

City Council Chambers
Moncton City Hall
April 4, 2022
4:00 p.m.

M I N U T E S - REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT

Mayor Dawn Arnold, in the Chair

Councillor Marty Kingston

Councillor Paulette Theriault, via web ex

Councillor Charles Leger

Councillor Bryan Butler

Councillor Susan Edgett, via web ex

Councillor Monique LeBlanc

Councillor Shawn Crossman, via web ex

Councillor Daniel Bourgeois

Councillor Dave Steeves

Councillor Paul Richard

ALSO PRESENT

Marc Landry, City Manager

Shelley Morton, Deputy City Clerk

Nick Robichaud, General Manager, Legal and Legislative Services

Jacques Doucet, General Manager, Finance Services

Elaine Aucoin, General Manager, Sustainable Growth and Development Services

Katherine MacIntyre, General Manager, Community Services

Isabelle LeBlanc, Director, Corporate Communications

Conrad Landry, Fire Chief and Director, Community Safety Services

Ron DeSilva, Superintendent, Codiac RCMP

Gregg Houser, Deputy Treasurer and Controller

Sherry Trenholm, Director, Facilities

Alcide Richard, Director, Engineering

Nicole Taylor, Director, Water and Wastewater

Alexandre Binette, General Manager, Operations Services

1.

CALL TO ORDER/OUVERTURE DE LA SÉANCE

2.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA/ADOPTION DE L'ORDRE DU JOUR

Motion : That the Agenda for the City Council meeting of this date be adopted as circulated with the removal of 5.1 and addition of two presentations under Other Presentations.

Moved by Councillor Steeves

Seconded by Councillor Leger

MOTION CARRIED.

3.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

None declared.

4.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion: That the Regular Public Council Meetings of February 7 and March 21, 2022 be adopted as circulated.

Moved by Councillor Butler

Seconded by Councillor Kingston

MOTION CARRIED.

5.

CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Street Closure – Frye Festival – KidsFest – April 23, 2022 – Street affected: Downing Street

Removed from the agenda.

6.

PUBLIC AND ADMINISTRATION PRESENTATIONS/ EXPOSÉS DU PUBLIC ET DE L'ADMINISTRATION

6.1 PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/ EXPOSÉS DU PUBLIC

6.1.1 Presentation – Project - Between Perception and Reality – Véronique Chadillon-Farinacci, Madeline Lamboley et Marie-Pier Rivest, Professors, Université de Moncton

City Council received a presentation from Véronique Chadillon-Farinacci Madeline Lamboley and Marie-Pier Rivest, Professors, Université de Moncton, part of a research team for the project "*Between Perception and Reality: A Mixed Study on Social Cohabitation Issues in Moncton. - A City in Expansion*". The context of the study recognizes the growth of Moncton's population and concerns from residents pertaining to changes in safety issues, etc. The project is funded by the New Brunswick Innovation Foundation and in partnership with the YWCA, YMCA and Moncton Public Library. Discussions are also being held with the RCMP to sharing data. The goal of the study is to:

- 1) Conduct a community survey to determine the link of concerns declared and perceived
- 2) Implement walk alongs and observation sessions are planned where social and community partners and citizens will share their observations on safety. – Marginalized people will also have opportunities to express their views.
- 3) The intent is to have data collection in place by fall but will depend on the number of participants in the survey. - The community survey will commence today to gauge citizens' comments regarding activities in certain zones. A link will be provided to City Council if members of council wish to participate.

Councillor Thériault suggested partnering with the Chamber of Commerce on this initiative. She requested access to their survey on the City's website. The City Manager agreed to follow up with the presenters to obtain this information. Councillor Thériault added that an agreement is in place with U de M which could be explored for partnership opportunities.

Councillor Bourgeois noted residents' concerns relating to homelessness and their safety. While criminality in some cases is associated with homelessness and in others not; he expressed the need to address these concerns.

Mayor Arnold thanked the professors for this project.

