MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTMOUNT HELD AT CITY HALL ON FEBRUARY 20, 2017 AT 4:14 P.M. AT WHICH WERE PRESENT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Nicole Forbes</td>
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<td>Mayor</td>
<td>Peter F. Trent</td>
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<td>Councillors</td>
<td>Philip A. Cutler, Rosalind Davis, Victor M. Drury, Cynthia Lulham, Patrick Martin, Theodora Samiotis, Christina Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Sean Michael Deegan, Director General Martin St-Jean, Director of Legal Services and City Clerk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recording Secretary</td>
<td>Andrew Brownstein</td>
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NOTE TO THE READER:

The comments, opinions and any consensus views reflected herein are those of the participants in their individual capacity. As such, they are not binding upon the City or the administration.

The City and its administration are only bound by decisions that are authorized by the Municipal Council in the course of a public meeting by way of a resolution or a by-law.

GENERAL COMMITTEE AGENDA

Adoption of the General Committee Agenda of February 20, 2017

It was agreed that the Agenda of the February 20, 2017 meeting of the General Committee of Council be adopted, with the addition of the following items under New Business:

- Vendôme Project (Councillor Smith); and
- Organic Farmers’ Market (Councillor Drury).

Confirmation of Minutes of the Meeting of General Committee Held on February 6, 2017

The Minutes of the General Committee of Council’s meeting held on February 6, 2017 were adopted with corrections. Given Councillor Martin’s absence from the February 6, 2017 meeting, he abstained from voting on the Minutes’ adoption.
Business arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of General Committee Held on February 6, 2017

Confidential items were discussed.

Further to Councillor Samiotis’ inquiry, the Director General informed Council that Bell Canada’s proposed construction of a new fibre optic network throughout the City will be discussed at an upcoming General Committee meeting, as Bell Canada is not yet ready to present its detailed proposal.

Confidential items were discussed.

Councillor Lulham joined the meeting at 4:46 p.m.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Mr. Benoit Hurtubise, Assistant Director General and Director of Hydro Westmount, and Mr. Claude Vallières, Division Head – I.T., joined the meeting at 4:48 p.m.

Mr. Vallières presented the possibility of installing one emergency telephone as a pilot project. He explained that the City is looking into similar models to those offered by CodeBlue, also running on solar energy and available at a more reasonable price. He informed Council that he has been discussing potential locations for the prospective emergency telephone with Mr. Greg McBain, Director of Public Security. He estimated that the emergency telephone could be installed in June.

Council Lulham explained that the model selected should be visible, but not obtrusive. She emphasized the importance of compiling detailed statistics on the telephone’s use throughout the pilot project if said project is pursued. She recommended placing the prospective emergency telephone in King George Park given the four-year infrastructure project scheduled for Westmount Park.

CAPITAL WORKS MANAGEMENT APPLICATION

Mr. Vallières briefed Council on the program currently being launched to track the progress of capital works projects and expenditures. Mr. Vallières presented said data for 2017, as it appears on the program. He explained that tracking these projects’ progress allows the City to improve the accuracy with which it establishes timeframes for the execution of future projects.

The Director General explained that this program’s tracking of expenditures will be particularly helpful to the Finance department. The Assistant Director General informed Council that a cancelled project can easily be removed and the funds transferred to another project with the use of this program.
Mr. Vallières informed Council that the program is accessible on the intranet in City Hall.

Further to the Mayor’s inquiry, Mr. Vallières explained that the figures indicated as the budgeted amount signifies the amount approved by Council, including the applicable taxes, but not including the credits.

The Mayor recommended integrating a more detailed description and numbering of the projects listed. The Assistant Director General explained that the page presented constitutes the condensed version, and a detailed spreadsheet can be obtained through the program as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m., at which point, Council held its Special Sitting. The meeting was reconvened at 5:06 p.m.

GPS PILOT PROJECT FOR PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Vallières briefed Council on the pilot project for the installation of GPS in Public Works' vehicles. Beginning this month, 11 vehicles will be equipped with GPS. This will allow for said vehicles to be located and for their routes to be recorded. Accordingly, this will allow for precise tracking of snow removal, the salting of roads, and garbage and recycling pickup. Additionally, a magnetic card will be installed to start the vehicle and turn off the motor after a certain period of idling.

