

Minutes of Town of Hampstead

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HAMPSTEAD HELD ON FEBRUARY 17TH, 2014, AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER, 30 LYNCROFT ROAD, AT 8:00 P.M.

THOSE PRESENT WERE: Mayor William Steinberg, Councillors Karen Zajdman, Jack Edery, Leon Elfassy, Michael Goldwax, Warren Budning, forming a quorum with Mayor Steinberg presiding.

ABSENT: Councillor Harvey Shaffer.

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Richard Sun, Director General and Me Nathalie Lauzière, Town Clerk, acting as Secretary of the Meeting.

FIRST QUESTION PERIOD

The Mayor invited those persons in attendance to ask their questions.

2014-054

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On motion of Councillor Michael Goldwax, seconded by Councillor Warren Budning, it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

- THAT the agenda of the Special Council Meeting is hereby adopted as submitted.

Adopted

2014-055

ADOPTION OF THE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE BETWEEN THE UNION OF QUEBEC MUNICIPALITIES (UMQ) AND GAZ MÉTRO

WHEREAS the municipalities are, in accordance to the Municipal Powers Act (chapter C-47.1), managers and owners of the municipal public right-of-way;

WHEREAS the Act respecting the Régie de l'Énergie (chapter R-6.01) allows the natural gas distributor a right of access to the municipal territory so that it can deploy and maintain its distribution networks;

WHEREAS it also allows that the installation of these networks on the municipal territory is carried out in accordance to the conditions agreed by the distributor and the municipality or, failing agreement, the conditions set by the Régie de l'Énergie;

WHEREAS for the past four years, the Union of Quebec Municipalities (UMQ) and its members have made significant efforts in order for municipalities to recover the costs resulting from the presence and the installation of telecommunications, electricity and gas distribution networks;

WHEREAS it is important that each party, whether a municipality, a taxpayer or a gas distribution company, assume its fair share of costs as a result of the presence of equipment within the municipal public right-of-way or of their relocation at the request of the municipality;

WHEREAS the agreement provides for a compensation for the costs incurred by the municipalities based on a ratio of 2% of the cost of work executed by Gaz Métro on the municipality's territory;

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WHEREAS the agreement also provides for sharing of costs based on the depreciated value of the asset when the municipality requests the relocation of the gas distributor's networks;

WHEREAS on September 15, 2013, the UMQ's Board of Directors endorsed the principle and the conditions of the agreement; and

WHEREAS it has been agreed with the UMQ and Gaz Métro that the agreement comes into effect on the date of its approval by the UMQ's Board of Directors, being on September 15, 2013;

On motion of Councillor Karen Zajdman, seconded by Councillor Leon Elfassy, it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

- THAT the conditions provided in the agreement in principle between the Union of Quebec Municipalities (UMQ) and Gaz Métro concerning the installation and operating conditions of the gas distribution network on the territory of the Town of Hampstead be adopted as submitted; and
- THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the UMQ as well as Gaz Métro.

Adopted

2014-056

DECLARATION PERTAINING TO CANADA POST'S PROPOSED REFORM OF HOME MAIL DELIVERY SERVICES

WHEREAS Canada Post recently made an official announcement of an impending reform of its services;

WHEREAS this reform implies a cost increase for mailings as well as a five year phase-out of door to door mail delivery;

WHEREAS it is being proposed to replace home delivery service by community mail boxes;

WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities has expressed concern over the consequences of this reform particularly with regard to an aging population and households which rely on the home mail delivery;

WHEREAS there is a growing number of elderly citizens within our community, many of whom are limited in their mobility and who will be directly affected by this reform of an essential service;

WHEREAS the elimination of home delivery service will create an unnecessary hardship for persons with handicaps;

WHEREAS there are some 2800 addresses in our community consisting mostly of private residences;

WHEREAS the presence of the community mail boxes will have an impact on traffic, parking, snow removal of the sidewalks, removal of graffiti and many public works operations in general;

WHEREAS the community mail boxes will have to be accessible 24 hours a day which will create a number of safety issues;

WHEREAS Canada Post will deposit considerable amounts of advertising materials ("junk mail") in the community mail boxes which in turn will increase the risk of littering problems and overflowing refuse containers in the vicinity of these mail boxes;

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WHEREAS any intervention such as the installation of a community mail box (which is a structure) in or on the public or private domain requires the prior approval of the municipality concerned;

WHEREAS there are significant aesthetic and logistical issues that in many locations will make the installation of community mail boxes difficult, if not impossible;

WHEREAS the installation of community mail boxes will have environmental consequences in that it will result in citizens using their vehicles to drive to and from these mail boxes;

WHEREAS Canada Post did not consult with municipal leaders before announcing its intention to end door to door mail delivery;

On motion of Councillor Warren Budning, seconded by Councillor Michael Goldwax, it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

- TO ask Canada Post to postpone its decision and to enter into discussion with municipalities which are directly concerned by the mail service reform as soon as possible.

Adopted

2014-057

ADOPTION – SECOND DRAFT BY-LAW N° 727-16 AMENDING ZONING BY-LAW N° 727 (LOCATION OF PROPANE GAS TANKS)

WHEREAS the Members of Council have received a copy of Second Draft By-Law N° 727-16 amending Zoning By-law No. 727 and declare to have read it;

On motion of Councillor Leon Elfassy, seconded by Councillor Jack Edery, it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED:

- TO approve Second Draft By-law N° 727-16 to be entitled: “By-Law N° 727-16 amending Zoning By-law no 727 (location of propane gas tanks)”.

Adopted

2014-058

PAYMENT OF THE FIRST INSTALMENT OF HAMPSTEAD’S SHARE TO THE COMMUNAUTÉ MÉTROPOLITAINE DE MONTRÉAL FOR 2014

On motion of Councillor Karen Zajdman, seconded by Councillor Jack Edery, it was RESOLVED:

- THAT the Town of Hampstead pays the first instalment dated March 15, 2014, in the amount of \$96,675.92 for their share of expenses for operations of the ‘Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal’.

The Treasurer’s certificate N° 14-04 dated February 5, 2014 has been issued by the Town’s Treasurer, attesting to the availability of funds to cover the described expenses.

Mayor William Steinberg called for a vote.

Voted in favour:

Councillor Karen Zadman
Councillor Leon Elfassy
Councillor Jack Edery
Councillor Warren Budning

In favour: 4

Voted against:

Councillor Michael Goldwax

Against: 1

Adopted on division

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SECOND QUESTION PERIOD

The Mayor invited those persons in attendance to ask their questions.

2014-059

ADJOURNMENT

All the subjects of the Agenda having been discussed, it was proposed by Councillor Warren Budning, seconded by Councillor Michael Goldwax and unanimously resolved to declare the meeting closed.

Adopted

(s) William Steinberg
Dr. William Steinberg, Mayor

(s) Nathalie Lauzière
M^c Nathalie Lauzière, Town Clerk