

Municipality of Waltham

This public sitting of the Council is recorded.

Minutes of a regular meeting held at the usual place and time on August 5 2025, under the chairmanship of Her Worship Mayor Mrs. Odette Godin with the presence of the following councillors # 1 Mrs. Brenda Landry, #2 Mr. Leonard Godin, #3 Mrs. Ramona Marion #4 Mr. Brendan Adam, #5 Mr. Elwood Allard and # 6 Mr. Tyler Rochon

Mrs. Annik Plante Director General is also present.

Statement by the mayor (Decorum)

01-06-08-25 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by councillor Rochon and seconded by councillor Landry to adopt the agenda as presented.

Adopted

02-06-08-25 ACCEPTANCE OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

Moved by councillor Landry and seconded by councillor Godin, to accept last month minutes as deposited.

Adopted

VISITORS: 25 visitors are present and a question period is organized.

- **Mr. Earl Grieve brought forward a concern regarding Black River Road.** He noted the recent appearance of pickets installed along the roadside and expressed worry about potential issues this may cause during the upcoming winter snow removal operations. The Road Committee and the Town Foreman have committed to inspecting the area to assess the situation and determine any necessary action.

COMMITTEES REPORT

- **Arena:** No new updates were reported.
- **Transfer Site:** No new updates were reported. However, we are still waiting for the Fire Department to schedule a time to clean the bird droppings on the ramp near the garbage bins.
- **Road Committee:** No new updates were reported. However, Councillor Allard raised a concern regarding Dolan Road, noting that overgrown shrubs and trees are obstructing visibility when turning onto Waltham-Chapeau Road. He suggested that a call to the MTQ would be appropriate to request that shrubs be cut back, particularly near residential driveways in the Carroll's Corner area, as it also poses a visibility hazard.
- **RA Committee:** No new updates were reported. 1
- **Intermunicipal Committee:** Councillor Adam reported that no meeting was held in the past month.
- **Fire Department:** Councillor Godin reported no updates or communications at this time.

Mayor's report:

- Mayor Godin did not present any updates, as the MRC Pontiac is currently on its summer recess. All meetings and committee activities have been temporarily suspended until next month. Mayor Godin indicated that she expects to have more information to report at the next council meeting once regular operations resume.

03-05-08-25 BOARD REPRESENTATION AND VOTE

Moved by Councillor Marion, seconded by Councillor Rochon, that the Municipality of Waltham formally request that its representative on the Upper Pontiac Sports Complex Board of Directors be granted a voting right at the table. Be it further resolved that this resolution be forwarded to the other contributing municipalities for their support.

Adopted

04-05-08-25 EXPANDING THE WALTHAM MUNICIPAL GRAVEL PIT

WHEREAS Mayor Godin brought forward a previous recommendation by Councillor Allard regarding the need to expand the current gravel pit, which may involve a subdivision and eventual acquisition of a parcel of land owned by Evolugen or Jay M Holding;

WHEREAS the Building Inspector has recommended a three-step process to move forward with this file in a structured and compliant manner;

WHEREAS the first step involves obtaining written confirmation from either Evolugen or Jay M Holding, affirming that they are authorized and willing to proceed with the subdivision and potential sale of the parcel in question;

IT IS RESOLVED

THAT the Municipality of Waltham formally request written confirmation from either Evolugen or Jay M Holding, stating that they are both authorized and willing to move forward with the subdivision and potential sale of the relevant land for the purpose of expanding the municipal gravel pit;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

THAT this written confirmation will serve as the foundation for initiating any subsequent steps in the process as outlined by the Building Inspector.

Moved by councillor Allard and seconded by councillor Rochon

THAT the Council moves forward with this first step as recommended by the Building Inspector, beginning with the request for written confirmation from either Evolugen or Jay M Holding regarding the potential subdivision and sale of the parcel in question.

Adopted

05-05-08-25 RENEWAL OF THE LEASE WITH THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT, THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE, WILDLIFE AND PARKS

WHEREAS the Municipality of Waltham wishes to proceed with the renewal of its lease with the Ministry of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks for the use of land located on public domain;

WHEREAS the leased premises will continue to be used for non-profit purposes that promote public access to the waterfront;
THEREFORE it is moved by Councillor Marion, seconded by Councillor Adam, and unanimously resolved:

1. That the Municipality of Waltham authorizes Ms. Annik Plante, Director General and Secretary-Treasurer, to sign the lease renewal on behalf of the municipality;
2. That this authorization confirms the leased premises will be used for non-profit purposes that promote public access to the waterfront;
3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Ministry of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks in order to complete the lease renewal process.