Mr. Vallières explained that while the initial cost of the material and its installation if the ultimate project is pursued, which would constitute the system’s installation on roughly 70 Public Works vehicles, would amount to roughly $50,000, the annual operational cost of roughly $21,000 ($25/unit/month) would likely be entirely offset by the savings on gasoline and salt. Mr. Vallières informed Council that the administration will report to Council on the pilot project’s outcome, providing a recommendation as to whether the ultimate project should be pursued, in July.

Further to Councillor Smith’s inquiry, Mr. Vallières informed Council that the municipality of Labelle also uses this system.

Mr. Vallières pointed out that in addition to the system’s ability to turn off the vehicle’s motor when idling, in the case of a stolen vehicle, the City can turn off the motor remotely.

Councillor Samiotis expressed her approval of the feature that allows for the vehicle’s motor to be turned off automatically when idling.

The Director General noted the system’s potential for better supervision of employees.

Councillor Drury inquired as to whether consideration has been given to the installation of this system on Public Security vehicles. Mr. Vallières responded that Director McBain does not believe the system’s installation on Public Security vehicles to be worth it at this stage, but that it could potentially be pursued in the future.
PARKING METER STATISTICS

Mr. Vallières presented the statistics on the revenue from parking meters since the new system’s installation. He explained that as can be expected, said revenue was lower during the holiday season and in the following weeks. He pointed out that the revenue indicated for February 2017 is the revenue received to date, and therefore is significantly lower than the previous months' as it does not constitute a full month’s revenue.

Councillor Cutler reported that a resident informed him that he received a parking ticket after having paid for parking in the incorrect zone. Councillor Cutler referred to the City’s decision not to proceed in this manner. Mr. Vallières reported that to his knowledge, the City is not ticketing motorists who have paid for parking in the incorrect zone.

Mr. Vallières demonstrated the continually decreasing trend of payments being made in cash. He informed Council that there have been nearly 900,000 transactions on the new system since May 2, 2016, and there are now more than 20,000 users who have the application on their mobile phones.

Councillor Drury inquired as to whether revenue from parking meters has increased while revenue from parking infractions has decreased, as had been hypothesized. Mr. Vallières informed Council that revenue from parking meters has remained roughly the same, largely due to the modification of the beginning of the paid parking period to 9:00 a.m. in the areas in which it had began at 8:00 a.m. under the former system. Regarding the revenue from parking infractions, Mr. Vallières informed Council that he will obtain this information from Director McBain.

Mr. Vallières left the meeting at 5:27 p.m.

GREENHOUSES UPDATE

The Mayor informed Council that a full report on this item will be given at the upcoming March 6th General Committee meeting.

TRAFFIC LIGHTS PROGRESSION ON SHERBROOKE AND SAINTE-CATHERINE STREETS – UPDATE

The Assistant Director General outlined the timeline for the replacement of the traffic light controllers on Sainte-Catherine Street. Tenders will open the following week, and the contract will ideally be awarded at the March Regular Sitting. The work is to be completed by the end of the summer, with the specific timeline to be determined once the contract is awarded.

The Assistant Director General explained that further to Stantec’s traffic study, the controllers will be set to allow for motorists to commute at a rate of 40km/h from Atwater Avenue to Clarke Avenue without reaching a red light.
Councillor Cutler recommended that the controllers be equipped with adaptive technology, which allows for traffic lights to stay green on the main street when there are no vehicles waiting at the intersection on the side streets, and then catch up on the following cycle so as to remain on the same sequence as the other traffic lights. The Assistant Director General confirmed that the City will be purchasing controllers that have adaptive technology. However, he explained that the controllers will be set on a sequence without the use of adaptive control in order to avoid speeding. Councillor Lulham noted that Stantec recommended the controllers be set on a sequence for this reason. She noted that the new system’s sequence and its use of the adaptive technology can be controlled remotely.

In order to carry out the installation of the new controllers, the Assistant Director General explained that traffic may be briefly impeded, but there will be no extended road closures.

Councillor Cutler agreed that adaptive traffic lights can lead to speeding on a main street like Sainte-Catherine Street. However, he explained that at certain quiet intersections with traffic lights, adaptive control should be used. Specifically, he recommended the installation of an adaptive traffic light at the intersection of Mount Pleasant Avenue and Cedar Avenue. He informed Council that adaptive traffic control is used in many cities in Canada and the United States.

