

**PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
COUNTY OF GATINEAU**

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of the Township of Low, held on TUESDAY, APRIL 2ND 2024, at 7 p.m., in the Héritage room, located at 4C, chemin d'Amour, Township of Low (Quebec) J0X 2C0, under the Presidency of Mayor Carole Robert.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Councillors Joanne Mayer, Maureen Rice, Maureen McEvoy, Luc Thivierge, Lee Angus and Ghyslain Robert.

ALSO PRESENT: Valérie Lemieux, Deputy director general and Deputy clerk-treasurer.

Madam Mayor Carole Robert confirming that there is quorum declares the meeting open.

**2024-040 TO ADOPT THE AGENDA FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL
COUNCIL OF APRIL 2ND, 2024**

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR LUC THIVIERGE**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council adopts the agenda as presented.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

--- FIRST QUESTION PERIOD

Questions on the topics on the agenda.

The question period begins at 7:01 p.m. and ends at 7:49 p.m.

**2024-041 TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL
COUNCIL HELD ON FEBRUARY 5, 2024**

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR LUC THIVIERGE
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council accepts, as presented, the minutes of the regular meeting of the Municipal Council of march 4, 2024, held in the Heritage room located at 4C, chemin d'Amour, Township of Low (Quebec) J0X 2C0.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION

**2024-042 TO ACCEPT ACCOUNTING REPORT 2024-03 -
AUTHORIZE THE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL
MANAGEMENT TO MAKE PAYMENTS - ACCOUNTS
PAYABLE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250,127.20 -
ACCOUNTS PAID IN THE AMOUNT OF \$120,672.65**

WHEREAS the Municipality of the Township of Low adopted, during a regular meeting of its Municipal Council, held on March 6, 2023, the resolution bearing the number

2023-042, for the purposes of adopting the by-law bearing the number 2023-006, for the purposes of repealing and replace the regulations bearing numbers 001-2018 and 002-2018 and their annexes delegating to officials of the Municipality the power to authorize expenditures and contracts and rules for budgetary control and monitoring;

WHEREAS article 6.1 of the regulation bearing number 2023-006 stipulates the pre-authorized payments that delegates can make;

WHEREAS article 7.6 of by-law bearing number 2023-006 stipulates that a monthly report must be submitted to the Municipal Council.

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR GHYSLAIN ROBERT**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

1. States that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
2. Accepts, on the recommendation of the Deputy Director General and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, and the approval of the General Management office, the accounting report for the month of March 2024, bearing the number 2024-03, totaling a sum of \$370,799.85 concerning the accounts paid and accounts payable of the Municipality.
3. Authorizes the General Directorate office to make payments in the amount of \$250,127.20.
4. Mentions that the General Management office has issued for this purpose, during the month of February 2024, sufficient credit certificates for a total amount of \$370,799.85.
5. Authorizes, hereby, Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert and/or the Director general and Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs. Myrian Nadon, or their replacements, to sign, for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

2024-043 TO AUTHORIZE BUDGETARY TRANSFERS

WHEREAS the Municipality of the Township of Low adopted, during a regular meeting of its Municipal Council, held on March 6, 2023, the resolution bearing the number 2023-042, for the purposes of adopting the by-law bearing the number 2023-006, for the purposes of repealing and replacing by-laws bearing numbers 001-2018 and 002-2018 and their annexes delegating to officials of the Municipality, the power to authorize expenditures and enter into contracts accordingly and rules of control and budget monitoring;

WHEREAS article 8.3 of the regulation bearing number 2023-006 stipulates that if the verification of available appropriations demonstrates an insufficient appropriation for the budgetary activity concerned or if the expenditure is not planned for the budgetary activity, the person responsible must demonstrate the merits of the budget transfer request;

WHEREAS article 10.1 of the regulation bearing number 2023-006 provides that any person responsible for budgetary activity must regularly monitor their budget and immediately report to the Finance Department as soon as they anticipate a budgetary variation going beyond of the limit provided for in article 10.2 and that under article 10.2, any budgetary reallocation exceeding the permitted maximums must be authorized in advance by the Council;

WHEREAS the Director General and Clerk-Treasurer recommends that the Municipal Council authorize budgetary transfers as described below, in order to be able to pay unforeseen expenses and associate them with the correct budgetary activities.

