

Province of Québec
Municipality of Sheenboro

Regular meeting of the Municipal Council of Sheenboro held January 13th 2025 at 6:30 P.M.

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

Ashlee Poirier, Director General and Secretary-Treasurer, and Simon Tessier, Assistant Director General and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer attend.

1. Opening of Meeting

The mayor notes that there is quorum and calls the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

2. Recording of the sitting

The current meeting is being audio recorded for administrative purposes.

3. Adoption of Agenda

001-2025

IT IS moved by Councillor Brennan-Agnesi to adopt the agenda as amended with the addition of 11B Employment Insurance.

Adopted

4. Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest was declared.

5. Adoption of Minutes

A. Council Meeting Minutes December 2nd, 2024

002-2025

IT IS moved by Councillor Bradshaw that the minutes of the regular meeting of December 2nd, 2024 be adopted.

Adopted

B. Special Budget Meeting Minutes December 9th, 2024

003-2025

IT IS moved by Councillor Brennan that the minutes of the special budget meeting held on December 9th, 2024 be adopted.

Adopted

6. Question Period

Question period was held from 6:36PM – 6:43PM

Members of the public were present and asked questions.

7. Administration

A. Payment of the bills

004-2025 IT IS moved by Councillor Shea to pay the bills with the amendment as discussed.

CERTIFICATES OF FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ACCOUNTS: I, Ashlee Poirier, Director General, hereby certify that there are funds available for the purposes for which expenditures to total \$ 36 607.60 have been proposed.

Signed in Sheenboro, Quebec
This 13th day of January 2025.

Ashlee Poirier, Director General/Secretary-Treasurer

B. Authorisation to Pay Current Accounts

005-2025 IT IS moved by councillor Edwards to allow the Director General to pay the following bills upon reception: Bell, Bell Mobility, Hydro Quebec, W.O Stinson, Revenue Canada, Ministre des Finances, Fillogreen, LaRelance, Laurentides Ressources and CPA.

Adopted

C. By-Law 2025-001 “By-Law Respecting the Imposition of the Rates of Property Tax and Service Taxes for the Fiscal Year of 2025 and the Conditions for Tax Collection”

Councillor Bradshaw gave notice of Motion.

006-2025 IT IS moved by Councillor Bradshaw to adopt the draft By-law 2025-001 “By-Law Respecting the Imposition of the Rates of Property Tax and Service Taxes for the Fiscal Year of 2025 and the Conditions for Tax Collection”

Adopted

D. Cell Phone Coverage

WHEREAS cellular coverage remains insufficient in several regions of Quebec, limiting access to an essential service for residents and visitors;

WHEREAS the Government of Quebec has committed to deploying complete cellular coverage across the territory by October

2026, recognizing its importance for citizens' quality of life and socio-economic development, particularly in a context where automation is becoming an essential solution to the labour shortage;

WHEREAS reliable cellular services are essential to guarantee access to information, health services, and public safety interventions, and that poor coverage compromises the safety of people in areas with limited coverage or when roaming, particularly in the event of an emergency requiring rapid intervention by first responders;

WHEREAS the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) procedure CPC-2-0-17 imposes conditions of licence on cellular service providers (CSPs), including mandatory roaming, tower sharing and the prohibition of site exclusivity, in order to promote access to the network for subscribers of another CSP when a service is available;

WHEREAS this same procedure does not, however, require CSPs to request the service of another provider in the event of non-existent coverage in a given region, thus limiting the scope of the measure;

WHEREAS the Government of Quebec and the CRTC provide significant subsidies to telecommunications companies for the construction of new cellular infrastructure in order to improve coverage in the regions;

WHEREAS despite the presence of more than 8,500 cell towers in Quebec, the exclusive use of these towers by a single CSP limits access for other providers and constitutes a major obstacle to the deployment of optimal cellular coverage for the entire population;

THEREFORE,

007-2025

IT IS proposed by Councillor Shea:

TO ASK the Liberal Party of Canada, the Conservative Party of Canada, the New Democratic Party of Canada and the Bloc Québécois:

- To include in their electoral platform for the next federal election the obligation for all cellular service companies to enter into roaming agreements so that cellular service customers, regardless of their provider, can benefit from the presence of cell sites in the region where they are located;

TO FORWARD a copy of this resolution to the Minister of Finance of Quebec, Mr. Eric Girard, who is responsible for fulfilling the government's commitment to provide cellular service throughout the inhabited territory in this mandate;

TO TRANSMIT a copy of this resolution to the directors of telecommunications companies, in particular BCE (Bell), Videotron, Rogers, TELUS and Cogeco.

