

Province of Québec  
Municipality of Sheenboro

Regular meeting of the Municipal Council of Sheenboro held May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026, at 6:30PM.

In-person are present Mayor Doris Ranger, Councillors Michel Morency, John Brennan, Karen Shea, Jean Gleason and Mary Beth Jones.

Councillor Sara Lafreniere is absent.

Ashlee Poirier, Director General and Simon Tessier, Assistant Director General were in attendance.

**1. Opening of Meeting**

The mayor notes that there is quorum and calls the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

078-2026 IT IS moved by Councillor Shea to adopt the agenda as modified with the addition of 9.A Gravel Landing and 9B. Parish Hall

Adopted

**3. Conflict of Interest**

No conflict of interest was declared.

**4. Adoption of Minutes**

A. Council Meeting Minutes of April 13th, 2026

079-2026 IT IS moved by Councillor Gleason that the minutes of the regular meeting of April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026, be adopted.

Adopted

**5. Question Period**

Starting at 6:39 PM and ending at 6:35 PM.

Members of the public were present, and a question was asked of council

**6. Administration**

A. Payment of the bills

080-2026 IT IS moved by Councillor Brennan to pay the bills as modified.

Adopted

CERTIFICATES OF FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ACCOUNTS: I, Ashlee Poirier, Director General, hereby certify that there are funds available for the purposes for which expenditures totaling \$ 31 629.47 proposed.

Signed in Sheenboro, Quebec  
This 13<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026.

Ashlee Poirier, Director General/Secretary-Treasurer

B. Bill 96 Lawsuit

Continuation of the Lawsuit Filed by Bilingual Municipalities Contesting Certain Provisions of an Act Respecting French, the Official and Common Language of Quebec

WHEREAS the Municipality of Sheenboro has agreed to join as co-plaintiff in a legal action contesting the provisions of Law 96 and is desirous of reiterating the mandate to the law firm Grey Casgrain s.e.n.c.;

WHEREAS the City agrees to share the legal fees and costs with the other co-plaintiffs, on a pro rata basis, established on the basis of population, said fees to be coordinated by the City and paid at the end of each quarter;

081-2026 IT IS moved by councillor Jones

AND RESOLVED:

THAT the municipality of Sheenboro hereby reiterates the mandate given to the Law Firm Grey Casgrain s.e.n.c. to represent the municipality of Sheenboro in its application before the Superior Court to contest certain provisions of Law 96 which affect the rights and obligations of bilingual municipalities;

THAT the Municipality of Sheenboro commits to sharing the legal fees and costs with the other co-plaintiffs, on a pro rata basis, based on the relative size of its population;

THAT an expenditure not exceeding \$1.00 per resident of the City be reserved by each of the co-plaintiff municipalities for all necessary expenses to this end to cover the application and pleadings of said proceedings before the Superior Court;

THAT the Municipality of Sheenboro will receive the payments for the Law Firm Grey Casgrain for all legal fees, from all municipalities involved in this Action.

Adopted

C. Canada Day

082-2026 IT IS moved by councillor Morency to have the municipal public works department assist with the set-up and take down for Canada Day and to have the summer student work that day.

Adopted

083-2026 IT IS moved by councillor Morency that the municipality of Sheenboro donates \$1 000 to the Sheenboro Recreation Society for the Canada Day event held in Sheenboro.

Adopted

D. Summer Student Ad Posting

IT IS moved by councillor Brennan to post the student wanted ad in the Pontiac Journal.

Adopted

E. AgriSpirit Grant

084-2026 IT IS moved by councillor Jones that the municipality of Sheenboro apply for the Agrispirit grant from the FCC (Farm Credit Canada) in the amount of \$25 000.

Adopted

**7. Environmental**

A. Brush Dumping

085-2026 IT IS moved by Councillor Shea to allow ratepayers access to the lower gate at the transfer site on weekends to allow for the disposal of brush, leaves and stumps and to allow the DG to purchase the appropriate signage needed.

Adopted

B. Draft Regulation on Agri-Environmental Practices

**WHEREAS** land-use planning is a political responsibility shared between different decision-making levels, in particular the municipal sector which plays a leading role;

**WHEREAS** all RCMs are developing climate plans and revising their territorial plans to comply with the new government guidelines on land use planning (OGAT), in effect since December 2024, and to ensure the resilience of their community in the face of the challenges posed by climate change;

**WHEREAS** these guidelines stipulate in particular that the RCMs must ensure the protection, availability and quality of water, the conservation of natural environments, the maintenance of forest cover to ensure ecological connectivity and the protection of biodiversity, but also the development of agricultural activities;

**WHEREAS** the Draft Regulation on Agri-Environmental Practices, intended to replace the Regulation on Agricultural Operations, was developed without consultation with municipal representatives or consideration of the land-use planning process;

**WHEREAS** the draft regulation is inconsistent with guideline 2 of the OGAT which aims to ensure the conservation of ecosystems and focus on sustainable and integrated management of water resources;

