

Council Chambers
City Hall
Moncton, N. B.
November 5, 2021
10:00 a.m.

MINUTES – SPECIAL PUBLIC COUNCIL MEETING – CAPITAL AND OPERATING BUDGET SESSIONS

MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Dawn Arnold, in the Chair
Councillor Marty Kingston
Councillor Monique LeBlanc
Councillor Paulette Thériault*
Councillor Shawn Crossman
Councillor Daniel Bourgeois

Deputy Mayor Charles Léger
Councillor Bryan Butler
Councillor Dave Steeves
Councillor Susan Edgett
Councillor Paul Richard, via Webex

ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

M. Landry, City Manager
B. A. Quigley, City Clerk and Director, Legislative Support
J. Cohoon, Acting General Manager, Recreation, Culture and Events
J. Doucet, General Manager, Financial Services/CFO
N. Robichaud, General Manager, Legal and Legislative Services
J. MacDonald, General Manager, Sustainable Growth and Development Services
A. Binette, General Manager, Operations Services
G. Houser, Deputy Treasurer/Controller
M. Theriault, Deputy Treasurer, Corporate and Management Accounting
L. Hanson, General Manager, Corporate Services
I. LeBlanc, Director, Communications
A. Allain, Director, Codiac Transpo
C. Landry, Fire Chief
J. Robichaud, Financial Analyst
S. McGrath, Financial Planning & Reporting Specialist
J. Preston, Director, Human Resources

CALL TO ORDER

READING OF THE MEETING NOTICE

The Clerk read the Meeting Notice into the record.

Please be advised that there will be Special Public Meeting of City Council in the Council Chambers City Hall, Moncton, NB on November 5, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. for the consideration of the following:

5. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

5.1 Recommendation(s) – Committee of the Whole – November 3, 2021

6. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

6.1 2022 Operating, Capital, and Utility Budget Summary –Resolutions

7. ADJOURNMENT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: That the agenda **be approved** as circulated.

Moved by: Councillor Kingston

Seconded by: Councillor Butler

MOTION CARRIED

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflict of interest declared

5. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

5.1 Recommendation(s) – Committee of the Whole – November 3, 2021

Motion – ENSEMBLE

The purpose of the initial request of Ensemble in the amount of \$50,000 is to cover the expenses of hiring a Wellness Navigator who will work directly with people who use substances [PWUS] who access ENSEMBLE's harm reduction programming/services. The purpose of the position is to provide support staffing who will facilitate access to various community services. To identify & submit referrals on behalf of individuals requiring housing and treatment for substance use; provide assistance to navigate admissions to relevant community services. In addition to supporting people who use substances, The Wellness Navigator will follow and assist individuals throughout the referral[s] process. The Navigator will work to create an inclusive community that embraces and supports some of our community's most vulnerable people. Part of building an inclusive community will include providing education regarding the principles of harm reduction and best practices to service providers. These tasks will be part of the work of the Wellness Navigator as they navigate the referral process with the people who use substances

In addition, the funds would be utilized to support the new initiative by Ensemble for managing a safe injection site in the City of Moncton.

Motion: That Council approve an additional amount of \$25,000 for a total annual grant amount for 2022 to 2024 of \$51,500 for Ensemble. The funding of this amount would come from the reduction of the stabilization reserve for 2022 (annual current contribution of \$325,000) and Administration is directed to budget for the \$50,000 amount in the future budgets of 2023 and 2024

Moved by: Councillor Butler

Seconded by: Councillor LeBlanc

Councillor Thériault entered the meeting @ 10:04

MOTION CARRIED

Motion – Second Chance Workshop

The mandate of Second Chance Workshop (SCW) is to provide employment opportunities for marginalized people, recipients of social assistance. Their mission has just been recently enhanced to include the homeless, as well as those who are dependent on parents or guardians receiving social assistance and, some residents of adult shelters, all deserving of a second chance. Increasing the opportunity of training to include these underprivileged people will give those who qualify a new lease of life.

Motion: That Council approve an additional amount of \$5,000 per year for a total annual grant amount for 2022 to 2024 of \$10,000 for Second Chance Workshop. The funding of this amount would come from the reduction of the stabilization reserve for 2022 (annual current contribution of \$325,000) and administration is directed to budget for the \$10,000 amount in the future budgets of 2023 and 2024.

Moved by: Councillor Richard

Seconded by: Councillor Thériault

MOTION CARRIED

Social Issues Reserve

In the past number of years, social inclusion, homelessness, and other related concerns have been raised within the City of Moncton. The City of Moncton, other levels of government, numerous agencies, organizations, and other entities have continued to work to find solutions to address, reduce the impact of these social issues within our community and assist individuals affected.

