



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 17<sup>th</sup> 2024, at the municipal hall in Blanc-Sablon at 7:00 p.m. under the chairmanship of the Mayor, Colin Shattler, and also present to form quorum:

The councillors:           Jarvin Joncas  
                                  Dany Gaudreault  
                                  Mitchell Lawless

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.

2024-104

#### READING AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**WHEREAS**     the Mayor invited the General Director to read the proposed agenda;

**CONSEQUENTLY**, it is proposed by **Mitchell Lawless**, seconded **Jarvin Joncas** and unanimously resolved to adopt the agenda as read.

#### 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 20<sup>TH</sup> 2024
4. DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE CHEQUES ISSUED AND THE NON-REDUCIBLE EXPENSES PAID DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2024
5. DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE PAYABLES FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2024
6. DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE BUDGETARY REPORTS FOR THE MONTHS OF AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2024
7. DEPOSIT OF THE TAX ARREARS REPORT AS OF THE 31<sup>ST</sup> OF AUGUST 2024
8. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY FOR A REGIONAL CONCERTED APPROACH TO THE "MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES MUNICIPALES ET DE L'HABITATION (MAMH)" TO PROPOSE REALISTIC FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS ADAPTED TO SMALL ISOLATED COMMUNITIES IN TERMS OF ACCESS TO MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIRED FOR COMPLIANCE AND LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
9. NOMINATION OF AN ACTING MAYOR
10. AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL DIRECTOR AND THE ASSISTANT GENERAL DIRECTOR TO SIGN PERMITS AND CERTIFICATES DURING THE ABSENCE OF THE MUNICIPAL INSPECTOR
11. RE-OPENING OF THE MUNICIPAL LIBRARY
12. REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF RECOGNITION (REVISION) OF PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR THE CORPORATION DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUE EST-OUEST – FILE CMQ-60318-003
13. MADA APPROACH - APPOINTMENT OF A PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR SENIORS' FILE
14. RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE QUEBEC GOVERNMENT'S ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSAL TO CREATE A PROTECTED AREA IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BLANC-SABLON



Minutes of the Council of the Municipality of  
Blanc-Sablon

Resolution or  
Notation No.

- 15. NEW AFFAIRS
- 16. QUESTION PERIOD
- 17. CLOSING OF THE SITTING

2024-105

**ADOPTION AND FOLLOW-UP OF THE MINUTES OF THE SITTING HELD ON AUGUST 20<sup>TH</sup> 2024**

It is proposed by **Dany Gaudreault**, seconded by **Mitchell Lawless** and unanimously resolved to adopt the minutes of the sitting held on August 20<sup>th</sup> 2024 with exemption of reading.

2024-106

**DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE CHEQUES ISSUED AND THE NON-REDUCIBLE EXPENSES PAID DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2024**

It is proposed by **Jarvin Joncas**, seconded by **Dany Gaudreault** and unanimously resolved to deposit and adopt the list of cheques issued and the non-reducible expenses paid during the month of August 2024 in the respective amount of **\$ 110 421.24** for general administration and **\$ 43 420.42** for the payroll.

2024-107

**DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE PAYABLE ACCOUNTS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2024**

It is proposed by **Mitchell Lawless**, seconded by **Dany Gaudreault** and unanimously resolved to deposit and adopt the payable accounts for the month of August 2024 in the amount of **\$ 44 481.28**.

2024-108

**DEPOSIT AND ADOPTION OF THE BUDGETARY REPORTS, TRANSFERS, AND CREDIT COMMITMENTS FOR THE MONTHS OF AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2024**

It is proposed by **Jarvin Joncas**, seconded by **Mitchell Lawless** and unanimously resolved to deposit and adopt the budgetary reports, transfers, and credit commitments for the months of August and September 2024 in the respective amounts of **\$ 171 051.37** and **\$ 199 453.37**.

**DEPOSIT OF THE TAX ARREARS REPORT AS OF THE 31<sup>ST</sup> OF AUGUST 2024**

The General Director deposited and commented on the tax arrears reports as of the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2024 as **\$ 430 392.14**.

2024-109

**REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY FOR A REGIONAL CONCERTED APPROACH TO THE MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES MUNICIPALES ET DE L'HABITATION (MAMH) TO PROPOSE REALISTIC FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS ADAPTED TO SMALL ISOLATED COMMUNITIES IN TERMS OF ACCESS TO MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIRED FOR COMPLIANCE AND LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**WHEREAS** many cities and municipalities in Quebec are faced with the challenge of upgrading their drinking water and wastewater infrastructures without the financial means to do so;

**WHEREAS** despite known government programs (e.g. PRIMEAU, TECQ and others) available to towns and municipalities, even access to these funds is often restrictive, as it has a significant impact on municipal debt levels and, consequently, on citizens' indebtedness;

Formules Municipales No 5614-MYST



Resolution or  
Notation No.