**CONSIDERING THAT** this regulation would lead to the conversion of large areas of forest cover into agricultural areas, without adequate supervision or consideration of territorial specificities, and that this decision is contrary to the government's expressed will (expectation 2.2.2 of the OGAT) to limit the fragmentation of forest cover;

**CONSIDERING THAT** by introducing the principle of precedence, this regulation would have the effect of removing from the RCMs and municipalities the power to regulate riparian strips in agricultural areas in order to protect the water of lakes and watercourses;

**CONSIDERING THAT** the loss of this power to intervene will result in significant and immediate environmental setbacks in several territories and will jeopardize the efforts and investments made to improve the water quality of waterways;

**WHEREAS** in several municipalities, the majority of waterways are located in agricultural areas;

**WHEREAS** the lifting of the moratorium can promote the development of new agricultural activities and the vitality of communities insofar as the opening of new areas to cultivation is done in compliance with municipal regulations and regional plans;

**CONSIDERING THAT** the need for any new cultivation to ensure the preservation of water resources, the protection of the environment and biodiversity, and to be part of the efforts to adapt to climate change;

**WHEREAS** the lifting of the moratorium on the cultivation of new plots as proposed in the draft regulation could accentuate the water supply issues observed in several regions, with significant consequences for several economic sectors, including agriculture;

**CONSIDERING THAT** this regulation will also have the effect of slowing down the implementation of regional wetland and water environment plans, the alignment of which with development plans is a requirement of the Act affirming the collective nature of water resources and promoting better governance of water and associated environments (chapter C-6.2);

**CONSIDERING THAT** the numerous issues raised by the municipal sector, including the Quebec Federation of Municipalities, with regard to the regulatory proposal, particularly on articles 7, 51 to 54, 104 to 106.

**CONSIDERING THAT** the positive results obtained in several municipalities and RCMs in terms of the implementation of riparian strips, the protection of wetlands and the significant improvement of water quality all have in common a concerted effort with farmers which is part of a sustainable vision for the development of our territories;

**WHEREAS** in the modernised regulatory framework for the management of water environments, which came into force on 1<sup>March</sup> 2026, the government has reaffirmed the importance of allowing municipalities to determine extended shorelines, and that this desire is also reflected in the invitation it is sending to the RCMs via the OGATs (expectation 2.2.2) to provide additional means of protection for extended shorelines;

**CONSIDERING** the importance of having a concerted approach adapted to the diverse realities of the territory;

086-2026 IT IS motioned by councillor Morency

**TO REQUEST** that the Minister of the Environment, the Fight Against Climate Change, Wildlife and Parks, Ms. Pascale Déry, suspend the process of adopting this regulation in order to revise it significantly by associating the municipal sector with the process this time;

More precisely :

- to waive the precedence of this regulation over any municipal regulation which aims at increased protection of the environment, particularly of our water resources (articles 7, 104 to 106);
- to link the increase in cultivated areas to the land-use planning process and to compliance with territorial plans, which are developed in consultation with all stakeholders in the field (articles 52 to 54).

**TO also forward** a copy of this resolution to the Premier of Quebec, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Member of Parliament for our riding, the Ministry of the Environment and the Quebec Federation of Municipalities.

## **8. Inter-Municipal Cooperation**

A. Shared Services Implementation Committee Summary from April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Council was updated on the last Intermunicipal committee meeting

## **9. Varia**

A. Gravel Landing

Councillor Morency told council about ratepayers concerns for the door-to-door waste management pickup at Chemin Downeys Bay and Chemin Tapp. Council spoke about the possibility of a landing with some gravel and to have the public works department have a look. The decision was tabled for further discussion.

B. **Parish Hall**

A discussion was held concerning the future of the Parish Hall and what the Municipality can do to support any organisation that is willing and able to create an O.B.N.L. to take over its management.

**10. Correspondence**

A. Brush Dump

A letter submitted by Paulette Demmons was read to council.

B. Donation Request

A letter submitted by Ecole Secondaire Sieur de Coulonge was read to council

**7. In-Camera**

087-2026

IT IS moved by councillor Brennan to go In-Camera at 7:53PM.

Adopted

A. Landsale

Council was presented with the list of overdue accounts for ratepayers

B. **Grant Coordinator**

Council has a discussion about hiring a consultant for the application of grants for the municipality.

**8. Out-of-Camera**

088-2026

IT IS moved by councillor Brennan to come Out-of-Camera at 8:43PM

Adopted

A. Grant Coordinator

089-2026

IT IS moved by councillor Jones to hire Christine Keyser as a consultant to apply for the Agrispirit grant at a cost of \$1 000.

Adopted

**9. Next Meeting**

Next public council meeting to be held on June 1st, 2026, at 6:30 PM.

**16.Closing of the Meeting**

090-2026

IT IS moved by Councillor Brennan that the meeting be adjourned at 8:50 PM

Adopted

Mayor

Director General  
Secretary Treasurer

I, *Doris Ranger*, attest that the signature of these 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.