Adopted

E. Sûreté du Québec

Billing of municipalities served by Sûreté du Québec services

WHEREAS the municipalities served by the Sûreté du Québec have just received their bill for 2025;

WHEREAS the average of the increases announced is 6.47%, but that the increases for several municipalities are much higher, even considerable;

WHEREAS the 2025 bill marks the end of the transitional period leading to a 50-50 split of the bill for Sûreté du Québec services between the Government and the municipalities. A period characterized by the establishment of a 7% increase ceiling and a 2% floor;

WHEREAS during the negotiations for the new formula in 2019, the authorities of the Ministry of Public Security assured its municipal partners that the increases would be approximately 3% per year once the transitional period was over and that this formula would protect the municipal world from increases of the nature of those announced in 2025;

WHEREAS the inflation rate is now less than 2%;

WHEREAS the media have recently reported on the management of police overtime in the regions, which is causing significant pressure on the overall cost of the Sûreté du Québec service billed to municipalities;

WHEREAS the legitimate questions from several elected officials concerning the real impact of the number of unfilled police positions and the significant use of overtime when an effective police service requires stability and a long-term community presence;

WHEREAS the reckless increase in the costs of the Sûreté du Québec and their impact on the bill imposed on municipalities;

WHEREAS the municipal world is not involved in determining the working conditions of police officers and the management of the Sûreté du Québec;

WHEREAS the total amount billed to municipalities for 2025 amounts to more than \$444.8 million, a considerable amount that should give municipalities a say in the management of these services.

008-2025

IT IS proposed by Councillor Morris that the municipality of Sheenboro ask the Minister of Public Security, Mr. François Bonnardel:

- To mandate an external firm to analyze the management of the Sûreté du Québec, similar to the approach taken with municipal transport companies, which identified possible solutions to save several hundred million dollars;
- To maintain a ceiling and a floor for the increase in bills in the permanent formula as well as in the transitional formula until the analysis has identified ways to control the inconsiderate increase in the cost of Sûreté du Québec services.

That a copy of the resolution be sent to the Minister of Public Security, Mr. François Bonnardel, to the Member of Parliament for the riding of (insert the name of the riding and the name of the Member of Parliament), to the Director General of the Sûreté du Québec, Ms. Johanne Beausoleil and to the President of the Fédération québécoise des municipalités (FQM), Mr. Jacques Demers.

Adopted

F. Pro-Mayor Designation for 2025

009-2025 IT IS moved by Councillor Shea to designate Councillor Bradshaw as pro-mayor for the year 2025.

Adopted

G. ADMQ Membership 2025

010-2025 IT IS moved by Councillor Edwards to allow the Director General to re-new their membership with the ADMQ for the year 2025 at a cost of \$577.17.

Adopted

8. Municipal Inspector

Council was presented the municipal inspectors monthly report.

A. COMBEQ Membership 2025

011-2025 IT IS moved by councillor Bradshaw to allow the municipal inspector to join COMBEQ for the year 2025 at a cost of \$380 plus taxes.

Adopted

9. Public Works

A. Trout Lake Road

Councillor Morris presented information to council concerning Trout Lake Road.

B. Calcium Chloride (Multi Routes)

012-2025 IT IS moved by councillor Brennan-Agnesi to approve the amount of 42 000 Litres of calcium chloride at a cost of \$17 640 plus taxes for the year 2025 and to allow the Director General to sign all pertaining documents.

Adopted

C. Double Vocation Grant

WHEREAS the municipality of Sheenboro has read the terms and conditions of application of the component concerned by the application for financial assistance submitted under the Local Roads Assistance Program (PAVL) and undertakes to comply with them;

WHEREAS the municipality has read the financial assistance agreement,
signed it and undertakes to comply with it;

THEREFORE,

013-2025 IT IS unanimously resolved and adopted that the council of confirms its commitment to have the eligible work carried out in accordance with the terms and conditions of application in force, recognizing that in the event of non-compliance with these terms and conditions, the financial assistance will be terminated, and certifies that the Director General, Ashlee Poirier is duly authorized to sign any document or agreement to this effect with the Minister of Transport.

Adopted

10. Correspondence

A letter was read to council.

11. In-Camera

014-2025 IT IS moved by councillor Edwards to go into camera at 7:20PM.

12. Out-of-Camera

015-2025 IT IS moved by Councillor Morris to come out-of-camera at 7:37PM.

A. Legal Mandate for 2025

016-2025 IT IS moved by Councillor Brennan to accept the legal mandate retainer presented from Beaudry-Bertrand for the year 2025 at a total cost of \$2 299.50 and to allow the Director General to sign all pertaining documents.

Adopted

13. Next Meeting

Regular Council Meeting February 3rd, 2025 at 6:30PM

14. Closing of the Meeting

017-2025 IT IS moved by Councillor Brennan that the meeting be adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Adopted

Director General
Secretary Treasurer

Mayor

.I, *Doris Ranger*, 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.