The use of the reserve would provide additional funding towards social concerns.

An increase of .6% of the tax revenue represents a total of \$ 877,180 that would be received and deposited into the dedicated reserve.

Financial:

Since 2014, the amount of funding through direct payments to outside organizations for supporting social inclusion has increased from \$165,000 in 2014 to \$953,600 in 2022 (not including the amount paid out to Rising Tide).

Currently, the following amounts are included in the 2022 budget to support efforts addressing social inclusion:

• Social Inclusion Officer and related budget	\$ 180,000
• Grants to Outside Organizations (final proposed)	\$ 953,600
• By-Law Department with Community Officers	\$ 1,500,000
• Social Impact Audit implementation	\$ 200,000
• Operating Public Washrooms	\$ 60,000
• Rising Tide 2022 Contribution	\$ 2,000,000
• Tent Clean Up Site Cost	\$ 72,000
• Market Security Budget increase	<u>\$ 12,000</u>

TOTAL **\$ 4,977,600**

It is also important to note that the RCMP staffing has increased considerably in the past 5 years and those members are also assigned to deal with social concerns.

One of the findings of the Social Audit indicates that there is enough money in the system but what is lacking is the proper coordination of these funds and resources to make a difference on social issues.

Administration believes the City should focus on the coordination of the organizations already being funded in 2022 to ensure that they are delivering on their missions and objectives and that these are aligned to City priorities before increasing funding that needs to be paid by the taxpayers of Moncton.

This proposal, would be funded by an increase of the tax rate of 0.89 cents for a total of \$1.5561 rather than \$1.5472 per \$100 of assessment which will represent the following increases for residential properties:

Home Value	Tax Increase	Additional yearly impact of Increase	Increase Property Tax Bill vs 2020 for 10% assessment increase cap @\$1.5472	Increase after additional 0.89 cents
\$225,000	0.89 cents	\$20.03	\$106.81	\$126.84
\$275,000	0.89 cents	\$24.48	\$130.55	\$155.03
\$350,000	0.89 cents	\$31.15	\$166.15	\$197.30

Motion: That the property tax revenue be capped at 4.6% in comparison to 2021 and that 0.6% of that amount be placed in a dedicated reserve to address social issues

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Léger
Seconded by: Councillor LeBlanc

A discussion ensued amongst Councillors, as to their concerns with approving this motion and the impact it could have on citizens. It was felt that more discussion is needed regarding providing additional funding. Mr. Doucet, in response to a question from Council, indicated that Council could bring forth recommendations throughout the upcoming year to provided additional social issues funding.

MOTION DEFEATED

Nay:

Mayor Arnold
Councillor Crossman
Councillor Thériault
Councillor LeBlanc
Councillor Bourgeois
Councillor Kingston
Councillor Butler
Councillor Steeves
Councillor Edgett
Councillor Richard

6. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

6.1 2022 Operating, Capital, and Utility Budget Summary – Resolutions

Resolution - 2022 Utility Operating Fund Budget- City of Moncton

At the November 1 2021 Public Council Meeting and at the November 3 of 2021, Special Committee of the Whole meeting, Council was presented the proposed 2022 Utility Operating Fund budget. The Utility Operating Budget initially proposed an overall rate increase of 1.88% for 2022.

As a result, the Revenues for 2022 are budgeted at \$40,553,565 and Expenditures are budgeted at \$40,553,565.

This resolution is required to provide authorization from City of Moncton Council for submission to the Province of NB and to establish the Water and Utility rates for the 2022 calendar year.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that on the 5th day of November, 2021 the Council of the local government of CITY OF MONCTON RESOLVED that pursuant to subsection 117(4) of the *Local Governance Act*, the total budget for the Water and Wastewater utility for the ensuing year would consist of total revenues of **\$40,553,565** and total expenditures of **\$40,553,565**.

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Léger
Seconded by: Councillor Edgett

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution – 2022 General Operating Fund Budget- City of Moncton

On October 7, 2021, the City of Moncton received its 2022 Property Tax Assessment Base and related information from the Province of New Brunswick. The overall increase in assessment base from 2021 for 2022 amounts to 10.68%.

On November 3, 2021, based on the assessment base information, Council deliberated on the 2022 proposed General Operating Fund budget with total budgeted expenditures of \$175,954,378 including a 10.25 cent tax rate reduction (from \$1.6497 down to \$1.5472).