Adopted

**06-05-08-25 ADOPTION OF BYLAW 2025-06 PERTAINING THE
DEMOLITION OF BUILDINGS AND PROTECTION OF HERITAGE
BUILDINGS**

**CANADA
PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
MUNICIPALITY OF WALTHAM**

BY-LAW NUMBER 2025-06

**PERTAINING THE DEMOLITION OF BUILDINGS AND THE
PROTECTION OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS**

WHEREAS The Act to amend the Cultural Heritage Act and other legislative provisions (Bill 69) requires a municipality to adopt a demolition bylaw that complies with the new provisions of the Act respecting land use planning and development for buildings of heritage value before April 1, 2023.

WHEREAS By virtue of the provisions of sections 148.0.1 to 148.0.26 of the Act respecting land use planning and development (chapter A 19.1) and those of section 141 of the Cultural Heritage Act (R.S.Q., c. P-9.002), a Municipality is required, by by-law, to ensure discretionary control of the demolition of buildings of heritage value on its territory.

CONSIDERING THAT The purpose of the By-law governing the demolition of immovables and the protection of heritage immovables is to control the demolition of any immovable in question by prohibiting demolition unless the owner has first obtained a certificate of authorization to that effect.

GIVEN THAT The municipal council deems it appropriate to adopt a bylaw to control the demolition of buildings on its territory and to ensure, among other things, the protection of the built heritage and the proper reuse of the cleared land.

WHEREAS The notice of motion **03-03-06-25** of bylaw number **2025-06** governing the demolition of buildings and the protection of heritage buildings was given by councillor Godin at the regular council meeting held on **June 3, 2025**;

GIVEN THAT following the publication of a public notice on July 9, 2025, a public consultation meeting was held July 22, 2025.

GIVEN THAT a copy of bylaw number 2025-06 was given to the members of council at least two (2) working days before the present meeting and that all the members present declare having read it and that they renounce to its reading.

THEREFORE, it is proposed by councillor Godin and seconded by councillor Adam that the following draft By-law **2025-06** Pertaining the demolition of building and the protection of heritage buildings be adopted on August 5, 2025. Carried unanimously.

THEREFORE, the municipal council enacts as follows:

CHAPTER 1 DECLARATORY, INTERPRETATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

DIVISION 1 DECLARATORY PROVISIONS

1.1.1 Subject territory

This by-law applies to the entire territory of the Municipality of Waltham.

1.1.2 Area of application

The purpose of this by-law is to ensure control over the demolition of buildings in a context of housing scarcity, to protect any building with heritage value, and to regulate and order the reuse of soil cleared following the complete or partial demolition of a building.

1.1.3 Validity

This bylaw is hereby adopted as a whole, title by title, chapter by chapter, section by section, article by article, paragraph by paragraph, subparagraph by subparagraph, so that if any title, chapter, section, article, paragraph or subparagraph is or should ever be declared invalid, the remaining provisions of this bylaw shall continue to apply with necessary adjustments.

SECTION 2 INTERPRETIVE PROVISIONS

1.2.1 Interpretation of Text In general,

The rules of interpretation of the text of this by-law apply as follows: 1) The headings contained in this by-law are an integral part of this by-law. In the event of a contradiction between the text and the title, the text prevails; 2) The use of 4 verbs in the present tense includes the future tense; 3) Words written in the singular include the plural and the plural includes the singular, whenever the context lends itself to this extension.

1.2.2 Terminology

Words and phrases used in this by-law have the specific meaning given to them in the by-laws, in the following order of precedence: 1) This by-law; 2) The Zoning By-law; 3) The Subdivision By-law; 4) The Building By-law; 5) The Permits and Certificates By-law. In the absence of a specific definition in the by-laws and in the Act respecting land use planning and development, they shall be understood to have their usual meaning, unless the context indicates otherwise.

1.2.3 Specific Definitions

Unless otherwise expressly stated or implied by the context of the provision, the following expressions, terms, and words, as used in this by-law, have the meaning and application assigned to them in this article.

1.2.3.1 Designated Officer

The term "designated officer" is defined in the Permits and Certificates By-law.