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR MAUREEN MCEVOY**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

- 1. States that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
- 2. Authorizes the following budget transfers:

| LEDGER POST | DESCRIPTION | PROVENANCE | DESTINATION |
|--------------|---|-------------|-------------|
| 02-13000-670 | ADM. – FOURNITURES BUREAU | 415,00 \$ | |
| 02-13000-726 | ADM. – AMEUBLEMENT ET ÉQUIPEMENT | | 415,00 \$ |
| 02-32000-525 | VOIRIE- ENT. ÉQUIPEMENTS ET MACHINERIE | 3 000,00 \$ | |
| 02-32000-644 | VOIRIE – LAMES | | 3 000,00 \$ |
| 02-61000-670 | URBANISME – FOURNITURES DE BUREAU | 15,00 \$ | |
| 23-06000-724 | VÉHICULES | | 15,00 \$ |
| 02-23000-331 | 1 ^{ER} RÉPONDANT – TÉLÉPHONIE | 225,00 \$ | |
| 02-22000-691 | INCENDIE MÉDICAMENTS ET FOURNITURES MÉDICALES | | 225,00 \$ |
| | TOTAL : | 3 655 \$ | 3 655 \$ |

- 3. Mandates the office of the General Directorate to register it in the books of the Municipality.
- 4. Authorizes, hereby, Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert and/or the Director general and Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs, Myrian Nadon, or their replacements, to sign, for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

2024-044 TO AUTHORIZE SALARY ADJUSTMENTS – YEAR 2024

WHEREAS the regulation bearing number 07-2018 relating to the treatment of municipal elected officials provides, in article 4, that the basic remuneration and the additional remuneration, as established in this regulation, will be indexed upwards for each fiscal year following the coming into force of this regulation, according to the Consumer Price Index published by Statistics Canada (Quebec region) for the 12-month period of the preceding year;

WHEREAS article 13 of the Employee Manual, which came into force on July 5, 2017, stipulates that an annual indexation to salary is applied from January 1 of each year, which generally follows the Price Index at consumption (CPI) of December 31 of each year, as decreed by Statistics Canada, but may be another amount established by the Municipal Council and that in the event that budgets do not allow it, the Employer could not offer indexing;

WHEREAS article 19.05 of the Policy on working conditions for employees of the Fire Safety department of the Municipality of the Township of Low provides for salary increases for which the Cost of Living Index in Quebec will serve as a guide;

WHEREAS the Director General and Clerk-Treasurer took office on February 14, 2024 and that her salary had just been revised, this is not included in the salary adjustments for the year 2024;

WHEREAS the Administration Committee, during its meeting held on March 26, 2024, recommended to the Municipal Council to authorize salary increases of 4.5% for council members and employees of the Fire Safety department and 3.3% for employees in the office and public works sectors, all retroactively to January 1, 2024.

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR GHYSLAIN ROBERT**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

- 1. States that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.

- 2. Authorizes an increase in salaries of 4.5% for council members and employees of the Fire Safety department and of 3.3% for employees in the office and public works sectors, all retroactive to January 1, 2024, at the exception of the Director General and Clerk-Treasurer whose salary was revised in 2024.
- 3. Authorizes, hereby, Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert and/or the Director general and Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs, Myrian Nadon, or their replacements, to sign, for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, requests a vote on the main resolution.

Voted FOR: Councillor Joanne Mayer, Maureen Rice, Maureen McEvoy and Luc Thivierge
Voted AGAINST: Councillor Lee Angus

At 8:03 pm, Councillor Ghyslain Robert abstains from voting as per article 5.4.1 of the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for Municipal Employees of the Municipality of township of Low, because he’s a fireman for the Municipality.

FOR : 4
AGAINST : 1
ABSTAINED : 1

Adopted by majority.

2024-045 TO RETAIN THE SERVICES OF A
TRANSLATOR – YEAR 2024

WHEREAS Mr. Raymond Martel sent, in an email dated February 23, 2024, his rates “plus taxes”, for the year 2024, namely:

- 1. \$0.25 to \$0.30 per word, depending on the urgency and complexity of the text, the average being \$0.25 per word.
- 2. \$45 minimum fee per job “plus taxes”.
- 3. Rapid language consultation service as needed (15 to 20 minutes) free of charge.
- 4. Revision service from \$40 to \$75 per hour, depending on the urgency and complexity of the text, the average being \$50 per hour.
- 5. Short translations and revisions of 125 words or less, free of charge, subject to availability.