6.1.2 Presentation – Mobility and Active Transportation – Mark LeBlanc

City Council received a presentation by Mark LeBlanc, citizen, regarding concerns with the consultants' report on Active Transportation, specifically as it relates to inclusive neighborhoods with walking and biking trails. While he noted significant strides by the City in this area, he felt there was some backtracking on certain initiatives. The present active transportation network consists of a group of trails which he did not believe replaced the need for a safe bicycling network in the City. To enhance future active transportation planning, he recommended:

- 1) The creation of users' forum and a quality control forum to the Active Transportation and Snow Management Plans.
- 2) The users' forum would receive input from various users including the physically challenged, pedestrians, cyclists, etc.
- 3) The plan should also take into consideration the emergence of electric bikes, scooters, buses.
- 4) Consideration should be given in the plans to ice control, better access to the new bridge, construction signs and clearing of debris in bike lanes, etc. Net 0 2050 is a good guide.

In reply to Councillor Leger regarding quality control, the City Manager noted that feedback is being collected from users, adding that the consultant will be presenting the updated Active Transportation Master plan at the Committee of the Whole meeting in May. The snow report will be coming forward in the second quarter of 2022.

Councillor Leger requested that Mr. LeBlanc submit his feedback and suggested solutions to the consultants involved with the Active Transportation Plan. He also suggested holding ward meetings to gauge the needs/concerns of the residents in each ward. The City Manager agreed to have Corporate Communications and Community Services Team contact Mr. LeBlanc for his feedback.

6.2 OTHER PRESENTATIONS

6.1.1 Nelson Ouellette – Monument to Martin Luther King

Nelson Ouellette requested the City's consideration to creating a monument by 2029 recognizing the 54th Anniversary of Martin Luther King's death which would add to the cultural mosaic of the City. This would allow sufficient time to mobilize funds and resources. He felt it should be designed by a local artist, i.e. Acadian or Indigenous, etc.

6.1.2 Lise Éthier – Environmental Issues and Climate Change

Ms. Éthier outlined her involvement with the City of Moncton environment committee, adding that she was present for the presentation concerning the Community Energy and Emissions Plan at the Committee of the Whole meeting on March 28, 2022. She supported the proposed plan, adding that despite the City's efforts to reduce energy consumption, etc., greenhouse gas emissions have increased and much more work is needed to address this issue.

The City Manager noted that at the above noted COTW Meeting, Administration was asked to work with the consultant to conduct an in-depth analysis of the financial implications and responsibilities to determine those belonging to the City and those for which other governmental levels were responsible. A report will subsequently be submitted to a future Committee of the Whole meeting with the results.

Lise Éthier also addressed Council regarding Earth Day and recommended that the City take the opportunity at the next Council meeting to present the plan with a description of its efforts to address environmental issues. She suggested a noontime event on April 22nd to urge residents to reflect on what is needed to implement the plan.

6.2 ADMINISTRATION PRESENTATIONS/EXPOSÉS DE L'ADMINISTRATION

6.2.1 Update – RCMP –Superintendent Ron DeSilva, Superintendent, Codiac Regional RCMP

City Council received an update from Superintendent Ron DeSilva regarding efforts undertaken by the RCMP to address crime. A summary of his comments is provided below:

- Tactical Traffic Enforcement Unit – working with public safety and plans are underway to hold pop-up vehicle inspections
- Press release issued on March 24/25th regarding recent home invasions and robberies – All but one have been arrested. Further reports to be submitted at the next Council Meeting.
- Crimes against people have decreased by 15%
- Increased focus by the RCMP on property crimes - Task teams have been assigned
- Introduced two new RCMP members to Council – Both provided their backgrounds.
- With the closure of the out-of-cold shelter on April 1st, efforts are focused on placing clients.

Considerable discussion ensued with Councillors reporting the following concerns:

- Increased property thefts with residents expressing frustration.
- Physical altercations along the trails in Ward III.
- Receiving calls related to noise, specifically from motor bikes, vehicles, etc.
- Stressed the need for the creation of a storage area for homeless to store their belongings.
- RCMP was requested to provide stats on addiction and mental health calls to inform citizens on the amount of time spent by the RCMP on these issues, recognizing what action should be addressed by the other levels of government.
- Stressed the importance of having the proper complement of operational staff.
- Requested that real solutions be presented at the next public meeting of Council.