1.2.3.2 Committee

The term "committee" refers to the Demolition Applications Committee.

1.2.3.3 Building

Main building with permanent character.

1.2.3.4 Building with heritage value

The term "heritage value" refers to the value placed on a building in terms of its authenticity and integrity of architectural style, originality, historic value and state of preservation. All buildings built in 1940 and earlier are presumed to have heritage value.

1.2.3.5 Dwelling

The word "dwelling" means a dwelling as defined in the Act respecting the Régie du logement (RLRQ, chapter R-8.1).

SECTION 3 ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

1.3.1 Administration of the By-law

The City Inspector shall be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this by-law.

1.3.2 Powers of the Designated Officer

The powers and duties of the designated officer are defined in this by-law and in the current Permits and Certificates By-law.

1.3.3 Responsibility of the owner, tenant or occupant

The owner of an immovable, his tenant or his occupant shall allow the designated officer and any person authorized by the present by-law the right to visit and examine, between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. from Monday to Sunday, any movable or immovable property as well as the interior or exterior of any dwelling, building or structure.

CHAPTER 2 DEMOLITION APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE SECTION 1 FORMATION AND ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE

2.1.1 Formation and Role of the Committee

The Committee shall consist of three members of the council appointed for one⁵ year by the council. They may be reappointed. A quorum of the committee shall be three members. The committee's function is to authorize demolition requests for any building located on the territory of the Municipality of Waltham and covered by the present by-law. It also has the function of exercising any other power conferred upon it by the present by-law.

CHAPTER 3 APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORIZATION FOR DEMOLITION SECTION 1 BUILDINGS SUBJECT TO AUTHORIZATION BY THE COMMITTEE

3.1.1 REQUIREMENT FOR AUTHORIZATION

The complete or partial demolition of an immovable as defined in section 1.2.3.3 of this by-law or an immovable with heritage value as defined in section 1.2.3.4 of this by-law is prohibited unless the owner has first obtained a certificate of authorization issued by the designated official. The issuance of the certificate of authorization is only possible once the application for demolition has been authorized by the committee, the time limit for appeal has expired as provided for in section 3.4.5 of this by-law or the decision rendered by the municipal council, as the case may be. However, the complete or partial demolition of certain buildings may be exempted from the authorization of the Committee as prescribed in Section 3.1.2 of this Division

3.1.2 Exceptions for condition of an immovable

Notwithstanding section 3.1.1, an application for a certificate of authorization for an immovable or part of an immovable presenting one of the following characteristics is not subject to authorization by the Committee: 1) It has lost more than half of its value entered on the real estate assessment roll under the Act respecting municipal taxation (RLRQ, chapter F-2. 3) Be in an advanced state of deterioration that makes it impossible to occupy the building for which it was intended, without carrying out work of a value greater than the value of the building entered on the real estate assessment roll under the Act respecting municipal taxation (RLRQ, chapter F-2.1). In this case, a professional opinion must confirm that the building is in such a state of deterioration.

SECTION 2 AUTHORIZATION PROCEDURE

3.2.1 Filing an application for a certificate of authorization

An application for a certificate of authorization to demolish an immovable covered by this bylaw must be submitted in writing to the designated official and accompanied by payment of the amount prescribed in the By-law establishing the tax rates and the rates for the various services of the Municipality of Waltham. The application must be signed by the owner of the property or by his duly authorized representative.

3.2.2 Content of an application

The applicant must submit an application containing the following information and documents: 1) A document indicating: a) The reasons for the demolition or repair and the technical means used to carry it out; b) The nature and characteristics of the repair and the materials used; c) The anticipated duration of the work; d) The projected use of the land in the case of a total demolition; 2) A photograph of the construction to be demolished; 3) A plan illustrating: a) The parts of the construction to be demolished or repaired; b) The parts of the construction to be retained; 4) A written undertaking by the owner to have the land levelled within 72 hours of the demolition; 5) Other permits, certificates and authorizations required or issued, if any, by the competent authorities; 6) In the case of a high-risk or very high-risk building, the application for a certificate of authorization for renovation, restoration or repair work to a building must be accompanied by plans and specifications prepared in accordance with the rules of the trade, to scale and demonstrating all the proposed elements in terms of fire prevention or, if applicable, prepared by professionals when required by the laws or regulations pertaining to the type of building.