WHEREAS the Administration Committee, during its meeting held on March 26, 2024, recommended to the Municipal Council to retain the services of Mr. Raymond Martel for the translation of certain municipal documents, for the year 2024.

PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR GHYSLAIN ROBERT
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR MAUREEN RICE

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

- 1. States that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
- 2. Retains, on the recommendation of the Administration Committee and the approval of the Director General’s office, the services of Mr. Raymond Martel for the translation of certain municipal documents, at rates of \$0.25 to \$0.30 per word “plus taxes”, depending on urgency, for the year 2024.
- 3. Authorizes, hereby, Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert and/or the Director general and Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs, Myrian Nadon, or their replacements, to sign, for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.
- 4. Mentions that the funds for this purpose will be taken from the budgetary availability for the year 2024. A purchase order will be required for the translation costs.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

**2024-046 TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT
AND THE RENTAL OF COMPUTERS AND PERIPHERALS**

WHEREAS computer and peripheral rental contracts expired on March 31, 2024;

WHEREAS the Municipality wishes to proceed with the acquisition of docking stations and monitors whose rental contract has expired, for a total amount of \$793.30 "plus taxes";

WHEREAS the rental offer received from the DL group for a period of 36 months.

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR MAUREEN MCEVOY
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

1. States that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
2. Authorizes the Director General and Clerk-Treasurer to proceed with the acquisition of docking stations and monitors whose rental contract with the DL Group has expired, for a total of \$793.30 "plus taxes ".
3. Authorizes the General Director and Clerk-Treasurer to proceed with the offer from Groupe DL and Lenovo Financial Services for the rental of 7 computers and peripherals worth \$8,271.20, as well as technician services in the amount of \$3,813.60 (estimate only – billable in real time and at the actual rate) and an eco-fee in the amount of \$4.80 for a total of \$13,900 "taxes included".
4. Mentions that the monthly rental fees are \$242.68 plus taxes for a term of 36 months as described in proposal MKI033060.
4. Authorizes, hereby, Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert and/or the Director general and Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs, Myrian Nadon, or their replacements, to sign, for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.
5. Funds for this purpose will be taken from budget item 02-13000-517.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

**2024-047 TO SUPPORT THE BRIEF OF THE FÉDÉRATION QUÉBÉCOISE
DES MUNICIPALITÉS (FQM) - BILL 48**

WHEREAS Bill 48: Bill to amend primarily the Highway Safety Code to introduce provisions relating to detection systems and other public safety provisions;

WHEREAS the FQM has submitted a brief to the Commission des transports et de l'environnement to express concerns regarding certain provisions of Bill 48 and to make recommendations;

GIVEN THAT the Council of the Municipality of the Township of Low has read the brief prepared by the FQM and shares the opinions expressed therein;

CONSIDERING THAT the Council of the Municipality of the Canton of Low wishes in particular :

1. That more autonomy be given to municipalities;
2. That accountability to the Minister be lightened;
3. That the knowledge of municipal representatives be taken into account in road safety diagnostics;
4. That financial and technical resources be readily available to municipal organizations;
5. That the provisions of Bill 48 not be implemented at the expense of municipalities.

CONSIDERING THAT section 69 of Bill 48 on off-road vehicle traffic and municipal bylaws is of particular concern to elected officials, since the bill seeks to review the process by which municipalities can authorize off-road vehicle traffic on public roads under their responsibility;

CONSIDERING THAT these changes will greatly complicate the task of municipal governments, without guaranteeing the safety of users and that by doing so, Council wishes to emphasize recommendations 5 and 6 of the brief;

CONSIDERING THAT the Council is of the opinion that safety around school zones is a priority and, once again, that Bill 48 should take into consideration the autonomy of municipalities, Facilitate the consultation process to recognize the local expertise and knowledge of municipal officials and provide ongoing funding for targeted activities.

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR LUC THIVIERGE
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

1. Notes that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
2. Supports the recommendations of the FQM submission on Bill 48.
3. Request that this support be forwarded to the Transport and Environment Commission.
4. Hereby authorizes Mayor Carole Robert and/or the Director General and Clerk-Treasurer, Myrian Nadon, or their alternates, to sign, for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.