Superintendent DeSilva responded to the above concerns as follow:

- He urged citizens to report thefts to the RCMP in order for them to know where to best deploy resources. He anticipated a full complement of officers in place this summer.
- He agreed to present stats at the next meeting as well as a report on the Mobile Health Crisis unit.
- In terms of storage for the homeless' belongings, discussion has commenced with agencies to put a plan in place to provide a location to store their belongings. A meeting is scheduled tomorrow with the Fire Chief and his team at which time more information should be available.
- RCMP officers are being trained to be proactive and complement efforts by the traffic division to address noise issues emanating from cars and motorcycles.

7.

PLANNING MATTERS

8.

STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

- Councillor Steeves reported vandalism issues along the trails in Ward III which created considerable angst among parents as to whether to allow their children to use them to commute to school. He commended the administration of Maplehurst Middle School, School District and YMCA North on their efforts to ensure the trails were safe for the children.
- Councillor Kingston recognized Don Grant, educator, coach and mentor, on his 90th birthday

9.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

9.1 Recommendation(s) – Committee of the Whole – February 28, 2022

Motion: That Moncton City Council approve and direct administration to move forward with Option C - phased redevelopment of the current Operations Centre facility at Worthington Avenue.

*Moved by Councillor Bourgeois
Seconded by Councillor Butler*

The City Manager introduced this subject noting it is an action item in the 2022 Strategic Plan - Governance pillar. This item was presented at Committee of the Whole meeting of February 28, 2022.

City Council received a PowerPoint presentation from Sherry Trenholm and Gregg Houser regarding the Facility Master Plan and Space needs analysis of the future Moncton Operations Centre. The following is a brief overview of the presentation:

- The Warm Storage building was constructed in 1965 with an addition in 1970. – It is at the end of its life and in much need of repair and provides a critical function of the operation.
- The main building was constructed 25 years ago and is need of upgrades in accordance with changing national codes.
- A number of concerns have been raised by nearby property owners and residents regarding dust and noise.
- The location of operations will change to divert the traffic flow away from the residential area; asphalted areas are intended to minimize the dust
- Much of the equipment in the building is at the end of life
- An RFP was issued for a space analysis to RPL architects and CBCL to review the design
- A needs assessment is being carried out on each building on site, considering increased services and accommodating future operations. A tour was undertaken of the facilities and best practices, i.e. Riverview and Dieppe buildings.

Mr. Houser presented three options with Option C being recommended as it meets the space and functional requirements and efficiency in location for operations over the next 25 years and is the most feasible and affordable option. A phased approach will continue to allow use of the building. It provides immediate mitigation of the residents' concerns. The relocation of the fuel station will minimize the noise and dust. No impact on the realignment of Worthington Avenue is anticipated.

In reply to Councillor Bourgeois, Ms. Trenholm responded that the existing facility is not Net 0, but the goal is to achieve that as close as possible. As part of the Municipal Green Build Policy the building must meet LEED or Green Globes standards.

Councillor Bourgeois inquired on concerns with borrowing for such a facility and the impact on reserves. Mr. Doucet noted that annually, an affordability level is built into the budget adding that \$4.3M was budgeted for 2022 and \$4.6 in 2023. \$11.2 million is required, therefore, \$1.8M will have to be found in the budget. Administration will continue leveraging funding opportunities, prioritize and make prudent decisions financially.

Councillor Butler requested that mitigation measures be undertaken to control the dust when the construction commences of the berm.

MOTION CARRIED.

9.2 Recommendation(s) – Committee of the Whole – March 28, 2022

Motion: That Moncton City Council approve the City of Moncton Film Policy.

*Moved by Councillor Butler
Seconded by Councillor Kingston*

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion : That Moncton City Council approve the proposed standard rents and the proposed standard Lease Agreement for Thomas Williams House, and authorize the City Manager or his/her designate, to alter and update operational rules provided for under the proposed standard Lease Agreement as required to preserve and maintain Thomas Williams House in good order; and that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign the standard Lease Agreements with future tenants and affix the Corporate Seal of the City of Moncton thereto.

*Moved by Councillor Thériault
Seconded by Councillor LeBlanc*

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion: That Moncton City Council approve the Request for Special Lighting Policy and direct Administration to implement the details as outlined in the Policy for all future requests.

