

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council for the Municipality of Alleyn and Cawood, held this **2nd day of July 2024**, 33 Harrisson, Danford Lake, Quebec, J0X 1P0.

PRESENT: Mayor Carl Mayer
Councillors Susan Tanner Guy Bergeron
Sidney Squitti James Giroux
Mona Giroux Darryl Mayer

The Director General, Isabelle Cardinal, and (10) guests were also present.

1. Opening of Meeting

Mayor Mayer acknowledges quorum and declares the meeting is officially opened at 6:30 P.M.

2. Approval of Agenda

110-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Squitti

And, resolved unanimously that the agenda be approved with additions.

Adopted

3. Declaration of Decorum

111-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Tanner

And, resolved unanimously that the declaration of decorum be approved.

Adopted

4. Declaration of interest or conflict

No declaration of interest or conflict

5. Approval of the Minutes

Regular meeting held June 3rd, 2024

112-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Squitti

And, resolved unanimously that the June 3rd, 2024, minutes be approved with modifications.

Adopted

Business arising from Minutes.

Presentation by Councillor Squitti, member of the Evaluation Task Force, regarding the actions taken.

6. QUESTION PERIOD

7. ADMINISTRATION

MRC Pontiac Report

Two Cadets join the Sureté du Quebec in Campbell’s Bay for the summer. Salmon farm is being develop by private investors and should be open by 2029.

The mayors supported the resolution unanimously regarding the support of Alleyn and Cawood for the request of having the assessment roll and comparative factor reviewed.

RESOLUTION TO MODIFY THE USE OF THE COMPARATIVE FACTOR IN THE MUNICIPAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- WHEREAS** the current municipal assessment process uses a comparative factor to determine property values;
- WHEREAS** this comparative factor can lead to inequitable assessments and does not always accurately reflect the real market value of properties, especially during the 2nd and 3rd years of the triennial roll;
- WHEREAS** the Municipality of Alleyn and Cawood expresses the need to review and revise the Municipal Taxation Act (Loi sur la fiscalité municipale) and the assessment process to ensure a more equitable and transparent property assessment for the well-being of its residents;
- WHEREAS** adjusting the municipal tax rate is only a temporary measure and does not resolve the issue;
- WHEREAS** other municipalities could face this situation of having high comparative factors and their negative impacts: calculation of MRC shares, calculation of Sûreté du Québec fees, and their impacts on residents: school taxes, transfer duties on the standardized value, etc.;

113-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Squitti

It is unanimously resolved;

- THAT** the Municipality of Alleyn and Cawood formally requests a review of the municipal assessment process, with a particular focus on reviewing and modifying the use of the comparative factor.
- THAT** the Municipal Council of Alleyn and Cawood proposes the adoption of a new methodology for property assessment that more accurately reflects real market value, whether the calculation is done on an assessment basis instead of a unit basis. Furthermore, we request that the comparative factor in the 2nd and 3rd years of the triennial roll has no impact municipalities and their residents.
- THAT** the Municipality of Alleyn and Cawood invites other municipalities to support this initiative and adopt similar resolutions to create a harmonized and equitable approach to property assessment across the region. We also invite municipalities to sign and share the petition at the National Assembly.
- THAT** a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipal Directors of

Quebec, the Quebec Federation of Municipalities, the Union of Quebec Municipalities, the MRCs, and the municipalities of Quebec.

Adopted

Cellphone Coverage
114-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Bergeron

And, resolved unanimously that a letter be sent to CCTS regarding the urgent need to improve the Cell Services in the Pontiac Region.

Adopted

Compost Grant
115-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mona Giroux

And, resolved unanimously that the Municipality accepts the grant of \$14,242 covering 50% of the cost of compost bins.

Adopted

Sûreté Québec Calculation Cost

- WHEREAS** the support request from the Municipality of Upton, by resolution number 2024.04.81, for the request to review the Municipal Taxation Law regarding the taxes for the Sûreté du Québec (SQ);
- WHEREAS** under the Municipal Taxation Law, the Government of Quebec can introduce taxes on the services of the Sûreté du Québec (SQ);
- WHEREAS** local municipalities must pay 50% of the costs for SQ services according to the regulation provided for that purpose;
- WHEREAS** the tax burden on municipalities continues to increase;
- WHEREAS** local municipalities are subject to government decisions regarding the funding of the SQ;
- WHEREAS** local taxpayers face increasing fiscal pressure due to this high contribution;
- WHEREAS** the SQ tax rate is currently determined unilaterally, without consultation or consideration of the needs and financial capacities of the municipalities;

THEREFORE,
116-06-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor James Giroux

And resolved,

THAT the preamble of this resolution is an integral part of it and cannot be dissociated;

THAT the Municipal council is TO FORMALLY REQUEST the GOVERNMENT OF QUEBEC to review the Municipal Taxation Law concerning police services to reduce the tax burden imposed on municipalities for the funding of the Sûreté du Québec;

THAT the Municipal council is TO SEND this resolution to the following entities: the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Ministry of Labour, Employment, and Social Solidarity, the Commission for the Protection of Agricultural Land of Quebec, regional deputies, Mrs. CAROLINE PROULX, Member of the National Assembly for Berthier, and Mr. GABRIEL STE-MARIE, Member of Parliament for Joliette, the Association of Municipal Managers of Quebec, the Federation of Municipalities of Quebec, the Union of Municipalities of Quebec, the MRCs, and Municipalities of Quebec.

