the offer of service from SARP, for component 2, renovation consulting service, in the amount of \$ 831 per file in the residential, and \$ 1293 in commercial and \$ 717 per signage, amounts to be borne equally and jointly with the MRC (50% by the municipality and 50% by the MRC). The municipality reserves the right to charge a portion of these fees to the citizen/organization. These fees are expected to increase slightly.

**THAT** the amount of the expense will be appropriate to the budget item No. 02 62101 996.

**CARRIED**

**20-06-702**

**8.9 Offer of Service for Amendment to the Permit and Certificate By-law**

**WHEREAS** the presence of numerous wetlands on the territory of the municipality;

**WHEREAS** it is opportune to make changes to the current regulations in order to regulate construction, thus protecting wetlands;

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

**THAT** Council accepts the offer of service from the firm EXP for the mandate to amend the by-law of permits and certificates of the municipality, at an average rate of \$ 115 / h, for a budget of approximately \$ 1,500, plus taxes.

**THAT** the expense is appropriate from budget item No. 02 61001 453.

**CARRIED**

**9. ENVIRONNEMENT**

**20-06-703**

**9.1 Water Speed Restriction for Fitch Bay**

**WHEREAS** a restriction on boating use in Fitch Bay has been in place since 1989, however GPS data taken at that time does not allow the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) to adequately set these limits;

**WHEREAS** the Environmental Inspector has prepared a map based on the land reference points likely used when this restriction was put in place in 1989, clearly identifying these GPS points and submitted it to the Department;

**WHEREAS** the DFO has accepted this map but it must be approved by the municipal council in order to formalize these limits;

***It is proposed by Councillor Pierre Martineau  
Seconded by Councillor Andrew Retchless  
It is resolved***

**THAT** Council accept the GPS data shown on the map attached to this resolution as an integral part of this resolution to restrict the speed limit to 10 km/h in this area of Fitch Bay.

**CARRIED**

**10. PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

**20-06-704**

**10.1 Forand Park Boat Launch Ramp Repairs**

**WHEREAS** the municipality has made a request for a quote to see to the repair of the boat launch at Forand Park;

**WHEREAS** the municipality has received a tender from Groupe Poirier Inc. for this title;

***It is proposed by Councillor Andrew Retchless  
Seconded by Councillor Pierre Martineau  
It is resolved***

**THAT** Council accepts the tender from Groupe Poirier Inc. to proceed with the repair work of the boat launch at Forand Park for a lump sum of \$ 32,847 plus taxes.

**THAT** the expense is appropriate from budget item No. 02 70140 522.

**CARRIED**

**20-06-705**

**10.2 Budget Authorization to Continue Subsidized Actions for the Narrows Bridge**

**WHEREAS** the municipality has obtained the classification of the Narrows Bridge by the Ministry of Culture and that this classification provides the municipality with a grant for the renovations of the bridge;

**WHEREAS** it is necessary to implement several actions preliminary to the filing of the grant application;

**WHEREAS** following a meeting with the persons in charge of the funding program, they confirmed the possibility of starting some of these actions knowing that these expenses would be eligible;

**WHEREAS** the municipality will obviously have to assume the part of the expenses not eligible for the grant program and to this end, it has created a fund dedicated to the rehabilitation of the Narrows Bridge;

***It is proposed by Councillor Jean DesRosiers  
Seconded by Councillor Louise Hébert  
It is resolved***

**THAT** Council authorizes a budget of \$18,000.00 plus taxes from the Surplus allocated to the Covered Bridge to cover the expenses of the preliminary actions for the filing of the grant application for the rehabilitation of the Narrows Bridge.

**CARRIED**

**20-06-706**

**10.3 Application to Install Flashing Lights on Narrows Road (Route 247) Speed Signs**

**WHEREAS** Narrows Road (Route 247) is owned by the Ministère des Transports (MTQ);

**WHEREAS** this road is located in an area where the visibility distance is restricted;

**WHEREAS** a removable speed sign (PAVA) has been installed on this road and the data collected shows that 35% of the vehicles do not respect the posted speed limit of 70 km/h;

**WHEREAS** the municipality wishes that flashing lights be installed on the road signs to increase their visibility, hoping to reduce the speed on the road;

***It is proposed by Councillor Jean DesRosiers  
Seconded by Councillor Pierre Martineau  
It is resolved***

**THAT** Council directs the MTQ to install flashing lights to accompany a 70 km/h prescription sign at both ends of the 70 km/h zone at the two speed limit signs for both ends of the 70 km/h zone, i.e. when leaving the Village of Fitch Bay and after Merrill Road northbound.

THAT the application is for Volume 5, Standard 8.6.2.1 and the standard design is Volume 5, Chapter 8, No. 017.

