

Province of Québec
Municipality of Sheenboro

Regular meeting of the Municipal Council of Sheenboro held September 9th 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 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 6:31 pm.

2. Recording of the sitting

The current meeting is being audio recorded for administrative purposes.

3. Adoption of Agenda

149-2024

IT IS moved by Councillor Brennan to adopt the agenda as presented.

Adopted

4. Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest was declared.

5. Adoption of Minutes

150-2024

IT IS moved by Councillor Agnesi that the minutes of the regular meeting of August 12th, 2024 be adopted.

Adopted

6. Question Period

Another question period was held regarding the transfer of ownership of the municipalities non-contiguous portions of Trout Lake road (approx.. 5KM) to the Ministère des Ressources Naturelles et des Forêts (MRNF)

7. Municipal Inspectors Report

The Inspectors Report was distributed to Council.

8. Administration

A. Payment of the bills

151-2024 IT IS moved by Councillor Bradshaw to pay the bills as listed.

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 \$ 50 361.19 have been proposed.

Signed in Sheenboro, Quebec
This 9th day of September 2024.

Ashlee Poirier, Director General/Secretary-Treasurer

B. Harassment Policy #2024-001

Policy for the Prevention and Management of Harassment, Violence and Incivility at Work

WHEREAS every person has the right to work in a work environment that protects their health, safety and dignity;

WHEREAS the Act respecting labour standards provides in particular for the obligation for every employer to adopt and make available a policy for the prevention and management of harassment situations, including a section on sexual conduct;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Sheenboro is committed to adopting proactive and preventive behaviors with respect to any situation that may be considered harassment, violence or incivility at work, and to holding the entire organization accountable in this regard;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Sheenboro does not tolerate or accept any form of harassment, violence or incivility in its workplace;

WHEREAS it is up to each member of the municipal organization to contribute to and promote the maintenance of a healthy workplace;

THEREFORE,

152-2024 IT IS proposed by Councillor Bradshaw and unanimously resolved:

THAT the Municipality of Sheenboro adopt the Policy for the prevention and management of situations of harassment, violence or incivility at work:

Adopted

C. Pontiac Journal Add

153-2024 IT IS moved by Councillor Brennan to post an add on behalf of businesses within our municipality and neighbouring municipalities to commemorate Small Business Week (Oct 20th-26th.)

Adopted

D. Comparative Factor in Municipal Assessment Process

Resolution to Support the Modification of the Use of the Comparative Factor in the Municipal Assessment Process

WHEREAS, the current municipal assessment process uses a comparative factor to determine property values;

WHEREAS, this comparative factor can lead to inequitable assessments and does not always accurately reflect the real market value of properties, especially during the 2nd and 3rd years of the triennial roll;

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Sheenboro expresses the need to review and revise the Municipal Taxation Act (Loi sur la fiscalité municipale) and the assessment process to ensure a more equitable and transparent property assessment for the well-being of its residents;

WHEREAS, adjusting the municipal tax rate is only a temporary measure and does not resolve the issue;

WHEREAS, other municipalities could face this situation of having high comparative factors and their negative impacts: calculation of MRC shares, calculation of Sureté du Québec fees, and their impacts on residents: school taxes, transfer duties on the standardized value, etc.;

IT IS
RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Municipality of Sheenboro formally requests a review of the municipal assessment process, with particular focus on reviewing and modifying the use of the comparative factor.
2. The Municipal council of Sheenboro proposes the adoption of a new methodology for property assessment that more accurately reflects real market value, whether the calculation is done on an assessment basis instead of a unit basis. Furthermore, we request the comparative factor in the 2nd and 3rd years of the triennial roll have no impact on municipalities and their residents.
3. The Municipality of Sheenboro invites other municipalities to support this initiative and adopt a similar resolution to create a harmonized and equitable approach to property assessment across the region. We also invite municipalities to sign and share the petition at the National Assembly.
4. A copy of this resolution will be sent to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, The Association of Municipal Director of Quebec, The Quebec Federation of Municipalities, The Union of Quebec Municipalities, the MRC's, and the Municipalities of Quebec.

154-2024

IT IS moved by Councilor Shea to pass this motion to support Alleyn and Cawoods resolution.

Adopted

E. 2025 Elections

Discussion about the possibility for municipalities under 2000 residents to have their council composed of four (4) councillors and one (1) mayor.

Tabled until the following meeting.

F. DG Vacation Request

155-2024 IT IS moved by Councillor Brennan to approve the Director Generals request for vacation.

Adopted

F. Website

The new website for Sheenboro was presented to Council. It is still a work in progress but so far the results have been excellent.

9. Environmental

A. Transfer Site

156-2024 It is moved by Councillor Bradshaw to set the Transfer Site hours for Winter 2024-25 to Sundays from 1200PM – 4:00PM

Adopted

10. Public Works

A. Seasonal Layoffs

157-2024 IT IS moved by Councillor Morris to rescind motion #102-2024

Adopted

158-2024 IT IS moved by Councillor Morris to retain one employee over the winter season 2024-2025 at 35 hours/week and lay one employee off for the season.

Adopted

11. Correspondence

A. D`Arcy Road

159-2024 IT IS moved by Councillor Brennan to permit the Quad Club to carry out work on D`Arcy Road as discussed by Council.

Adopted

B. MRC Pontiac Fundraiser Breakfast for Centraide Outaouais

The council decided not to participate in any donations at this time.

C. Ratepayer Request Letter

160-2024 IT IS moved by councillor Agnesi – Brennan to have a children’s playing sign put up in both directions near civic #4 on Chemin Sullivan.

Adopted

D. Ratepayer Request Letter

A ratepayer asked council to consider lowering the speed limits on Chemin Fort-William and Chemin Tripp to improve safety for motorists.

12. Varia

A. Sheenboro R.A.

161-2024 IT IS moved by Councillor Shea to donate \$ 800.00 to the Sheenboro Recreation Association to cover the repair costs to the centennial wall.

Adopted

13. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be the 9th of October, 2024 at 6:30 PM

14. Closing of meeting

162-2024 Moved by Councillor Morris that the meeting be adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Adopted

Director General

Mayor / Secretary Treasurer

I, *Doris Ranger, 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.