



Resolution or
Notation No.

Minutes of the Council of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC MUNICIPALITY OF BLANC-SABLON

Minutes of the regular municipal council sitting of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon held on September 19th 2023, at the municipal hall in Blanc-Sablon at 7:00 p.m. under the chairmanship of the Mayor, Mr. Andrew Etheridge, and also present to form quorum:

The councillors: Jarvin Joncas
Jean-Roger Dumas
Dany Gaudreault
Colin Shattler

Karine Benoit, General Director of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon, was also present.

OPENING OF THE SITTING

The president of the assembly verified the quorum and declared the sitting opened at 7:01 p.m. after a minute of silence.

2023-104

READING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

WHEREAS the Mayor invites the General Director to read the proposed agenda;

CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Jarvin Joncas** seconded by **Dany Gaudreault** and unanimously resolved to adopt as presented.

THE AGENDA

1. OPENING OF THE SITTING
2. READING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
3. ADOPTION AND FOLLOW-UP OF THE MINUTES OF THE SITTING HELD ON AUGUST 15TH 2023
4. DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE CHEQUES ISSUED AND THE NON-REDUCIBLE EXPENSES PAID DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2023
5. DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE PAYABLES FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2023
6. DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE BUDGETARY REPORTS FOR THE MONTHS OF AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2023
7. RECEIVABLE TAXES UP TO THE 31ST OF AUGUST 2023
8. DEPOSIT OF THE MAYOR'S MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT
9. ADOPTION OF BY-LAW 2023-R-005 CONCERNING THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE GENERAL DIRECTOR AND CLERK-TREASURER
10. NOMINATION OF AN ACTING MAYOR
11. ADHERE TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE PROGRAM RELATING TO THE TRANSFER AT NO COST OF LANDS IN THE DOMAIN OF THE STATE IN FAVOUR OF NORTHERN MUNICIPALITIES
12. RENEWAL OF THE QUEBEC GASOLINE TAX AND CONTRIBUTION PROGRAM (2024 TO 2028) - NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF QUEBEC AND CANADA
13. REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM THE MINISTÈRE DE LA SANTÉ ET DES SERVICES SOCIAUX WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PROGRAMME DE SOUTIEN À LA DÉMARCHE MADA - VOLET 1, ÉDITION 2023-2024
14. NOTICE OF MOTION OF BY-LAW 2023-R-006 RESPECTING THE CREATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF BLANC-SABLON'S INTRAMUNICIPAL PUBLIC LAND DEVELOPMENT FUND
15. SERVICE OFFER FROM GROUPE CADORET - UPDATE OF THE MAPPING FOR THE POINTE-AU-POT STREET AREA



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16. RESOLUTION GRANTING THE GREENLY ISLAND CORPORATION ACCESS AND PERMISSION TO WINTERIZE THE MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES LOCATED ON GREENLY ISLAND
17. NEW AFFAIRS
18. QUESTION PERIOD
19. CLOSING OF THE SITTING

2023-105

ADOPTION AND FOLLOW-UP OF THE MINUTES OF THE SITTING HELD ON AUGUST 15TH 2023

It is proposed by **Colin Shattler**, seconded by **Jarvin Joncas** and unanimously resolved to adopt the minutes of the sitting held on August 15th 2023 with exemption of reading.

2023-106

DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE CHEQUES ISSUED AND THE NON-REDUCIBLE EXPENSES PAID DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2023

It is proposed by **Jean-Roger Dumas**, seconded by **Colin Shattler** and unanimously resolved to deposit and adopt the list of cheques issued and the non-reducible expenses paid during the month of August 2023 in the respective amount of **\$55 173.67** for general administration and **\$42 579.53** for the payroll.