SECTION 3 CONSULTATION

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3.3.1 PUBLIC NOTICE

Upon receipt of an application for demolition approval, the Committee shall cause a notice to be posted on the property to which the application relates that is readily visible to passers-by. In addition, the committee shall forthwith cause a public notice of the application to be published. Where an application for demolition approval has already been granted and the committee is asked to extend the time for completion of the work or to approve a preliminary program for the reuse of cleared land, the committee is not required to give public notice of the application. Any notice under this section shall reproduce the first paragraph of section

3.3.2 Opposition

Any person who wishes to oppose the demolition must, within 10 days of the publication of the public notice or, failing that, within 10 days of the posting of the notice on the building concerned, make known his or her reasoned opposition in writing to the secretary-treasurer of the Municipality. Before rendering its decision, the committee must consider the objections received at a public meeting. It may also hold a public hearing if it considers it appropriate.

3.3.3 Postponement of Decision

If the Committee considers that circumstances warrant, it shall postpone the rendering of its decision and allow the intervener up to two months from the end of the hearing to complete the negotiations. The committee may defer its decision for this reason only once.

SECTION 4 DECISION OF THE COMMITTEE

3.4.1 Approval of the Preliminary Cleared Ground Reuse Program

The preliminary cleared soil reuse program submitted shall be reviewed by the committee. It can only be approved if it complies with the by-laws of the Municipality of Waltham. In determining such compliance, the committee shall consider the by-laws in effect at the time the program is submitted. The applicant may request that the preliminary cleared land reuse program be submitted to the committee after the committee has rendered a positive decision on the demolition permit application. Where the issuance of a certificate of authorization for demolition for the proposed program is suspended by reason of a notice of motion, the Committee shall not approve the program until the suspension expires or until the amending by-law that was the subject of the notice of motion or resolution comes into force, if such coming into force is prior to the expiry of the suspension, and the decision of the Committee shall be made with reference to the by-laws in force at the time of such decision.

3.4.2 Assessment of the Application for Demolition Approval

The committee shall grant permission for demolition if it is satisfied that the demolition is in the public interest and in the interest of the parties. Before deciding on an application for authorization to demolish, the committee must consider the following elements: 1) The condition of the building; 2) The deterioration of the architectural appearance, the aesthetic character and the quality of the neighbourhood of the building; 3) The cost of restoring the building as specified in a technical estimate prepared by a professional in the field; 4) The authenticity and importance of the architectural style; 5) The projected use of the cleared land; 6) When the building includes one or more dwellings : (a) The harm to tenants; (b) The need for housing in the area; and (c) The possibility of relocation of tenants. 7) Any other relevant criteria required for the analysis of the application. The application for demolition approval may be granted if the preliminary cleared land reuse program is approved by the committee or conditional upon approval of such program.

3.4.3 Conditions of Approval

When the committee grants permission for demolition, it may impose any conditions relating to the demolition of the building or the reuse of the cleared land. In the case of conditions relating to the demolition of the building, the committee may, among other things, determine the conditions for the relocation of a tenant, where the building contains one or more dwelling units. Where the committee authorizes demolition subject to approval of a preliminary program for the reuse of cleared land, the committee may set a time limit within which the program must be submitted to the committee for approval. The authorization shall lapse upon the expiration of such period or, in the absence of such period, upon the expiration of one year. The Committee may, for reasonable cause, extend the time limit, provided that a request is made to the Committee prior to the expiration of the time limit.

3.4.4 Timeframe for Demolition

When the Committee grants permission for demolition, it may fix a time limit within which the demolition work must be undertaken and completed. The Committee may, for reasonable cause, vary the time limit provided that application is made to the Committee prior to the expiration of the time limit.

3.4.5 Expiry of time limit

If the demolition work is not undertaken before the expiry of the time limit set by the committee, the demolition authorization is without effect. If a tenant continues to occupy his or her dwelling on the expiry of the time limit, the lease is extended by operation of law and the landlord may apply to the Régie du logement within one month to set the rent.

SECTION 5 APPEAL TO COUNCIL

3.5.1 Decision with reasons

The committee's decision regarding demolition shall be accompanied by reasons and shall be promptly transmitted to any party involved by registered or certified mail. If the preliminary cleared land reuse program is approved at a later date, the committee's decision on the program and the conditions attached to it, if any, shall be forwarded to the applicant by registered or certified mail.