Mayor Carole Robert, President of the assembly, asked if the adoption of this resolution was unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

**2024-048 TO RETAIN THE SERVICES OF MRS. CHANTAL
RODRIGUE AS ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR
GENERAL FROM APRIL 9, 2024**

WHEREAS the Deputy Director General and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer proceeded, on February 8, 2024, to an external posting, by public notice, for a position of Assistant to the Director General, a permanent full-time position;

WHEREAS the General Director and Clerk-Treasurer has made the selection and recommends to the Municipal Council to retain the services of Mrs. Chantal Rodrigue as Assistant to the Director General;

WHEREAS the Administration Committee, during its meeting held on March 26, 2024, recommends to the Municipal Council to retain the services of Mrs. Chantal Rodrigue as Assistant to the Director General.

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR GHYSLAIN ROBERT**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

1. States that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
2. Retains, on the recommendation of the Administration Committee and the approval of the General Management office, the services of Mrs. Chantal Rodrigue as Assistant to the Director General, permanent full-time position, as of April 9, 2024, according to the terms provided for in her employment contract.
3. Emphasizes that Mrs. Chantal Rodrigue is entitled to a probationary period of 6 months of continuous services, which will begin on April 9, 2024, and end on October 8, 2024.
4. Authorizes, hereby, Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert and/or the Director general and Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs. Myrian Nadon, or their replacements, to sign, for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

**2024-049 TO SUPPORT THE MUNICIPALITY OF
VAL-ALAIN – RETIREMENT SUBSIDIZED
DAYCARE SPACES – CPE ALLÉE D'ÉTOILES**

WHEREAS the Municipality of Val-Alain created a not-for-profit organization, the Centre de la petite enfance Allée d'étoiles, to apply for places with the Ministère de la Famille, and this request was made in conjunction with the CPE L'Envol, the project leader;

WHEREAS 29 places were confirmed by the Ministry of Families in August 2021;

WHEREAS 29 places were confirmed by the Ministry of Families in August 2021; WHEREAS in 2022, the CPE Allée d'étoiles merged with the CPE L'Envol to facilitate the progress of the file and that since that time, has been followed by exchanges of emails, meetings, visualization of plans and layoffs of the project manager and the architect, by the Director General of CPE L'Envol, Lyne Samson;

WHEREAS on January 25, 2024, the CPE L'Envol emailed the Municipality of Val-Alain the preliminary plans for the future CPE, mentioning that a virtual meeting will be scheduled for March 6;

WHEREAS on February 13, 2024, the Municipality of Val-Alain learned from the Executive Director of CPE L'Envol that the Allée d'étoiles CPE project was in danger of being abandoned;

WHEREAS on February 16, 2024, the mayor of Val-Alain met with the member for Lotbinière-Frontenac to get explanations and that the latter told him the sudden direction of the Ministry of the Family to withdraw the seats obtained in 2021 due to a cost overrun of more than \$800,000;

WHEREAS of the 29 spaces allocated to Val-Alain, 13 will remain in the Lotbinière RCM and 16 will return directly to the Ministry of Families;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Val-Alain held a press conference on February 19, 2024, denouncing the decision of the Ministry of Families and wanting to obtain the breakdown of cost overruns and that this event brought together nearly one hundred citizens;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Val-Alain has conducted interviews with various print and radio media to make a difference;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Val-Alain sent a letter to the Executive Director of CPE L'Envol and the Minister of Families, Suzanne Roy, on February 20, 2024, in order to obtain precise and clear answers on the abandonment of the Municipality of Val-Alain's project;

WHEREAS so far there has been no return from these two interveners;

WHEREAS the Acting Mayor, Mr. Matthieu Giroux, met with the Member for Lotbinière-Frontenac, Ms. Isabelle Lecours, but did not allow for a meeting with the Ministry of Families;

WHEREAS there has been no discussion with the Municipality of Val-Alain to find an alternative solution to a new construction;

WHEREAS the Minister of Families announced on February 15, 2024, the development of 1,997 new subsidized educational child care spaces;

WHEREAS these new places are considered to be stagnant in the development of certain EPC projects and have been taken over to the detriment of environments that are often devitalized;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Val-Alain is still seeking answers to its file and considers that this situation certainly affects other communities;

WHEREAS the Municipality of the Township of Low is also of the opinion that the abandonment of such a project represents economic and social issues for municipalities and cities in Quebec.