**Minutes of the Council of the Municipality of  
Blanc-Sablon**

**WHEREAS** this financial impact on the community is all the greater in small municipalities and isolated communities, such as those in the MRC du Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent;

**WHEREAS** it is often the case in these small, isolated municipalities, where the impact of local devitalization can also be seen, that not only does access to a so-called government subsidy lead to an excessive municipal debt level, but that the basic municipal financial portion required to access the subsidy in question becomes impossible, as the annual budget simply does not allow it;

**WHEREAS** this situation of documented and urgent local infrastructure needs versus non-availability of the necessary funds exposes municipalities to considerable financial sanctions and penalties, among others with regard to obligations under section 30 of the Act concerning the "Règlement sur les ouvrages municipaux d'assainissement des eaux usées du Ministère de l'environnement et de la lutte contre les changements climatiques (MELCC)";

**WHEREAS** this situation is once again a hindrance to local economic development, especially for municipalities suffering from devitalization;

**WHEREAS** the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon has documented and made financial projections of what its current need for new infrastructure (wastewater) and associated significant operating costs represent for it and its citizens;

**WHEREAS** without a change in the situation or in the financial tools that could be made available, it will be impossible for the Municipality to proceed and comply with the Act and environmental standards.

**CONSEQUENTLY**, it is proposed by **Dany Gaudreault**, seconded by **Mitchell Lawless** and unanimously resolved:

**THAT** the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon approach the MRC du Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent to obtain regional support in a desired approach to the Ministère des Affaires Municipales et de l'Habitation (MAMH) to analyze the situation and collectively produce possible solutions;

**THAT** the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon be exempt from sanctions and financial penalties related to the fact that it is unable, not unwilling, but financially unable to comply with current standards and legislation.

2024-110

**NOMINATION OF AN ACTING MAYOR**

It is proposed by **Jarvin Joncas**, seconded by **Dany Gaudreault** and unanimously resolved to mandate the councillor **Mitchell Lawless** as Acting Mayor for the months of October, November, and December 2024.

2024-111

**AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL DIRECTOR AND THE ASSISTANT GENERAL DIRECTOR TO SIGN PERMITS AND CERTIFICATES DURING THE ABSENCE OF THE MUNICIPAL INSPECTOR**

**WHEREAS** the Municipal Inspector is on sick leave for an indefinite period;



Resolution or  
Notation No.

## Minutes of the Council of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon

**WHEREAS** in accordance with Article 8 of Zoning By-Law 576-83 of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon;

**WHEREAS** the officer designated by the council is responsible for the implementation of this by-law for the controls and the issuance of required permits and certificates.

**WHEREAS** the council mandated **Jerry Landry**, Municipal Inspector as designated officer and in his absence **Ms. Karine Benoit**, General Director. If the General Director is absent **Ms. Laura Lavallee**, Assistant General Director can also sign the permits and certificates required.

**CONSEQUENTLY**, it is proposed by **Mitchell Lawless**, seconded by **Dany Gaudreault** and unanimously resolved that the council appoint **Jerry Landry**, Municipal Inspector as designated officer, and in his absence **Ms. Karine Benoit**, General Director. If the General Director is absent, **Ms. Laura Lavallee**, Assistant General Director can also sign the permits and certificates required.

2024-112

### RE-OPENING OF THE MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

**WHEREAS** the Municipality has hired on a resource person to work at the library for 6 hours a week during a pilot project for the school year 2020-2021;

**WHEREAS** the library is an asset for the citizens and we wish to maintain it;

**WHEREAS** the trial project has been a success;

**WHEREAS** a resource person has expressed interest in assuring this service during the year 2024-2025;

**CONSEQUENTLY**, it is proposed by **Jarvin Joncas**, seconded by **Mitchell Lawless** and unanimously resolved to hire **Mrs. Carmen Leblanc** as a resource person for the municipal library for the year 2024-2025 for the same number of hours and at an hourly rate of \$ 15.75.

2024-113

### REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF RECOGNITION (REVISION) OF PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR THE CORPORATION DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUE EST-OUEST – FILE CMQ-60318-003

**WHEREAS** the Corporation de Développement Économique Est-Ouest benefits from a recognition exempting it from the payment of property taxes for the property located at 22, 2<sup>e</sup> Avenue in Lourdes-de-Blanc-Sablon;

**WHEREAS** the Commission Municipale du Québec must review this recognition for exemption from payment of property taxes;

**WHEREAS** the Commission is seeking the opinion of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon on the request for confirmation of this recognition;

**CONSEQUENTLY**, it is proposed by **Dany Gaudreault**, seconded by **Jarvin Joncas** and unanimously resolved:



Resolution or  
Notation No.