3.5.2 Appeal to Council

Any person may, within 30 days of the Committee's decision regarding the demolition, appeal the decision to Council. Any appeal shall be made in writing to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Municipality.

3.5.3 Council Member

Any member of Council, including a member of the Committee, may sit on Council to hear an appeal under section 3.5.2 of this Division.

3.5.4 Decision on Appeal

The Board may confirm the decision of the Committee or make any decision that the Committee should have made.

CHAPTER 4 PENAL PROVISIONS SECTION 1 FINDING OF OFFENCE, OFFENCE, LIABILITY OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS, PENALTIES

4.1.1 Statement of offence

The designated official is authorized to issue a statement of offence for any violation of the present by-law.

4.1.2 Offence

Every person who contravenes any provision of this by-law is guilty of an offence. A person who intervenes or participates in any way in any work or activity shall comply with this by-law. Legal action may be taken at any time against any person who contravenes this by-law without notice or delay. 8

4.1.3 Liability of Directors and Officers

Where a corporation, or an agent, mandatary or employee thereof, or of a partnership or a non-personalized association, commits an offence under this by-law, the director or officer of the corporation, partnership or association shall be presumed to have committed the offence unless he or she establishes that he or she exercised due diligence in taking all reasonable precautions to prevent its commission. For the purposes of this section, in the case of a partnership, all the partners, other than the limited partners, are presumed to be the directors of the partnership in the absence of any evidence to the contrary designating one or more of them or a third party to manage the affairs of the partnership.

4.1.4 Penalties for demolition

Any person who demolishes or causes to be demolished any building or heritage building without the authorization of the Committee or contrary to the conditions of authorization is liable to a fine of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$250,000. In all cases where a fine is imposed, the costs of the prosecution are additional. In addition, the person who demolishes or causes the demolition to be carried out may be required to reconstruct the building or heritage building so demolished. If the person fails to restore the building or heritage building in accordance with the by-law, the council may cause the work to be done and recover the costs of the work from the person.

CHAPTER 5 FINAL PROVISIONS SECTION 1 COMING INTO FORCE

5.1.1 Coming into Force

This by-law comes into force in accordance with the law.

GIVEN IN WALTHAM, QUEBEC THIS AUGUST 5, 2025

ODETTE GODIN
MAYOR

ANNIK PLANTE
DIRECTOR GENERAL

07-05-08-25 MEMBERSHIP IN THE GROUP INSURANCE PROGRAM OF THE FÉDÉRATION QUÉBÉCOISE DES MUNICIPALITÉS AND A GROUP INSURANCE CONTRACT

- WHEREAS** the Fédération québécoise des municipalités (hereinafter the “FQM”) has established a group insurance program governed by one of its regulations (the “Program”);
- WHEREAS** for this purpose, the FQM issued a call for tenders under number FQM-2021-002 dated July 5, 2021;
- WHEREAS** following this call for tenders process, the FQM became the Policyholder of a group insurance contract with Desjardins Financial Security, life insurance company (hereinafter the “Contract”);
- WHEREAS** the FQM has mandated its subsidiary, FQM Assurances Inc., a group insurance broker, to oversee the implementation of the Contract and to advise municipalities, their officials and employees, and municipal council members on all matters requiring a broker’s license under the Act respecting the distribution of financial products and services, c. D-9.2;
- WHEREAS** under the Municipal Code of Québec and the Cities and Towns Act, a municipality, an RCM, or a municipal body may subscribe to a group insurance contract for the benefit of its officials, employees, and council members, for which the FQM is the Policyholder;
- WHEREAS** the Contract came into effect on January 1, 2022;
- WHEREAS** the Contract is automatically renewable each year;

IT IS MOVED BY: councillor Marion and SECONDED BY councillor Landry AND RESOLVED THAT:

- The Municipality of Waltham joins the Program for the benefit of its officials, employees, and members of the municipal council, and be governed by the Contract as of September 1, 2025;