2023-107

DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE PAYABLE ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2023

It is proposed by **Dany Gaudreault**, seconded by **Jean-Roger Dumas** and unanimously resolved to deposit and adopt the payable accounts for the month of August 2023 in the amount of **\$8 578.99**

2023-108

DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE BUDGETARY REPORT, TRANSFERS, AND CREDIT COMMITMENTS FOR THE MONTHS OF AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2023

It is proposed by **Colin Shattler**, seconded by **Jarvin Joncas** and unanimously resolved to deposit and adopt the budgetary report, transfers, and credit commitments for the months of August and September 2023 in the amounts of **\$92 579.68** and **\$184 315.00**

DEPOSIT OF THE TAX ARREARS REPORT AS OF THE 31ST OF AUGUST 2023

The General Director deposited and commented on the tax arrears reports as of the 31st of August 2023 as **\$673 319.07**



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2023-109

**ADOPTION OF BY-LAW 2023-R-005 CONCERNING THE POWERS AND DUTIES
OF THE GENERAL DIRECTOR AND CLERK-TREASURER**

- WHEREAS** in accordance with the Municipal Code of Québec (RLRQ, c. C-27.1), the Municipality has in its employ a Director General and Clerk-Treasurer who is its principal civil servant;
- WHEREAS** under the authority of the Council, the Director General and Clerk-Treasurer is responsible for the administration of the Municipality and to this end plans, organizes, directs and controls the activities of the Municipality;
- WHEREAS** in accordance with article 212.1 of this Code, the Municipality wishes to add to the powers and obligations of the General Director those provided for in articles 113 and 114.1 of the Cities and Towns Act (RLRQ, c. C-19);
- WHEREAS** a notice of motion of this By-Law was duly given at the regular council meeting held on August 15th 2023;
- WHEREAS** a draft By-Law was tabled at a regular council meeting held on August 15th 2023 and copies were made available to the public;
- WHEREAS** the General Director mentions the purpose of the By-Law and, if applicable, the changes between the draft submitted and the By-Law submitted for adoption;
- WHEREAS** copies of the By-Law have been made available to the public from the start of this meeting;

CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Jean-Roger Dumas**, seconded by **Colin Shattler** and unanimously resolved that the following By-Law be adopted and ordained as follows:

1. The preamble forms an integral part of the present By-Law.
2. To the powers and obligations of the Director General of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon, are added from those provided for in the second and third paragraphs of section 113 of the Cities and Towns Act (RLRQ, c. C-19), as well as those provided for in paragraphs 2° and 5° to 8° of section 114.1 of this Act instead of those provided for in paragraphs 2°, 5°, and 6° of section 212 of the Municipal Code of Québec (RLRQ, c. 27.1).
3. The masculine includes the feminine.

Article 113 (LCV)

The general director is the Municipality's principal civil servant.

He has authority over all other civil servants and employees of the municipality, with the exception of the Auditor General, who reports directly to the Council. With respect to a civil servant or employee whose functions are provided for by law, the general director's authority is exercised only within the framework of his role as manager of the municipality's human, material and financial resources, and cannot have the effect of hindering the exercise of these functions provided for by law.



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He may suspend an officer or employee from his duties. He must immediately report any such suspension to the Council. The Council decides the fate of the suspended civil servant or employee, after investigation.

Article 114.1

2° he prepares the municipal budget and capital expenditure program, as well as plans, programs and projects designed to ensure the smooth operation of the Municipality, with the cooperation of department directors and other municipal officers and employees;

5° it submits to the Council, the Executive Committee or a commission, as the case may be, the budgets, capital programs, plans, programs and projects it has prepared, as well as its observations and recommendations concerning complaints, claims and draft by-laws it has studied;

6° report to the Council, the Executive Committee or a commission, as the case may be, on any matter that he or she believes should be brought to its attention for the sound administration of public funds, the progress of the Municipality and the well-being of the citizens, provided that such report is not, in the opinion of the police chief, of such a nature as to reveal the contents of a file concerning a police investigation; if he or she deems it appropriate, he or she places his or her own conclusions on file on any matter submitted to the Council, the Executive Committee or a commission;