## Minutes of the Council of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon

**THAT** the Commission be informed that the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon is favourable to the request;

**THAT** the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon will not be present in the event that the Commission holds a hearing.

2024-114

### **MADA APPROACH - APPOINTMENT OF A PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR SENIORS' FILE**

**WHEREAS** on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon submitted a request for financial support for the development of a MADA policy within the framework of the Programme de soutien à la démarche municipalité amie des aînés, volet 1;

**WHEREAS** following acceptance of the grant awarded by the Secrétariat aux aînés under the Programme de soutien à la démarche municipalité amie des aînés, volet 1, the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon wishes to carry out the MADA process;

**WHEREAS** the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon intends to carry out the approach in accordance with the commitments set out in the financial assistance agreement;

**WHEREAS** the mission of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon is to ensure the well-being of its citizens and the vitality of their community;

**WHEREAS** the MADA approach is a power of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon enabling it to intervene within the limits of its jurisdiction and to play an active role with seniors;

**CONSEQUENTLY**, it is proposed by **Mitchell Lawless**, seconded by **Dany Gaudreault** and unanimously resolved:

**THAT** the Municipal Council appoints **Ms. Laura Lavallee** as the person responsible for the seniors file and will have the mandate to assume leadership for the development or updating of the policy and action plan, to represent the interests of seniors to the community and to ensure the link between the steering committee and the Municipal Council.

2024-115

### **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE QUEBEC GOVERNMENT'S ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSAL TO CREATE A PROTECTED AREA IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BLANC-SABLON**

**WHEREAS** Quebec has signed up to the new Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, whose flagship target is to conserve 30% of the planet's land and oceans (Target 3) by 2030;

**WHEREAS** the Quebec government launched a call for projects for protected areas in southern public territory on June 5<sup>th</sup>, open to all, and aimed at gathering proposals for protected areas from players of various;

**WHEREAS** in order to achieve this new target, municipalities and MRCs are called upon to play a key strategic role due to their expertise in land-use planning;

**WHEREAS** Quebec currently protects nearly 17% of its continental territory, and ecosystems south of the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel are under-represented;



Resolution or  
Notation No.

## Minutes of the Council of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon

- WHEREAS** at the present time, 74.72% (285.3 km<sup>2</sup> out of 381.85 km<sup>2</sup>) of the territory of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon is designated as a protected area;
- WHEREAS** the Municipality wishes to play an active role in protecting the natural and semi-natural environments on its territory;
- WHEREAS** under the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* (RLRQ, c. C-61.01), a protected area is a clearly defined geographical space recognized, dedicated and managed, by any effective means, legal or otherwise, to ensure the long-term conservation of nature and the ecosystem services and cultural values associated with it;
- WHEREAS** phases of analysis and consultation will be carried out by the government and will make it possible to adequately characterize the territories and gather all the information necessary to take an informed position on the territories to be protected as a priority in the region;
- WHEREAS** the prioritization of territories to be protected will take into account the vision of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon;
- WHEREAS** the next step, in the fall of 2024, will be a pre-analysis of the projects by the ministries concerned;
- WHEREAS** the Municipality is requesting a review of the current boundaries of the protected area reserve proposed by the Government of Québec;
- WHEREAS** the Municipality is requesting the granting of occupancy rights for vacation purposes, as well as the possibility of future development of facilities for the withdrawal of water for municipal purposes;
- WHEREAS** the Municipality requests to reasonably grant the rights to develop sand and gravel pits;
- WHEREAS** the purpose of this resolution is not to approve the proposed territories but to agree that the proposed territories be analyzed;

**CONSEQUENTLY**, it is proposed by **Jarvin Joncas** and seconded by **Dany Gaudreault** and unanimously resolved:

**THAT** the Council of the Municipality of Blanc-Sablon support the Quebec government's analysis of the proposed protected area.

### NEW AFFAIRS

There were no new affairs.



Resolution or  
Notation No.

2024-116

**Minutes of the Council of the Municipality of  
Blanc-Sablon**

**QUESTION PERIOD**

There were no questions.

**CLOSING OF THE SITTING**

It is proposed by **Mitchell Lawless**, seconded by **Jarvin Joncas** and unanimously resolved to close the present sitting at 7:30 p.m.

Colin Shattler, Mayor

Karine Benoit, General Director