- The Municipality (or RCM or body) shall pay the premiums related to the coverage year, as well as all premium adjustments for each subsequent insurance year;
- The Municipality (or RCM or body) shall comply with the terms and conditions of the Program and the Contract;
- The Municipality (or RCM or body) shall maintain its participation in the Program by subscribing, without additional formalities, to any group insurance contract entered into by the FQM following a call for tenders to replace the current Contract, and shall comply with its terms and conditions;
- The Municipality shall maintain the insurance coverage provided for in the Contract or any replacement contract, until such time as it terminates its participation in accordance with the Regulation by giving the FQM at least one (1) year's written notice of its intention to no longer participate in the Program;
- The Municipality (or RCM or body) grants its Director General the authority to perform any act and to submit any document arising from the Municipality's adherence to the Contract or any replacement contract;
- The Municipality (or RCM or body) authorizes FQM Assurances Inc. and any actuarial firm designated by it to access its group insurance file with the insurer, in compliance with personal information protection rules;
- The Municipality (or RCM or body) grants FQM Assurances Inc. and any actuarial firm designated by it the mandate to act as exclusive advisor and broker for its group insurance, and that they be the only persons appointed and authorized to represent it to the designated insurer regarding the application of the group insurance plan;
- This resolution in no way limits the right of the FQM to revoke its designated agents and appoint others in their place;
- This resolution takes immediate effect and revokes any previous resolution granted on the same subject, without further notice.

Adopted

08-05-08-25 APPOINTMENT OF TWO PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTERS TO THE WALTHAM FIRE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS the Fire Chief has submitted letters of recommendation for the appointment of two individuals to the Waltham Fire Department;

WHEREAS the individuals have met the initial requirements and qualifications to serve as probationary firefighters;

WHEREAS it is in the interest of the Municipality to ensure adequate personnel for the safety and protection of the community;

IT IS MOVED BY councillor Rochon and **SECONDED BY** councillor Adam **AND RESOLVED THAT:**

- The Municipality of Waltham accepts the recommendation of the Fire Chief and approves the appointment of the following individuals as probationary 10 firefighters with the Waltham Fire Department:
 1. Melissa Pilon
 2. Kory Beaudry
- The appointments shall take effect immediately and remain subject to the successful completion of the probationary period as determined by the Fire Chief.

Adopted

09-05-08-25 PARTICIPATION IN THE FQM ANNUAL CONGRESS

WHEREAS the Fédération québécoise des municipalités (FQM) will be holding its Annual Congress September 24-27 2025, which provides valuable workshops, conferences, and networking opportunities for municipal elected officials;

WHEREAS the Congress allows for continued education and professional development for municipal councillors;

WHEREAS it is in the interest of the Municipality of Waltham to support the participation of its elected officials in activities that enhance their knowledge and skills;

THEREFORE, IT IS

MOVED BY: Councillor Godin and **SECONDED BY:** Councillor **Marion**
AND RESOLVED THAT:

The Municipality of Waltham authorizes **Councillor Adam** to attend the **FQM Annual Congress** taking place in Québec City from September 24 to 27 2025, and that the Municipality covers all associated expenses, including registration, accommodations, meals, and travel, in accordance with the municipal travel and expense policy.

Adopted

10-05-08-25 PURCHASE OF LIVE TRAPS FOR STRAY CATS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ANIMAL AID

WHEREAS the Municipality of Waltham is experiencing an increasing issue with stray and feral cats within its territory;

WHEREAS the Municipality wishes to take proactive and humane measures to address this issue;

WHEREAS the Municipality is collaborating with Animal Aid to implement a solution involving the live trapping of stray cats for proper care and control;

WHEREAS the Municipality has allocated a budget of \$300 for the purchase of live traps to be used for this initiative;

IT IS PROPOSED BY councillor Marion and **SECONDED BY** councillor Adam
AND RESOLVED THAT

The Municipality of Waltham authorizes the purchase of live traps in the amount of \$300, in partnership with Animal Aid, in order to safely and humanely trap stray cats within the municipal limits.

Adopted

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Before concluding the meeting, the Director General shared the following communications with council members:

- **Mutation:**
 - he property previously owned by Eric Ruest and Julie Ruest has been sold to Denis Mayer and Marie-Joanne Blondeau. A transfer duty in the amount of \$ 1 192.50 has been issued to the new owners.
 - The property previously owned by Arthur Chaput has been sold to Natasha Venasse. A transfer duty in the amount of \$ 2 492.50 has been issued to the new owners.

- **Fire Report:** No fire report was received the Fire Chief
- The Director General informed Council that the snow removal tender for the 2025–2026 season is now open. It has been registered on the SEAO platform as well as the Municipality’s website. Tenders will be opened on September 29th at 4:00 p.m. at the Municipal Office.
- The Director General informed Council that a Land Use Planning Workshop will be held by the MRC Pontiac on September 16, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Mayor, Director General, Municipal Inspector, and one Council member will be attending on behalf of the Municipality.

