

Province of Québec  
Municipality of Sheenboro

Regular meeting of the Municipal Council of Sheenboro held March 11th, 2024 at 6:30 P.M.

In-person are present Mayor Doris Ranger, Councillors Karen Shea, Lorna Brennan Agnesi, John Brennan, Richard Bradshaw and Shamus Morris and mayor Doris Ranger

Councillor Dick Edwards is absent.

Simon Tessier, Interim Director General is also in attendance. .

**1. Opening of Meeting**

The mayor notes that there is quorum and calls the meeting to order at 6:28 pm.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

042-2024

Moved by Councillor Bradshaw to adopt the agenda as presented.

**3. Conflict of Interest**

None

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

043-2024

Moved by Councillor Agnesi that the minutes of the regular meeting of February be adopted.

Adopted

**5. Questions from the Public**

None

**6. Municipal Inspectors Report**

The Municipal Inspector has presented his report.

044-2024

A. Sub-division Request

It is moved by Councillor Morris and resolved that the survey plan submitted by Michel Fortin, land surveyor, bearing number 35478 of his minutes for cadastre 6 216 708 corresponding to parcels 2 & 6 and cadastre 6 216 707 corresponding to parcels 3, 4 and 5 be approved; however, the criteria must conform with the norms and by-laws in force at the time of the permit application.

Adopted

## **7. Administration**

### **A. Payment of the Bills**

045-2024

Moved by Councillor Bradshaw to pay the monthly bills as listed.

Adopted

### **B. TECQ Motion**

046-2024

#### **B. Renewal of the gas tax program and Quebec's contribution (2024 to 2028)**

Whereas the governments of Quebec and Canada are currently conducting negotiations for the renewal of the gas tax program and the Quebec contribution (TECQ) for the period 2024– 2028;

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

Whereas despite the significant amounts allocated to this program, they remain insufficient to meet needs and must be substantially increased due to the increase in project implementation costs;

Whereas the Federation of Canadian Municipalities has asked the federal government to double its investments 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 gas tax and Quebec contribution (TECQ) program allow the financing and implementation of projects planned and decided by the municipalities of Quebec, in the sense that municipal building projects (garages, town halls, fire stations, etc.) and work on retention structures (dams, dikes, etc.) are eligible for this program;

Whereas accountability when carrying out projects is burdensome for the Municipalities;

Whereas the negotiations must be concluded at the beginning of fall 2023 to ensure its implementation on January 1, 2024 and to allow municipalities to plan investments in their budget;

Whereas the amounts granted to this program must be free from any new obligations or conditions to ensure its success;

It is proposed by Councillor Morris and resolved that the municipality of Sheenboro asks the governments of Quebec and of Canada

- To conclude at the beginning of the fall a new federal-provincial agreement for the renewal of the gas tax program and the Quebec contribution (TECQ) for the period from January 1 , 2024 to December 31, 2028;
- To double the amounts available to Quebec municipalities and to provide for an annual indexation of 3.5% of the envelope for the duration of the agreement;
- Not to add any additional accountability, obligation or condition to municipalities in the application of the program;
- To enable the financing of municipal building projects and works retention in eligible works;

To transmit a copy of this resolution to the Minister of Finance of Quebec, Mr. Éric Girard, to the Minister of Municipal Affairs of Quebec, Mrs. Andrée Laforest, to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Canada, the Honorable Chrystia Freeland, to the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada, the Honorable Sean Fraser, to our member of Parliament, the Honorable Sophie Chatel and to our member of the National Assembly for Pontiac, the Honorable André Fortin, to the Fédération québécoise des municipalités and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

C. Municipal Hall Rental

047-2024                      Tabled by Council until the April meeting.

Adopted

D. Signing Authority with Desjardins

048-2024                      It is moved by Councillor Brennan to re-instate Director General Ashlee Poirier's signing authority and give them the power to manage municipal finances and accounts related to Desjardins account # 30216-8151013788.

Adopted

E. International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia

049-2024                      WHEREAS the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms recognizes that no discrimination can be exercised on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression;

WHEREAS Quebec is a society open to all, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBTQ+) people and all other people who recognize sexual diversity and the plurality of gender identities and expressions;

WHEREAS despite recent efforts for better inclusion of LGBT people, homophobia and transphobia remain present in society;

WHEREAS May 17 is the International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia, which is actually celebrated in many countries and is the result of a Quebec initiative carried out by the Fondation Émergence since 2003.