7° he attends meetings of the Council, the Executive Committee and the Commissions and, with the permission of the Chairman of the meeting, gives his opinion and presents his recommendations on the subjects discussed, without having the right to vote;

8° subject to the powers of the Mayor, oversees the execution of municipal by-laws and Council decisions, and in particular ensures that funds are used for the purposes for which they were voted;

4. These regulations come into force in accordance with the law.

2023-110

NOMINATION OF AN ACTING MAYOR

It is proposed by **Colin Shattler**, seconded by **Jean-Roger Dumas** and unanimously resolved to mandate the councillor **Jarvin Joncas** as Acting Mayor for the months of October, November, and December 2023.

2023-111

ADHERE TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE PROGRAM RELATING TO THE TRANSFER AT NO COST OF LANDS IN THE DOMAIN OF THE STATE IN FAVOUR OF NORTHERN MUNICIPALITIES

WHEREAS a request for a transfer under the Program for the Transfer of State-Owned Land to Northern Municipalities was made by Resolution 2023-012;

WHEREAS the Municipality is eligible for the Program for the Transfer of State-Owned Land to Northern Municipalities;



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CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Dany Gaudreault**, seconded by **Jarvin Joncas** and unanimously resolved that the Municipality adhere to the terms and conditions of the Program for the Transfer of State-Owned Land to Northern Municipalities and accept all the terms, commitments, obligations, and conditions stipulated therein.

THAT the Municipality authorises Karine Benoit, General Director, to sign the agreement.

**RENEWAL OF THE QUEBEC GASOLINE TAX AND CONTRIBUTION PROGRAM
(2024 TO 2028) - NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF QUEBEC
AND CANADA**

WHEREAS the governments of Quebec and Canada are currently negotiating the renewal of the Quebec Gas Tax and Contribution (TECQ) program for the period 2024 - 2028;

WHEREAS on August 24th 2023, the Board of Directors of the Fédération québécoise des municipalités (FQM) asked the governments of Quebec and Canada to reach an early agreement to ensure the renewal of this important program;

WHEREAS this program is essential to the realization of important projects in Quebec communities;

WHEREAS despite the substantial amounts allocated to this program, they remain insufficient to meet needs and must be increased due to the rising costs of carrying out projects;

WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities has called on the federal government to double its investment in this program, and to provide for indexation of 3.5% per year;

WHEREAS the FQM and its members have been asking for several years that the Quebec gas tax and contribution (TECQ) program allow for the financing and realization of projects planned and decided by Quebec municipalities, in the sense that municipal building projects (garages, town halls, fire halls, etc.) and work on retention structures (dams, dikes, etc.) be eligible for this program;

WHEREAS it is important to adapt programs to the challenges posed by climate change, and to enable municipalities to finance development and adaptation work, such as the creation of firebreaks to protect forest communities;

WHEREAS accountability for project implementation is onerous for municipalities;

WHEREAS it is imperative that negotiations be concluded by early fall 2023 to ensure implementation on January 1st, 2024, and to enable municipalities to budget for investments;

WHEREAS the sums allocated to this program must be exempt from any new obligations or conditions to ensure its success;

CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Colin Shattler**, seconded by **Dany Gaudreault** and unanimously resolved that the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon request that the governments of Quebec and Canada

- To conclude a new federal-provincial agreement early this fall for the renewal of the Gas Tax and Quebec Contribution (TECQ) program for the period January 1st, 2024 to December 31st, 2028;



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- To increase the sums available to Quebec municipalities, and to provide for an annual increase in the envelope for the duration of the agreement to cover rising costs;
- To add no additional accountability, obligations or conditions to municipalities in the application of the program;
- To allow the financing of municipal buildings, retention structures and wharves owned by municipalities as eligible work;
- To make eligible projects involving prevention, development and adaptation to the consequences of climate change.