The Director General shared several correspondences and relevant information with Council:

- The Director General received two thank-you cards for the generous donations made by the Municipality to Waltham residents graduating from various local high schools.
- The Director General received an invitation from the Green Lake and Black River Cottagers' Association for their annual Family Fun Day, taking place on Saturday, August 23, at 2:00 p.m. All members of Council are invited to attend. The invitation was also forwarded by email.

The Director General received a grading request from the Green Lake Association. Council has agreed to proceed with grading Green Lake Road, and the work will be completed in time for the annual picnic on August 23rd.

- The Director General received an official letter confirming that the André Fortin Grant has been awarded to the Municipality in the amount of \$25,000 for this year. A working session will be scheduled to determine how the grant funds will be allocated.

Under Varia:

- The Municipality received a request from the Municipality of Otter Lake to borrow the Fire Department's rescue boat for the weekend of August 9th for a water rescue course, as their own boat is currently out of service. The Director General will contact Otter Lake's DG to inform her that Council has approved the request. Fire Chief Larry will coordinate the arrangements for the pickup of the boat.
- The Mayor raised a concern regarding the frequent bonfires being held along the Black River. She emphasized the importance of educating residents on safe fire practices to prevent accidents. As a municipality, we adhere to the guidelines and recommendations set by SOPFEU (Société de protection des forêts contre le feu) as well as the fire regulations established by the MRC Pontiac. Efforts will be made to inform the community about proper fire management and the rules governing open-air fires in the region.

• **Letter of Complaint — Black River Road (ATV Traffic)**

A formal complaint was received from a resident on Black River Road, expressing concerns over the increasing and dangerous use of the road by ATVs, dirt bikes, and side-by-sides. The resident reports excessive speeding, dust, and safety issues due to the narrow and winding nature of the road. It was noted that the route is not an officially accredited trail from the Pontiac Quad Pontiac, and therefore, enforcement falls under the jurisdiction of the SQ. The resident is requesting:

1. Regular SQ patrols and enforcement of road safety regulations. 12
2. Installation of signage prohibiting ATV traffic on the Black River Road
3. Additional warning signs for narrow road conditions.
4. Application of dust suppressant in front of residences along the road.

Before concluding the meeting, Councilor Rochon raised several questions and provided updates for discussion:

- **Cell Coverage:** There has been no update from the company that previously met with the mayor and DG regarding cell service improvements.
- **Hydro-Québec App:** Councilor Rochon expressed concerns that the Hydro-Québec app is not reliable during power outages. Tyler highlighted that when power is out, internet and Wi-Fi in Waltham are also affected, which is a significant issue. Councilor Rochon requested that the Mayor follow up with Hydro-Québec to advocate for improvements.

- **Hydro-Québec Vegetation Management:** Councilor Rochon requested the MRC Pontiac draft a resolution regarding tree cutting and asked for a scheduled plan for residents.

Warden Toller, who was present in the audience, indicated that no new cell tower is currently planned. The Government of Quebec is reviewing a satellite connectivity project, expected to improve service by the end of 2026. Councilor Rochon expressed that this timeline is unacceptable and suggested that the mayors work together to develop a better plan for improving service in the region.

- **Municipal Website:** Councilor Rochon inquired about the new municipal website. Mayor Godin stated that the draft will be sent to Councilors for review, and a meeting will be scheduled to discuss feedback.
- **Meeting Accessibility:** Councilor Rochon raised concerns regarding accessibility for residents unable to attend in person. While the municipal hall is not currently equipped for remote access, residents can request an audio recording of the meeting. This topic may be further discussed during a future work session to explore different options for improving accessibility.

11-05-08-25 PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

Moved by councillor Godin and seconded by councillor Rochon to pay the bills of the month in the amount of \$ 68 956.01

Adopted

Certificate of availability

I, Annik Plante, Director General of the Municipality of Waltham, certify that there are funds available for the expenses approved above. Given at Waltham, on the 5th day of August 2025.

Annik Plante
Director General/Secretary Treasurer

12-05-08-25 CLOSED

Moved by councillor Allard and seconded by councillor Rochon to close the meeting at 7: 59 P.M.

Adopted

Mayor Mrs. Odette Godin

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Director General/Secretary Treasure Mrs. Annik Plante