*Moved by Councillor Richard
Seconded by Councillor Leger*

Councillor Richard requested that new lighting in Bore Park be included as part of consideration under this policy with the City Manager agreeing to review and clarify whether to include in the policy. If required, the updated policy brought as a consent agenda item.

MOTION CARRIED.

10.

REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATION/ RAPPORTS DE L'ADMINISTRATION

10.1 City Contract W22B 02GC – Watermain Renewal No. 1

Motion: That City Contract No. W22B 02GC, Watermain Renewal No. 1, be awarded to Carson Development Ltd. in the amount of \$1,272,285.25 including HST (\$1,153,752.51 net HST), and that the budget for the project be set at \$1,300,000 including net HST, engineering and contingency; and further that a contract be drafted, and that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign said contract and affix the Corporate Seal of the City of Moncton.

*Moved by Councillor Kingston
Seconded by Councillor LeBlanc*

MOTION CARRIED.

10.2 City Contract W22D 05EA – Street Resurfacing No. 2

Motion: That City Contract No. W22D 05EA, Street Resurfacing No. 2, be awarded to MacDonald Paving and Construction, a division of Miller Paving Limited. in the amount of \$942,128.88 including HST (\$853,355.23 net HST), and that the budget for the project be set at \$975,000.00 including net HST, engineering and contingency.

It is also recommended that a contract be drafted, and that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign said contract and affix the Corporate Seal of the City of Moncton.

Moved by Councillor Butler
Seconded by Councillor Thériault

MOTION CARRIED.

10.3 City Contract W22D 05AA - Street Reconstruction No. 1

Motion: That City Contract No. W22D 05AA, Street Reconstruction No. 1, be awarded to Fram Enterprises Inc. in the amount of \$1,164,257.13 including HST (\$1,055,788.85 net HST), and that the budget for the project be set at \$1,240,000.00 including net HST, engineering and contingency.

It is also recommended that a contract be drafted, and that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign said contract and affix the Corporate Seal of the City of Moncton.

Moved by Councillor Leger
Seconded by Councillor Richard

Councillor Leger noted that Athlone and Coronation Streets were in good condition while other streets such as Bessborough, from Milner to Dixon, was in much need of work and serve as bus routes. He requested that the process be revisited to review these streets and others in poor condition, adding that he has also received complaints regarding St. George Blvd.

MOTION CARRIED.

10.4 Supply Agreement – Natural Gas – New Brunswick Contract of Supply

Motion: That the City of Moncton enter into an agreement with Liberty Utilities for the Supply and Delivery of Natural Gas on an “as required” basis, in accordance with the Terms, Conditions and Pricing applicable under Province of New Brunswick Contract of Supply #36075P19R3, effective April 1, 2022 through to March 31, 2023.

Moved by Councillor Steeves
Seconded by Councillor Leger

MOTION CARRIED.

10.5 Request to Establish Multi-Year Agreement for Water Quality Testing Services (Sole Source)

Motion: That the City of Moncton enter into a one (1) year agreement with the Research and Productivity Council (RPC) for the provision of Water Quality Testing and Analysis Services, in accordance with the cost proposal submitted by RCP dated February 15, 2022.

Moved by Councillor LeBlanc
Seconded by Councillor Leger

Councillors Richard and Leger inquired on the possibility of splitting the tender in the future and return to council with a report. Mr. Binette agreed to discuss with Tanya Carter and Nicole Taylor.

MOTION CARRIED.

10.6 Local Governance Reform – Alignment of Electoral Ward Boundaries

The City Manager introduced this issue noting that the Province has forwarded the new city limits and has requested that the municipality determine what the ward boundaries should be. He added that that Marc Comeau and Nick Robichaud have been involved with the Province on this file.

Motion: That Moncton City Council approve the proposed City of Moncton electoral ward boundaries for the City of Moncton under the new municipal boundaries, and provide the same to the Province of New Brunswick in order to be legally formalized under Local Governance Reform Regulations.

*Moved by Councillor Butler
Seconded by Councillor Kingston*

Councillor Butler requested that reference to ward boundaries be removed from the motion with Mr. Robichaud and the City Manager clarifying that the Province was seeking the City's input on municipal ward boundaries.