To forward a copy of this resolution to the Quebec Minister of Finance, Mr. Éric Girard, to the Québec Minister of Municipal Affairs, Ms. Andrée Laforest, to the Canadian Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, to the Canadian Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities, the Honourable Sean Fraser, to the Québec Minister of Transport and Lieutenant, the Honourable Pablo Rodriguez, to MNAs Kateri Champagne Jourdain and Marilène Gill, to the Fédération québécoise des municipalités and to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

2023-113

REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM THE MINISTÈRE DE LA SANTÉ ET DES SERVICES SOCIAUX WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PROGRAMME DE SOUTIEN À LA DÉMARCHE MADA - VOLET 1, ÉDITION 2023-2024

WHEREAS the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon has read the guide to the Programme de soutien à la démarche Municipalité amie des aînés (MADA) - Volet 1: Soutien à la réalisation de politiques et de plans d'action en faveur des aînés Édition 2023-2024 and undertakes to comply with all the terms and conditions applicable to its project;

CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Jean-Roger Dumas**, seconded by **Jarvin Joncas** and unanimously resolved that:

- The Municipal Council authorizes the submission of the application for financial assistance under the MADA program's support for the implementation of policies and action plans for seniors;
- The Municipal Council authorizes Ms. Laura Lavallée, Assistant General Manager, to sign, for and in the name of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon, all useful and necessary documents in order to give full effect to the present;
- The Municipality undertakes to comply with the terms and conditions of the guide applicable to it;
- The Municipality undertakes, if it obtains financial assistance for its project, to pay all costs not eligible for MADA associated with its project, including any cost overruns, the portion of eligible costs that is not subsidized and for which it is responsible, as well as the ongoing operating and maintenance costs of the subsidized infrastructure or development.



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2023-114

NOTICE OF MOTION OF BY-LAW 2023-R-006 RESPECTING THE CREATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF BLANC-SABLON'S INTRA-MUNICIPAL PUBLIC LAND DEVELOPMENT FUND

Notice of motion is hereby given by the Councillor **Colin Shattler** that at a subsequent session, he will present or cause to be presented with the exemption of its reading, a By-Law concerning the creation and management of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon's intra-municipal public land development fund. A draft of this By-Law is hereby presented.

2023-115

SERVICE OFFER FROM GROUPE CADORET – UPDATE OF THE MAPPING FOR THE POINTE-AU-POT STREET AREA

It is proposed by **Jarvin Joncas**, seconded by **Jean-Roger Dumas** and unanimously resolved to mandate the firm Groupe Cadoret to do the update of the mapping for the Pointe-au-Pot Street area for an amount of **\$2 700.00 plus applicable taxes**

2023-116

RESOLUTION GRANTING THE GREENLY ISLAND CORPORATION ACCESS AND PERMISSION TO WINTERIZE THE MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES LOCATED ON GREENLY ISLAND

WHEREAS the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon owns buildings on Greenly Island of historic and cultural value to the population, in need of repairs;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon does not have the personnel resources to fix said buildings on Greenly Island;

WHEREAS the Greenly Island Corporation would like to assume the work and undertake an eventual restoration of these buildings;

WHEREAS the Greenly Island Corporation would like to take the first steps by winterizing the buildings for preservation;

WHEREAS the Greenly Island Corporation has collected funds and materials for this purpose and would like help from the Municipality to organize the temporary employment of labours with funds and materials donated through the Corporation's fundraising;

CONSEQUENTLY, it is proposed by **Colin Shattler**, seconded by **Jean-Roger Dumas** and unanimously resolved to adopt the resolution granting the Greenly Island Corporation access and permission to winterize the municipal properties located on Greenly Island for 2023/2024 within the means of the agreed labour and supplies or budget discussed.

NEW AFFAIRS

There were no new affairs.



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QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

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CLOSING OF THE SITTING

It is proposed by **Dany Gaudreault**, seconded by **Colin Shattler** and
unanimously resolved to close the present sitting at 7:30 P.M.

Andrew Etheridge, Mayor

Karine Benoit, General Director