**CARRIED**

## **11. TREASURER AND ADMINISTRATION**

20-06-707

### **11.1 Approval of accounts paid and payable**

*It is proposed by Councillor Louise Hébert  
Seconded by Councillor Pierre Martineau  
It is resolved*

THAT Council approves the list of accounts payable submitted for the month of May 2020 and authorizes the Executive Director to pay from the General Fund the accounts payable in accordance with the approved list.

<b>Total accounts paid:</b>	254 344.93 \$
<b>Total accounts payable:</b>	18 169.06 \$

THAT the council approves the salary list for the month of May 2020, in the amount of \$32,961.40.

**CARRIED**

### **11.2 Delegation of authority report**

The report of the delegations of authority of the Director and the person in charge of roads and infrastructure are tabled with the members of the Board.

<b>Director's Report:</b>	221,95 \$
<b>Report of the person in charge of roads and infrastructures:</b>	6 365,79 \$

### **11.3 Mayor's Report on Financial Report Highlights**

As required by the Municipal Code of Québec, article 177.2.2, the Mayor reports on the financial situation of the municipality, in particular concerning the highlights of the external auditor's 2019 financial report, namely:

- Total revenues: \$3,888,119
- Total expenses: \$3,634,792

The largest budget variances are:

- Transfer taxes: approximately \$296,000 more than planned;
- Public Works: \$63,000 more in expenditures on various works completed.
- Environmental protection: savings of \$85,000 due to the postponed program on the control of invasive plants.

The municipality ended the year 2019 with an operating surplus for tax purposes of \$670,724 mainly due to the proceeds from the disposal of capital assets for the Régie incendie (\$511,000).

In sum, the municipality has an unrestricted and restricted operating surplus of \$1,882,753.

The municipality enjoys a good financial health which allows it to maintain a quality service and a reasonable tax rate.

Please note that the above-mentioned data could be modified before the official filing of the financial report. A new statement of the situation will be made available as soon as the final data is known.

20-06-708

### **11.4 Amendments to the municipality's wage policy**

**WHEREAS** in order to offer competitive salaries and promote staff retention, classes A and B of the salary policy should be amended upwards;

**WHEREAS** the administration committee has recommended to start the salary of the class A at \$14.50 per hour and that of the class B at \$16.00 instead of \$13.43/hour and \$15.14/hour;

**WHEREAS** the board is in favour of this recommendation;

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

**THAT** the council adopt the amendments suggested by the administration committee as proposed above.

**THAT** the amendments will be incorporated into the policy to form an integral part thereof.

**ADOPTED**

**20-06-709**

**11.5 Hiring of Nancy Vanasse as Administrative Assistant - Temporary Position**

**WHEREAS** the reduction of administrative staff at the reception desk in recent weeks, there was an urgent need to find a solution quickly to fill future absences;

**WHEREAS** the Director General contacted the former administrative assistant of the municipality, Ms. Nancy Vanasse, and she agreed to return on a part-time basis for a temporary period;

**WHEREAS** the General Manager and the Mayor have reached an agreement with the employee and this contract must be ratified by the municipal council;

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

**THAT** council ratify the hiring of Ms. Nancy Vanasse as an administrative assistant for a temporary position for 2 days per week.

**THAT** council has read the employment contract and agrees with the terms.

**CARRIED**

**20-06-710**

**11.6 Lifting the interest rate freeze and penalty - setting a date**

**WHEREAS** the Municipality has decreed, by the adoption of By-law No. 437-2019, that unpaid debts bear interest at the rate of 10% annually plus a penalty of 5% annually;

**WHEREAS** Section 981 of the Municipal Code of Quebec authorizes municipalities to decree, by resolution, a different interest rate;

**WHEREAS** by resolution 20-04-661 adopted last April, Council reduced to 0% the interest rate and penalty for unpaid debts as of March 18, due to the pandemic and as recommended by the UMQ in order to give taxpayers a break during the crisis;

**WHEREAS** it would be appropriate to set an end date for this freeze, so that taxpayers can plan ahead and thus be able to act accordingly;

***It is proposed by Councillor Louise Hébert  
Seconded by Councillor Pierre Martineau  
It is resolved***

**THAT** Council set October 22, 2020 as the date for the lifting of the freeze on interest and penalties for unpaid debts, being one month following the date of the last payment to be made.

**CARRIED**

**12. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

**13. PUBLIC SAFETY**

20-06-711

**13.1 Adoption of the 2019 fire safety activity report**

**WHEREAS** the Memphremagog RCM has a fire safety coverage plan (SCRI) in force for its territory since April 3, 2008, then amended on September 1, 2013;

**WHEREAS** Section 35 of the Fire Safety Act stipulates that "Every local or regional authority and every intermunicipal board responsible for the application of measures provided for in a risk coverage plan must adopt by resolution and transmit to the Minister, within three months of the end of their fiscal year, an activity report for the previous fiscal year and their projects for the new year in terms of fire safety";

**WHEREAS** the council of the MRC adopted, at its meeting of March 18, the annual implementation report of the SCRI for the year 2019 and forwarded said report to the Department of Public Security (MSP);

**WHEREAS** the MSP requests that each of the municipalities covered by the annual report of the MRC adopt the report it has produced and transmitted to the MRC;

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

**THAT** the council of the municipality of the Township of Stanstead accepts the annual report already sent to the MRC regarding the implementation of actions planned to the SCRI of the MRC Memphremagog for the year 2019.