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR MAUREEN RICE
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR MAUREEN MCEVOY**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

1. Mentions that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
2. Supports the Municipality of Val-Alain in asking the provincial government to respect its commitment;
3. Requests that this resolution be forwarded, namely :
 1. To the general management of the Municipality of Val-Alain

2. To the Member of Parliament for Lotbinière-Frontenac, Ms. Isabelle Lecours;
 3. 3. To the Minister of Family Affairs, Suzanne Roy
 4. 4. To the Minister responsible for Chaudière-Appalaches, Mr. Bernard Drainville
 5. 5. To the Premier of Quebec, Mr. François Legault
 6. 6. To the leader of the Quebec Liberal Party, Marc Tanguay
 7. 7. To Québec Solidaire spokespersons Gabriel Nadeau-Dubois and Émilise Lessard-Therrien
 8. 8. To the leader of the Parti québécois, Paul St-Pierre Plamondon
4. Authorizes, hereby, Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert and/or the Director general and Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs, Myrian Nadon, or their replacements, to sign, for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

2024-050 TO HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CLSC ACCESSIBILITY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOW AND TO REQUEST AN ENHANCEMENT OF THE SERVICE OFFER

WHEREAS CISSSO is responsible for providing essential health care to the people of the Outaouais region;

WHEREAS CISSSO manages CLSCs to provide community-level care;

WHEREAS the Vallée-de-la-Gatineau is one of the least favoured RCMs in Quebec at the socio-economic level, making the need for health care accessible and close to the living environment of its citizens crucial;

WHEREAS citizens are regularly referred to clinics or CLSC outside the Municipality of the township of Low, such as Gracefield or Maniwaki, due to lack of resources in our CLSC;

WHEREAS the population of our municipality is aging and many of them cannot travel outside the Municipality, which forces them to pay \$50 to each appointment to benefit from a means of transportation;

WHEREAS some residents of the said Municipality who cannot afford to pay this amount are deprived of essential care.

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR LUC THIVIERGE
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR MAUREEN RICE**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

1. Mentions that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
2. Recognizes the importance of the services provided by the CLSC to the Municipality of the township of Low.
3. Request that the facility be opened more often and with appropriate staff to meet essential health and social services needs for the township of Low and surrounding communities.
4. Request that this resolution be sent to:
 - 1- Mister Marc Bilodeau- President and CEO of CISSS de l'Outaouais
 - 2- Mrs. Marion Carrière – Commissioner for complaints and quality of services – CISSSO
 - 3- Mrs. Claire Major – Users committee – CISSO
 - 4- CISSSO board of Directors
 - 5- Mister Christian Dubé, Minister of health
 - 6- Mister François Legault, Premier of the province of Québec
 - 7- Mister Robert Bussière, Member of the Parliament of Gatineau
 - 8- Minister responsible for Outaouais, Mister Mathieu Lacombe
 - 9- Mister Lionel Carmant, Minister responsible for social services
 - 10- Mrs. Sonia Bélanger, Minister responsible for health and seniors
 - 11- The MRCVG, to the municipalities of said MRC and neighbouring municipalities.
5. Request to receive statistics and information from CISSSO and GUTAC regarding the number of times patients from the municipalities of Low, Denholm, Lac-Sainte-Marie, Kazabazua and Danford who were referred to Gracefield or other locations due to a shortage of nurses at the Low CLSC.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

2024-051 TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL AND DEPUTY CLERK TREASURER TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ASSOCIATION DES DIRECTEURS MUNICIPAUX DU QUÉBEC (ADMQ) – ON JUNE 12, 2024 – TO DECLARE A MAXIMUM EXPENDITURE OF \$622 “TAXES NOT INCLUDED”

WHEREAS the ADMQ's 2024 Annual Congress, under the theme Implication, offers a series of trainings and workshops on legislative innovations, municipal law jurisprudence and contract management and that this event is also intended as an opportunity for professional networking.