It is recommended that Council approve the submission to the Province of NB and to establish the Property Tax rates for the 2022 calendar year based on the recommendations brought forward on November 5, 2021 and related motion from Council.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that on the 5th day of November 2021, the Council of the local government of **CITY OF MONCTON** RESOLVED that the sum of **\$175,954,378** be the total operating budget of the local government, that the sum of **\$152,044,698** be the Warrant of the local government for the ensuing year, and that the tax rate(s) for the local government be: **\$1.5472**.

The Council orders and directs the levying by the Minister of Environment and Local Government of said amount on real property liable to taxation under the *Assessment Act* within the local government of: City of Moncton.

Moved by: Councillor Butler
Seconded by: Councillor Kingston

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution – Approval of 2022 Capital Works Budget

On November 3, 2021 Council deliberated on the 2022 Capital Works Budget for both the Utility and General Funds.

This Resolution is required to provide authorization from City of Moncton Council to apply to the Municipal Borrowing Board for authorization to borrow or guarantee the prepayment of money borrowed or deemed borrowed for the capital projects outlined in the 2022 Capital Works Program.

Please note that this resolution excludes the police facility of \$54,300,000 due to this having been already approved by City Council. For the Police facility, previous approval has been provided in two segments.

- 1) On August 17, 2020, Council approved an amount of \$46,000,000 for application to the New Brunswick Municipal Capital Borrowing Board (MCBB). On October 13, 2020, the MCBB provided conditional approval pending receipt of updated costing figures and a signed intent to lease between the City of Moncton and CRPA

- 2) On October 18, 2021, Council approved an additional amount of \$8,300,000 for a total project budget of \$54,300,000 which will be brought forward to the Capital Borrowing Board in the near future

The first advanced resolution was required from Council for borrowing authority to be obtained to commence with the project in 2021. Initially, the project was to be tendered in April 2021 (and construction started in July 2021) but due to delays in final tender prep, cost concerns and Council elections, the tendering was delayed. The second resolution was obtained to allow for borrowing authority for the increased costs, thus allowing for tendering in the fall of 2021 and early construction to start in the spring of 2022 (with completing in late 2023).

WHEREAS the City Council of the City of Moncton has adopted a Capital Works Budget for 2022

BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Moncton submit to the Municipal Capital Borrowing Board, an application for authorization to borrow or guarantee the repayment of money borrowed or deemed borrowed for a capital expense for the following purposes, term, and amount:

PURPOSE	AMOUNT	TERM
Government General Services	\$ 700,000	5 years
Transportation Services	\$12,533,000	10 years
Recreational and Cultural Services	\$ 3,637,000	10 years
Protective Services	\$ 169,000	5 years
Environmental Development Services	<u>\$ 170,000</u>	5 years
General Capital	\$17,209,000	
Environmental Health Services (Utility)	<u>\$ 9,934,000</u>	10 years
Utility Capital	\$ 9,934,000	
TOTAL	<u>\$ 27,143,000</u>	

Moved by: Deputy Mayor Léger
Seconded by: Councillor Edgett

MOTION CARRIED

Nay:
Councillor Crossman
Councillor Butler

Approval of Amended 2019-2023 Investment Gas Tax Plan

To access funding through the Gas Tax Transfer Agreement, the City of Moncton is required to develop a Five-Year Capital Investment Plan which outlines anticipated eligible capital investments to be funded through the agreement and forward to the Province of New Brunswick. This plan needs to be submitted every 5 years.

The City had previously approved the 2019-2023 Gas Tax Capital Investment in 2019. In August 2021, the City was informed that a top-up amount of gas tax funding in the amount of \$5,021,667 would be transferred to the City upon a receipt of an amended and adopted plan considering this additional amount.

To finalize the process and the agreement between the City of Moncton and the Province of New Brunswick, it is a requirement of the program that the Amended Gas Tax Capital Investment Plan be adopted by Council.

This document was provided to Council during the budget deliberations and has been incorporated in the 5 year capital budget.

Motion: That the document entitled Amended City of Moncton Five-Year Capital Investment Plan for the GTF Administrative Agreement for 2019-2023 be adopted by Moncton City Council.

Moved by: Councillor LeBlanc

Seconded by: Deputy Mayor Léger

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: That the meeting be adjourned

Moved by: Councillor Edgett

MOTION CARRIED

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Dawn Arnold
MAYOR

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Barbara A. Quigley
CITY CLERK & DIRECTOR OF
LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

/10:43 a.m.

/smm