**ADOPTED**

20-06-712

**13.2 By-law 437-2020 entitled : " By-law to decree an expense of \$2,409,430 and a loan of \$1,900,000 for the construction of the fire hall" - resumption of the referendum procedure**

**WHEREAS** the municipality adopted By-law 437-2020 entitled: " By-law to decree an expense of \$ 2,409,430 and a loan of \$ 1,900,000 for the construction of the fire hall" dated last March on the 6<sup>th</sup>;

**WHEREAS** the state of health emergency was declared on March 13, 2020 throughout the territory of Quebec and that subsequently By-Law 2020-008 of March 22, 2020 mentioned that no referendum vote could be held from that date;

**WHEREAS** the Order in Council dated May 7, 2020 (2020-033) suspending any procedure, other than a referendum, that is part of the decision-making process of a municipal body and that involves the movement or gathering of citizens, unless Council decides otherwise;

**WHEREAS** Council wishes to resume the referendum process with respect to Borrowing By-law 437-2020;

***It is proposed by Councillor Pierre Martineau  
Seconded by Councillor Jean DesRosiers  
It is resolved***

**THAT** Council resumes the referendum process for Borrowing By-law 437-2020 entitled: "By-law to decree an expense of \$ 2,409,430 and a loan of \$ 1,900,000 for the construction of the fire hall" where it was at the register.

**THAT** the Director General publish the notice concerning the register within the days following this resolution.

**CARRIED**

**14. LEISURE AND CULTURE**

20-06-713

**14.1 Financial assistance to the Georgeville Community Association for Landscaping**

*It is proposed by Councillor Louise Hébert  
Seconded by Councillor Jean DesRosiers  
It is resolved*

**THAT** Council grant an amount of \$500.00 to the Georgeville Community Association for the landscaping of the Georgeville Village Core.

**THAT** the expenditure be appropriate from the budget item concerned.

**CARRIED**

20-06-714

**14.2 Lake Memphremagog Relay**

**WHEREAS** the 14th edition of the Relais du Lac Memphrémagog will take place on September 19th and the route of the race will cross the municipality of the Township of Stanstead;

**WHEREAS** it is necessary that the municipality authorize it by resolution;

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

**THAT** Council authorizes that the route of the race, as part of the activity of the Relais du Lac Memphrémagog 14th edition, crosses the territory of the Township of Stanstead.

**CARRIED**

20-06-715

**14.3 Membership to the Conseil Sport Loisir de l'Estrie**

**WHEREAS** the municipality wishes to be a member of the Conseil sport loisir de l'Estrie and that it costs \$70 to join;

*It is proposed by Councillor Pierre Martineau  
Seconded by Councillor Louise Hébert  
It is resolved*

**THAT** council grants the expense of \$70 to join the Conseil sport loisir de l'Estrie for 2020-2021.

**THAT** Council appoints Mayor Francine Caron Markwell and Development Officer Hélène Hamel to represent the municipality at corporate activities and exercise the right to speak and vote.

**THAT** the amount of the expense be appropriate from budget item No. 02 70190 996.

**CARRIED**

20-06-716

**14.4 Basketball Line Marking - Thayer Park**

*It is proposed by Councillor Pierre Martineau  
Seconded by Councillor Louise Hébert  
It is resolved*

**THAT** council accepts the tender from Publiforme to mark the basketball lines on the concrete slab at Thayer Park for an amount of \$ 1200 plus taxes, and an amount of \$ 300 plus taxes for an additional game.

**THAT** the expense be appropriated from budget item no. 70150 526.

**CARRIED**

**15. VARIA**

Thank you to the volunteers for the clean-up chore.

**16. SECOND QUESTION PERIOD**

Les citoyens sont invités à poser leurs questions par écrit à propos des sujets à l'ordre du jour.

1 - 8.7 - McGowan House: The schematics/drawings do not appear to include adjacent roads. Can you explain what will happen to the roads around the existing McGowan House? In particular the two on the south and north sides and the one facing the lake. Will the use and access to these roads change?

2 - 13.2 - Borrowing by-law: Is it possible to understand the need to continue with this project in the present time (e.g. health crisis/pandemic and unprecedented economic crisis)? If necessary, what are the key milestones and associated dates? Given the economic situation, can the federal and/or provincial governments contribute money as infrastructure spending? Finally, if the project is necessary, why doesn't the Health Authority take over the project, finance it and become the owner of the building? The Township could then pay only its share of the services.

20-06-717

**17. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING**

Adjournment moved by Councillor Andrew Retchless, it was 7:00 p.m.

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**Francine Caron-Markwell**  
Mayor

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