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR GHYSLAIN ROBERT**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

1. Notes that this preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
2. Authorizes Mrs. Valérie Lemieux, deputy Director general and deputy clerk-treasurer, to attend the ADMQ annual conference from June 12 to 14, 2024, at the Québec City Convention Centre.
3. Enact a maximum expenditure of \$622 « plus taxes » for participation in the event.
4. Authorizes the Director General to arrange for the payment of registration fees and the payment of fees or reimbursement of fees incurred.
5. Hereby authorizes Mayor Carole Robert and/or the clerk-treasurer and Director General, Mrs. Myrian Nadon, or their alternate, to sign for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.
6. Estimated funding for this purpose will be taken from budget 2024.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY

2024-052 TO AUTHORIZE THE PARTICIPATION OF A COHORT OF 5 FIREFIGHTERS – THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL TRAINING ON EXTRICACTION PROVIDED BY THE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF FIREFIGHTERS OF QUÉBEC (ENPQ) – DECREE A MAXIMUM EXPENDITURE OF \$5,856.40 “PLUS TAXES” REPRESENTING \$2,440.15 “PLUS TAXES” FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF THE 5 FIREFIGHTERS FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOW AND \$3,416.25 “PLUS TAXES” TO BE RE-INVOICED TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF KAZABAZUA

WHEREAS the National School of Firefighters of Quebec (ENPQ) offers theoretical and practical training lasting 30 hours on extrication, which is aimed at any person exercising the profession of firefighter and wishing to develop the skills allowing the rescue of people trapped in an automobile following an accident;

WHEREAS the ENPQ service offer is for a maximum group of 12 participants, that the Municipality of the township of Low authorizes the participation of 5 of its firefighters and that the Municipality of Kazabazua will involve 7 of its firefighters, which will be re-invoiced by the Municipality of the township of Low in proportion to its participants.

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR LUC THIVIERGE
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

1. States that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
2. Authorizes, on the recommendation of the Deputy Chief of the Fire Safety Department and the approval of the General Director's office, the participation of a cohort of 5 firefighters in theoretical and practical training on extrication, provided by the ENPQ.
3. Decrees a maximum expenditure in the amount of \$5,856.40 "plus taxes" representing \$2,440.15 "plus taxes" for the participation of the 5 firefighters from the township of Low and \$3,416.25 "plus taxes" to be re-invoiced to the Municipality of Kazabazua.
4. Authorizes the General Director's office to do what is necessary to pay for registration and invoice the Municipality of Kazabazua in proportion to its participants.
5. Authorizes, hereby, Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert and/or the Director general and Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs, Myrian Nadon, or their replacements, to sign, for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.
6. The funds estimated for this purpose will be taken from budget item 02-22000-454.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

At 8:24 pm, Councillor Maureen Rice abstains from voting as per article 5.4.1 of the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for Municipal Employees of the Municipality of township of Low, because she's a firefighter for the Municipality.

Adopted by majority.

2024-053 TO AUTHORIZE TWO EMPLOYEES FROM THE FIRE SAFETY DEPARTMENT TO ATTEND THE WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP SEMINAR: BEYOND STEREOTYPES PRESENTED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE AND CIVIL SAFETY MANAGERS OF QUÉBEC (AGSICQ) – APRIL 23 AND 24, 2024 – DECREE A MAXIMUM EXPENDITURE OF \$350 "PLUS TAXES"

WHEREAS on April 23 and 24, 2024, women working in fire departments will meet at the Hôtel-Museum First Nations, for the first seminar intended exclusively for them and that this event will be an opportunity for them to be inspired by passionate leaders, to develop their management skills, to exchange with their peers, to create lasting bonds and to shine the spotlight on the women who work daily to make our environments safer.

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR GHYSLAIN ROBERT
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

1. States that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
2. Authorizes two employees of the Fire Safety department with at least Firefighter training 1 or 3 years of service in the Fire Safety department of the Municipality of the canton of Low to attend the AGSICQ seminar, entitled Women's Leadership: Beyond Stereotypes, on April 23 and 24, 2024, at the Hôtel-Museum First Nations in Wendake.
3. Decrees a maximum expenditure of \$350 "plus taxes" for participation in the event.
4. Authorizes the General Director's office to take the necessary steps to pay for registration and make payments of inherent fees or reimbursement for costs incurred.
5. Authorizes, hereby, Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert and/or the General Director and Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs. Myrian Nadon, or their replacements, to sign, for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.
6. The funds estimated for this purpose will be taken from the 2024 budget.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

At 8:26 pm, Councillor Maureen Rice abstains from voting as per article 5.4.1 of the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for Municipal Employees of the Municipality of township of Low, because she's a woman firefighter for the Municipality.