WHEREAS there is reason to support the efforts of Fondation Émergence in holding this day;

It is resolved by Councillor Shea to proclaim May 17 INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA AND TRANSPHOBIA and to mark this day as such.

Adopted

F. Pontiac Journal Add

050-2024                      Moved by Councillor Shea to purchase the add in the Pontiac Journal thanking local farmers.

Adopted

G. Assistant-Secretary Treasurer

051-2024                WHEREAS section 184 of the Municipal Code of Québec stipulates that, a municipality may appoint an “assistant clerk-treasurer”

WHEREAS to ensure administrative continuity in the absence of the Secretary-Treasurer

CONSIDERING the role and knowledge of the current assistant Director General

THEREFORE

IT IS RESOLVED by Councillor Bradshaw that the municipal council appoint Mr. Simon Tessier as assistant clerk-treasurer.

Adopted

H. Red Cross

052-2024                It is moved by Councillor Agnesi to pay the Red Cross the annual fee of 225.00 \$ and have the D.G. sign all pertaining documents.

Adopted

I.MRC Meeting

Councillor Morris attended an MRC meeting as Pro-Mayor in the absence of Mayor Doris Ranger and wished to bring information to Council.

He discussed the housing crisis currently taking place in several Pontiac municipalities.

He also supplied Council with an updated organizational chart of MRC staff as well as a timeline for the when the administration can expect to receive the next updates from the MRC.

**8. Public Works**

J. Truck Running Boards

053-2024                It is moved by Councillor Brennan to purchase running boards for the Municipal truck.

Adopted

K.Zero-Turn Mower

054-2024                It is moved by Councillor Brennan to purchase a Cub Cadet ZT2 54 inch wide model.

Council decided to table the purchase of the necessary ramps to transport the mower until more information is presented to Council.

L. Road Sweeping

The D.G. 's recommendation was presented to Council.

055-2024

It is moved by Councillor Morris to inquire with the Chichester Municipal Council concerning the possibility of sharing equipment to sweep the roads in both municipalities this spring. The D.G. will request this proposition be discussed at the next Inter-municipal Co-operation Committee next week.

For

Against

Councillor Morris  
Councillor Brennan  
Councillor Shea  
Councillor Agnesi

Councillor Bradshaw

Adopted in Division

056-2024

It is moved by Councillor Agnesi that if the Chichester Council decides not to participate in sharing resources in this instance then the D.G. has permission to move forward with the most affordable option when renting a sweeper.

For

Against

Councillor Bradshaw  
Councillor Shea  
Councillor Brennan  
Councillor Agnesi

Councillor Morris

Adopted in Division

**9. Public Security**

**10. Correspondence**

A. Barry Belanger

The A.D.G. read Mr. Belanger's letter to Council.

B. Pontiac Bursaries

057-2024

It is moved by Councillor Brennan that the Municipality respond to the request from Pontiac Bursaries by donating 250.00 \$ to their program to provide funds to youth of the Pontiac for their post-secondary education.

Adopted

**11. Varia**

A. Energy From Waste

Councillor Bradshaw presented new information concerning the Energy from Waste project currently under discussion at the MRC.

**12. In-Camera**

058-2024                    It is moved by Councillor Bradshaw to go into camera at 8:55 PM.

Adopted

**13. Out-of-Camera**

059-2024                    It is moved by Councillor Shea to come out of camera at 9:27 PM.

Adopted

060-2024                    It is moved by Councillor Shea to approve the D.G. `s contract as presented.

Adopted

061-2024                    It is moved by Councillor Bradshaw to hire the candidate suggested by the Administration for the post of Municipal Inspector.

Adopted

**14. Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting will be the 8<sup>th</sup> of April 2024 at 6:30 PM

**15. Closing of meeting**

062-2024                    Moved by Councillor Brennan that the meeting be adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Adopted

_____	_____
Director General	Mayor / Secretary Treasurer

I, *Shamus Morris, pro-mayor*, attest that the signature of this minutes is equivalent to the signature by me of all the motions it contains within the meaning of Article 142 (2) of the Municipal Code.