

Municipality of Waltham

This public sitting of the Council is recorded.

Minutes of a regular meeting held at the usual place and time on July 8th 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, and # 6 Mr. Tyler Rochon

Absent: Mr. Elwood Allard

Mrs. Annik Plante Director General is also present.

Statement by the mayor (Decorum)

01-08-07-25 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

Adopted

02-08-07-25 ACCEPTANCE OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES

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

Adopted

VISITORS: 4 visitors are present and a question period is organized.

- **Mr. Earl Grieve**, a resident of Waltham, raised a concern regarding the current speed limit on Highway 148, specifically the section between the restaurant and the bridge. He expressed that the speed in this area poses a safety risk to residents and pedestrians.

In response, it was noted that the Municipality has previously submitted multiple complaints and formal requests to the **Ministère des Transports du Québec (MTQ)** asking for a reduction in the speed limit in this zone. Despite these efforts, no changes have yet been implemented.

The Director General committed to following up once again with the MTQ and will formally reiterate the Municipality's request to lower the speed limit for improved public safety.

- **Mr. Rudi**, a resident of Black River, raised a question regarding the public parking area located along the Black River. He inquired whether the Municipality intends to install signage at the site.

In response, the Municipality confirmed that signage will indeed be created and installed to ensure proper identification and guidance for users. Additionally, the Town Foreman will be dispatched to cut the grass around the parking area to improve accessibility.

COMMITTEES REPORT

1

- **Arena:** No new updates were reported.
- **Transfer Site:** No new updates were reported. No new updates were reported. However, Councillor Marion mentioned that the used electronics recycling bin at the dump seems full. The Director General and the Town Foreman will look into the procedure for having it picked up.
- **Road Committee:** No new updates were reported. However, Councillor Landry raised a concern regarding the Waltham sign near the baseball field. She noted that the trees and brush surrounding the sign need to be cleared, as it is currently difficult to see.

- **Intermunicipal Committee:** Councillor Adam announced that a meeting will take place on July 16th at 3:00 p.m. regarding intermunicipal cooperation with the Ministry. All council members are invited to attend and participate in the discussion.
- **Fire Department:** Councillor Godin reported no updates or communications at this time.

Mayor's report:

- Mayor Godin reported that over the past month, she participated in several meetings and community events. She attended two Human Resources meetings at the MRC Pontiac.
- She also attended a meeting with local resident Mr. Meilleur.
- In addition, she took part in a Waste Management meeting, also held at the MRC Pontiac.
- Mayor Godin was honoured to be invited to the graduation ceremony at Dr. Wilbert Keon School, where she had the pleasure of presenting five bursaries to graduating students from Waltham.
- She also participated in an emergency virtual meeting with Hydro-Québec regarding the recent power outages affecting the area. During the meeting, Hydro-Québec provided updates on their response efforts and confirmed that two new response teams will soon be based in the Campbell's Bay area. This addition is expected to significantly improve response times in the future.

03-08-07-25 APPROVAL OF SUBDIVISION PLAN

Moved by Councillor Godin, seconded by Councillor Landry, and unanimously resolved that the Municipality of Waltham hereby approves the subdivision plan prepared by Michel Fortin, Arpenteur Géomètre (Land Surveyor), under minute number 37064, as reviewed and recommended by the Municipal Inspector.

Adopted

04-08-07-25 ACCEPTANCE OF THE JURISDICTION DECLARATION ON RENEWABLE ENERGY

Moved by Councillor Marion, seconded by Councillor Landry, It is resolved that the Municipality of Waltham accepts the declaration of jurisdiction from the MRC Pontiac concerning renewable energy.

Adopted

05-08-07-25 AUTHORIZATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF SIGNS FOR BLACK RIVER ROAD PUBLIC PARKING

Moved by Councillor Rochon, seconded by Councillor Adam, It is resolved that the Municipality of Waltham authorizes the purchase of signage for the public parking area located on Black River Road.

Be it further resolved that the Director General is authorized to contact Enseignes Pontiac to obtain and proceed with the order.

2

Adopted

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

- **Mutation:** The property previously owned by Luke Marion has been sold to Jonathan Dennique and Emily Klentz. A transfer duty in the amount of \$ 1272.50 has been issued to the new owners.

- **Fire Report**

The Waltham Fire Department responded to two incidents during the month of June:

- **June 10, 2025 – 445 Chemin Waltham**
A large tree on a resident's property fell onto the Hydro-Québec supply cables leading to the home. The impact caused the overhead hydro line crossing Chemin Chapeau-Waltham to sag, creating a traffic hazard on the roadway. The fire department responded to ensure the area was secured until Hydro-Québec crews arrived.
- **June 19, 2025 – 10 P.E.L. Road**
During a period of high winds, a tree fell onto hydro cables near a residence. The homeowner reported a faint smell of smoke inside the house. The fire department conducted a full inspection of the premises, including a thermal scan on all levels of the home. No signs of fire or elevated temperatures were detected.

- **The Director General informed** Council that a public consultation regarding the demolition of buildings and the protection of heritage properties will be held on July 22 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Hall.

The Director General shared a few correspondences and relevant information to be forwarded to Council.

- The Town Foreman has begun installing the skate park ramp at the rink.
- The MRC Pontiac has announced that a new agreement regarding the Municipal Court will be signed in January 2026.
- The scheduled public meeting for October 7th must be rescheduled, as municipalities are not permitted to hold council meetings after October 3rd at 4:30 p.m. due to the start of the election period. Council will need to select an alternative date—either October 1st or 2nd—for the October public meeting.
- The Director General informed Council that Mayor Godin will be attending the 2025 FQM Conference, taking place from September 25 to 27, 2025. During the meeting, Councillor Adam expressed interest in participating as well. He will confirm his attendance shortly, and a resolution for the related expenses will be adopted at the next public meeting.

Under Varia:

- Councillor Marion requested that the Director General ask the Municipal Inspector to have a look at a gate that has been installed on a property located on Black River Road, specifically at the intersection of Black River and Trout Lake Roads. A resident has installed a gate that restricts access to the river, both entering and exiting. The Councillor would like to know whether the installation of this gate complies with the municipal by-laws.

- **Letter of Complaint – Cara-Lynne Germain**

Council received a written letter of complaint from Ms. Cara-Lynne Germain regarding the recently published student job posting for the position of *Senior Assistant*. In her 3 correspondence, Ms. Germain expressed concern that the responsibilities outlined in the job description could place the student in a potentially unsafe situation and expose the municipality to liability.

Council acknowledged receipt of the complaint and took note of the concerns raised. Administration was tasked with reviewing the job description and assessing any associated risks or liability issues.

Conclusion:

Following review and consideration, Council decided to cancel the student position for this year. As the employment program spans only eight weeks, there is insufficient time remaining to proceed with hiring and onboarding. The municipality will revisit the position and its structure in the future, ensuring it aligns with best practices and risk management standards.

06-08-07-25 PAYMENT OF THE BILLS

Moved by councillor Godin and seconded by councillor Rochon to pay the bills of the month in the amount of \$ 38 889.82.

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 8th day of July 2025.

Annik Plante
Director General/Secretary Treasurer

07-08-07-25 CLOSED

Moved by councillor Rochon and seconded by councillor Landry to close the meeting at 8: 32 P.M.

Adopted

Mayor Mrs. Odette Godin

Director General/Secretary Treasure Mrs. Annik Plante