Adopted by majority.

PUBLIC WORKS

2024-054 SUBMIT A REQUEST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT - DEFICIT IN FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING IN RELATION TO POPULATION GROWTH

WHEREAS Canada is currently experiencing record demographic growth, with 1.25 million people newly arrived in the country in the last year alone;

WHEREAS, according to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), we must build at least 3.5 million additional housing units by 2030 and that municipalities must improve or provide the infrastructure to absorb this growth;

WHEREAS, according to FCM estimates, the cost of the required municipal infrastructure amounts to an average of \$107,000 per dwelling;

WHEREAS, according to Statistics Canada, the cost associated with the rehabilitation of existing municipal infrastructure reaches approximately \$170 billion;

WHEREAS inflation in the non-residential construction sector has reached 29% since the end of 2020 and that municipalities are facing an increase in the cost of infrastructure projects which is not only skyrocketing, but disproportionate compared to the increase in income;

WHEREAS, in recent years, unlike federal and provincial revenues, municipal tax revenues have not kept pace with inflation, economic growth, or demographic growth;

WHEREAS municipalities are facing an insufficient federal funding for infrastructure at a time when the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program has ended, where the Canada Community Futures Fund is being renegotiated, and where the Permanent Public Transit Fund will not be launched until 2026;

WHEREAS the Canada Community Futures Fund, formerly the Gas Tax Fund, annually pays more than \$2.4 billion in capital directly to municipalities through a reliable allocation mechanism, and that municipalities, small or large, rely on this funding to meet their commitments to the population by building and maintaining essential public infrastructure (drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, roads, public transportation, community facilities, cultural and recreational, etc.).

**PROPOSED BY MONSIEUR LE CONSEILLER GHYSLAIN ROBERT
SUPPORTED BY MONSIEUR LE CONSEILLER LUC THIVIERGE**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

1. States that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
2. Asks the federal government to work with municipalities and signatories to the agreement so that the Canada Community Futures Fund remains a

direct, reliable and sustainable source of revenue for local infrastructure priorities.

- 3. Asks the federal government to commit to integrating into the 2024 budget a new wave of infrastructure programs which includes in particular a new drinking water and wastewater infrastructure program, and to increase the Fund disaster mitigation and adaptation.
- 4. Requests that the government conclude agreements with provincial governments in the coming weeks for the renewal of programs such as this of the Gas Tax and the Quebec contribution, commonly known as TECQ, without any new conditions and by relaxing the rules to allow the realization of projects identified by municipalities.
- 5. Requests that the federal government bring together provinces, territories and municipalities to negotiate a “municipal growth framework” that modernizes municipal financing and promotes the country's long-term growth.
- 6. Asks that this resolution be transmitted to the Minister to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Canada, the Honorable Chrystia Freeland, to the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada, the Honorable Sean Fraser, to the Minister of Transport of Canada and political lieutenant for Quebec, the Honorable Pablo Rodriguez, to the Minister of Finance of Quebec, Mr. Éric Girard, to the Minister of Municipal Affairs of Quebec, Ms. Andrée Laforest, to the federal and Quebec deputies of our territory, to the president of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Mr. Scott Pearce and to the president of the FQM, Mr. Jacques Demers.
- 7. Authorizes, hereby, Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert and/or the Director general and Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs, Myrian Nadon, or their replacements, to sign, for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

NOTICE OF MOTION

I, Luc Thivierge, undersigned, councillor of the electoral seat number4, at the Municipality of the township of Low, give notice of the presentation of a draft by-law no. 2024-0XX concerning drinking water and submit the said draft regulations at the regular meeting of April 2, 2024.

The adoption of the regulations will be carried out at a later meeting.

In accordance with article 445 of the Municipal Code of Quebec, the Deputy Director General and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer informs citizens that the purpose of this by-law is to govern the use of drinking water in order to preserve the quality and quantity of the resource.