Adopted

Purchase of Pens

117-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Darryl Mayer

And, resolved unanimously that the Municipality purchase 1000 pens at \$1.29 each for a total of \$1,290 plus applicable taxes.

Adopted

Purchase of Compost bins

118-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Darryl Mayer

And, resolved unanimously that the Municipality purchase 450 compost bins.

Adopted

Quote from WEPC -Wiring

119-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Squitti

And, resolved unanimously that the Municipality accepts the quote from WEPC for the wiring of the Municipal Office in the amount of \$3,417.66 plus applicable taxes.

Adopted

Quote from WEPC - Computer

120-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mona Giroux

And, resolved unanimously that the Municipality accepts the quote from WEPC for a new computer in the amount of \$1,653 plus applicable taxes.

Adopted

8. FINANCE

Accounts paid for the month of June \$64,453.88
121-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Bergeron

And, resolved unanimously that the list of accounts paid for the month of June 2024 in the amount of \$64,453.88 be approved.

Adopted

Accounts payable for the month of June: \$41,235.62
122-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Mona Giroux

And, resolved unanimously that the list of accounts payable for the month of June 2024 in the amount of \$41,235.62 be approved.

Adopted

Petty Cash for the month of June: \$186.60
123-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Tanner

And, resolved unanimously that the list of petty cash for June 2024, in the amount of \$186.60 be approved as presented.

Adopted

9. ADMINISTRATION / FINANCE & COMMUNICATION

Councillors Mona Giroux and Sidney Squitti

Councillor Squitti presented the report of the Finance and Administration Committee to Council. The committee reviewed the bills for the month and discussed the compost grant. Canada Day was a great success, the total cost for the day including a free BBQ for the community and face painting was 63.19. We would like to thank the community for their participation in the 50/50 draw, duck race and donations.

Laptop
124-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Squitti

And, resolved unanimously that 7 laptops be purchased for a total amount not exceeding \$3,500 plus applicable taxes.

Adopted

10. URBANISM & ENVIRONMENT

Councillors Mona Giroux, Susan Tanner, Sidney Squitti & Darryl Mayer

Councillor Squitti presented the report for the committee. The Municipal Inspection duties are being covered by the Director General and the Administrative Assistant. A total of 32 permits were issued last month and we are still looking into the possibility of adding Agriculture zonage in the Municipality.

11. PUBLIC WORKS & PUBLIC SECURITY

Councillors Guy Bergeron, Darryl Mayer & James Giroux

Road work is planned for this month and the side of the roads will be cut.

12. MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES & MONT O'BRIEN

Councillors Sidney Squitti & Guy Bergeron

Councillor Bergeron presented the report of the Municipal Properties and Mont O'Brien Committee. Continuing the work at the park, the little house has been installed at the park and the lattice work around the bathroom is almost finished. The pine inside the bathroom near the splash pad is almost done as well. Septic will be installed next week. The sand for the volleyball field was hauled in place. Next up for the park will be the soccer field on top of the septic once it's finished and the installation of the Nets for the volleyball field. We have some work scheduled for the fall in order to finish the Grant from the MRC. As for the municipal office, council room is almost completed, and the ceiling of the library will be starting shortly. We are aiming to open our library in August.

Councillor Squitti added that bike racks will also be added at the park and the fencing around the parking lot will be done in August. The outhouses for Mont O'Brien were ordered and we are waiting for delivery.

13. SUMMER CAMP, LEISURE, LIBRARY & YOUTH

Councillors Mona Giroux, Susan Tanner & Sidney Squitti

Councillor Squitti presented the report for the committee. We will be offering weekly and daily registration. A total of 26 kids were registered for the month of July. Hats were ordered for all the children at the summer camp. For the library, we received a storey time for the park that will be installed in the month of August. The library also received an Art Hive which includes craft materials that was donated by the MRC Pontiac.

14. ASSOCIATIONS (Seniors, Bethany Hall, Churches, Cenotaph, Cottages, and Recreation)

Councillors Mona Giroux, Sidney Squitti and Guy Bergeron

Councillor Bergeron gave an update on the potential ownership of Bethany Hall by the Municipality. We are still waiting for the Anglican Diocese which is currently working with a Notary.

Councillor Mona Giroux gave a report on the activities of Bethany Hall. The yard sale of June 15 did very well, and the second-hand store is now open every Friday from 4 to 7 and Saturday from 9 to 12 in the basement of the Bethany Hall. Bethany Hall is looking for volunteers.

Councillor Squitti informed the public that the George Lake Association is having their AGM on July 20th. Also, the DLRA is looking into organizing a Mud Run and the tentative date is September 7, 2024. DLRA is looking for a business to operate the canteen.

15. NEW BUSINESS

16. CORRESPONDANCE

Low's Rapids
125-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor Bergeron

And, resolved unanimously that the Municipality will be a sponsor to the Hockey team the Rapids in the amount of \$500.

Adopted

17. QUESTION PERIOD

18. MISCELLANEOUS

I, Isabelle Cardinal, Secretary-Treasurer for the Municipality of Allevyn and Cawood do hereby certify there are sufficient funds to cover the following resolutions: 117-07-2024; 118-07-2024; 119-07-2024; 120-07-2024; 121-07-2024; 122-07-2024; 123-07-2024; 124-07-2024 and 125-07-2024.

19. ADJOURNMENT

126-07-2024

PROPOSED BY: Councillor James Giroux

And, resolved unanimously that the meeting be adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Adopted



Carl Mayer, Mayor



**Isabelle Cardinal, Director General
and Secretary Treasurer**