Councillor Bourgeois referenced *Section 12* of the Act which allows for drawing municipal boundaries. He asked if adopting this motion today would prevent the City from modifying the boundaries during the four-year term. Mr. Robichaud shared that concern adding that he has requested clarification from the Province regarding the City's authority to modify the boundaries once they are in place.

Motion: That the proposed City of Moncton electoral ward boundaries for the City of Moncton under the new municipal boundaries be postponed.

*Moved by Councillor Bourgeois
Seconded by Councillor Leger*

MOTION TO POSTPONE. – *Councillors Butler and Steeves registered nay votes.*

10.7 Sidewalk Café 2022 Fees

Motion: That Moncton City Council approve waiving the Sidewalk Café fees for the 2022 season.

*Moved by Councillor Leger
Seconded by Councillor LeBlanc*

MOTION CARRIED.

Councillor Richard requested that consideration be changed to changing the meters from 6 pm. to 5 pm. to attract more visitors downtown.

Motion: That Administration be directed to conduct an analysis on the feasibility of modifying the time for waiving evening parking meter charges from the current 6 p.m. to 5 p.m.

*Moved by Councillor Richard
Seconded by Councillor Leger*

MOTION CARRIED.

In reply to the Mayor the City Manager agreed to advise Council on any budgetary impact.

**11.
READING OF BY-LAWS/ LECTURE D'ARRÊTÉS MUNICIPAUX**

11.1 A By-Law Respecting Parking Permits for Residential Areas in the City of Moncton, being By-Law L-722 – First Reading

Motion: That A By-Law Respecting Parking Permits for Residential Areas in the City of Moncton, being By-Law L-722 be given first reading.

*Moved by Councillor Leger
Seconded by Councillor Butler*

MOTION CARRIED

The Deputy City Clerk gave first reading to By-Law L-722.

12.

NOTICES MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS/ AVIS DE MOTIONS ET RÉOLUTIONS

12.1 Resolution - Municipal Democracy – Councillor Daniel Bourgeois

Councillor Bourgeois read the following motion into the record.

Whereas barely a third of Moncton’s citizens have participated in the municipal elections over the past generation, including the May 10, 2021 election;

Whereas citizens deserve equal voting weight and the 2021 Census data will soon result in a fair redistribution of electoral district boundaries;

And whereas a redistribution of electoral district boundaries provides an opportunity to explore alternatives to the current representation model within the Moncton City Council;

It is hereby resolved that the City Council conduct a citizen survey in 2023 to:

- a) Find out why citizens do or do not vote and run for office, and what measures could increase voter participation;
- b) Determine whether citizens prefer the existing ward system or other representation models (e.g., eight wards at one seat per ward).

It is further resolved that the City Council direct the Democracy Committee to review the ward boundaries based on the 2021 Census and its decision on the number of wards further to the 2023 survey, with a view to ensuring an equitable voters’ distribution.

It is further resolved that the City Council hold one public meeting per year beginning in 2023 in each ward to discuss the Council activities and City issues with citizens.

It is further resolved that the City Council survey former Council members in 2023 to discover what steps can be taken to improve the number of candidates and the voting rate, including meetings to be arranged between former Council members and potential candidates, cost sharing of election expenses and public meetings between citizens and candidates during the election campaign.

It is further resolved that the City Council appoint an ad hoc committee of randomly selected citizens one year prior to the next municipal election to incentivize citizens to run for office and vote on the election day and that the City Council provide this committee with the human and physical resources needed to carry out their initiatives.

It is further resolved that the City Council assess whether the actions taken as a result of these deliberations have increased the number of candidates and turnout at the upcoming elections, in order to determine whether alternative or additional actions are required for the next elections.

It is further resolved that the City Council adopt a Democracy By-Law prior to the next municipal election to consolidate all measures requiring City Hall to improve municipal democracy in the City of Moncton.

*Moved by Councillor Bourgeois
Seconded by Councillor Theriault*

13.

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES/ NOMINATIONS À DES COMITÉS

Motion: That the following appointments be approved:

Greater Moncton Airport Authority

- James Lockyer
- Peter MacIntyre

Moved by Councillor Leger

Seconded by Councillor Kingston

MOTION ADOPTED

14.

ADJOURNMENT/ CLÔTURE DE