(s) _____

Councillor Luc Thivierge

URBAN PLANNING

2024-055 TO TRANSMIT A MUNICIPAL RECOMMENDATION TO THE QUEBEC AGRICULTURAL TERRITORY PROTECTION COMMISSION (CPTAQ) - LOTS 5 163 945, 5 163 344 AND 5 162 349 AT THE CADASTRE OF QUÉBEC

WHEREAS the Municipality of the Township of Low has received a request from the Commission for the Protection of Agricultural Territory of Quebec (CPTAQ), for allowing use for purposes other than agriculture on lots 5 163 945, 5 163 344 and 5 162 349 in the Cadastre of Quebec;

WHEREAS in accordance with the Law on the protection of land and agricultural activities, the Municipality of the Township of Low must issue a reasoned recommendation based on the decision criteria provided for in article 62 of the said law, which the said Municipality must take into account with regard to the lot, the environment, the agricultural activities, the availability of other locations, the compliance of the request with the provisions of the zoning by-law and, where applicable, the interim control measures. If the request concerns the establishment of a new use for purposes other than agriculture, the recommendation must also include an indication of the existence of suitable space available elsewhere in the Municipality and outside the agricultural zone.

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR MAUREEN RICE
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

1. States that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
2. Transmits, on the recommendation of the Municipal Inspector and the approval of the Director General's office, a favorable recommendation regarding the application to the Commission for the Protection of Agricultural Territory of Quebec (CPTAQ), for use for purposes other than agriculture on lots 5 163 945, 5 163 344 and 5 162 349 in the Quebec Cadastre.
3. Authorizes, hereby, Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert and/or the Director general and Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs, Myrian Nadon, or their replacements, to sign, for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

2024-056 TO REQUEST AN EXTENSION - MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES MUNICIPALES ET DE L'HABITATION (MAMH) - REVISION OF THE PLAN AND URBAN PLANNING REGULATIONS - ARTICLE 59 OF THE LAND USE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT

WHEREAS the Revised Land Use and Development Plan (SAD) of the MRC de la Vallée-de-la-Gatineau came into force on November 15, 2021, i.e. the day of notification by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Habitation du Québec, to the effect that this document respects government guidelines in terms of land use planning;

WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of section 59 of the Land Use Planning and Development Act, the local municipalities of the regional county municipality have a period of two years, following the coming into force of the SAD, to adopt a new urban planning plan as well as new concordant urban planning regulations;

WHEREAS the Municipality of the township of Low adopted, during a regular meeting of its Municipal Council, held on November 6, 2023, the resolution bearing number 2023-174, for the purpose of requesting an extension of deadline from the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation (MAMH) for the overhaul of the Urban Planning Plan and regulations and that the said ministry has granted a deadline of March 1, 2024;

WHEREAS the turnover rate of staff involved in the process of revising the Urban Planning Plan and regulations has caused the process of revising said regulations to be delayed;

WHEREAS the Municipality of the canton of Low was not able to complete the revision of its urban planning plan and regulations before March 1, 2024, and therefore, it is asking the MAMH to obtain additional time.

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR MAUREEN MCEVOY**

FOR THESE REASONS, this Council:

- 1. States that the preamble is an integral part of this resolution.
- 2. Requests the ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation (MAMH) to grant additional time to the Municipality of the township of Low, until November 15, 2024 in order to complete the revision of the Plan and urban planning regulations, to hold public consultations and to adopt its Plan and its urban planning regulations in the concordance exercise following the adoption of the planning and development plan of the MRC de la Vallée de la-Gatineau.
- 3. Authorizes, hereby, Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert and/or the Director general and Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs, Myrian Nadon, or their replacements, to sign, for and on behalf of the Municipality of the Township of Low, all documents giving effect to this resolution.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

RECREATION, CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION

CORRESPONDENCE, DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION

--- SECOND QUESTION PERIOD

The question period begins **at 8:13 p.m.** and ends at 8:36 p.m.

2024-057 TO ACCEPT THE CLOSING OF THE SESSION

**PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR GHYSLAIN ROBERT
SUPPORTED BY COUNCILLOR JOANNE MAYER**

FOR THESE REASONS, this meeting is adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Mrs. Mayor Carole Robert, president of the meeting, asks if the adoption of this resolution is unanimous.

Adopted unanimously.

Valérie Lemieux
Deputy Director General
and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

Carole Robert
Mayor