The Assistant Director General reported that the new controllers will be installed from Atwater Avenue to Clarke Avenue. Further to Councillor Samiotis’ inquiry, the Assistant Director General informed Council that he will look into whether the controllers at the intersection of Clarke Avenue and Sainte-Catherine Street are being replaced as well and report back to Council.

As for the replacement of the traffic light controllers on Sherbrooke Street, the Assistant Director General informed Council that the STM is responsible for this project. He explained that given the size of this project, further to a call for tenders to be made in March, the contract will only be awarded in August or September. Councillor Smith recommended that the City establish a communication plan for this project.

The Assistant Director General reported that the STM has carried out a synchronization study and has provided the City with its plans.

Councillor Martin recommended that the City ensure it will be able to control the pedestrian signals on the traffic lights on Sherbrooke Street. He explained that at some intersections, only one-way traffic is permitted on the side street. Accordingly, while the traffic lights permit vehicular traffic to flow in this direction, the pedestrian signals must indicate that pedestrians are allowed to cross Sherbrooke Street (north-south) in both directions.

**ONGOING ITEM: MTQ – TURCOT**

**Sound Barrier**

The Assistant Director General informed Council that the MTQ is to send the City their detailed diagrams, demonstrating the new highway’s height in relation to the
initially-proposed height, by February 24th. He will then report to Council on the matter at the March 6th General Committee meeting.

The Mayor recommended establishing a course of action as soon as possible rather than waiting for the next General Committee meeting.

The Mayor reiterated his request for a legal opinion as to the possible recourses available to the City against KPH. He pointed out that the MTQ had accepted the modified design in December and the City was only recently made aware of it.

Councillor Lulham expressed her doubts that the MTQ will integrate a sound barrier into the new highway after its construction is completed. She explained that this construction would nullify the warranty on the new highway.

The Assistant Director General reported that the MTQ had initially informed the City that the western portion of the new highway would be 6m lower than its current height, levelling out by Greene Avenue. Now, the MTQ has indicated that the western portion will only be 2m lower than its current height, levelling out by Greene Avenue.

Councillor Samiotis referred to some residents’ concerns over having a 20-foot wall as a sound barrier. She questioned whether the sound barrier would in fact need to be that tall. Councillor Lulham explained that a shorter sound barrier will mitigate the noise significantly less. The Mayor recommended carrying out a poll of the residents in the area as soon as possible in order to determine their favourability to the installation of a sound barrier, their preferred configuration, and whether they prefer that the City pursue an alternative sound-mitigating measure such as the installation of triple-glazed windows.

Confidential items were discussed.

Mr. Flies joined the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

Confidential items were discussed.

Councillor Drury inquired as to how the City should poll the residents in the area. The Mayor recommended polling roughly a couple thousand residents via telephone. He emphasized the importance of proceeding with a poll, noting that further to a poll in the 1990s, a majority of the residents in the area were opposed to the construction of a sound barrier because of its visual impact.

➢ **It was agreed** that the Mayor and the Councillors whose wards are concerned by the matter, namely Councillor Smith, Councillor Lulham, and Councillor Samiotis, will meet to establish the City’s plan of action.

**NEW BUSINESS: VENDÔME PROJECT**

The Assistant Director General presented the STM’s project to improve the underground network between the MUHC and Vendôme metro station. He informed Council that the
STM presented the project to the TAC the previous week in terms of the impact it will have on the City. He pointed out that the project itself is situated outside of Westmount. He reported that the STM will be holding a public consultation meeting on February 21st.

The Assistant Director General explained that the STM is requesting access to the future construction site from Sainte-Catherine Street. Councillor Lulham explained that this would require the removal of a portion of the New Jersey median in order for trucks coming from the east to turn left to access the construction site. She informed Council their request is for a traffic light to be installed to only allow trucks to turn into the construction site during work hours. She explained that the STM has chosen for access to be from Sainte-Catherine Street rather than from De Maisonneuve Boulevard given the presence of pedestrians, cyclists, and buses on the latter.

Confidential items were discussed.

Councillor Smith emphasized that the truck route for the construction of this project must be established in careful consideration of the residential side streets. She pointed out that at a public meeting held a while ago in relation to the potential Provigo development at this corner, the residents from the area requested that the City guarantee it will not allow for a portion of the barrier to be removed.

Councillor Lulham explained that while it is not an ideal situation, the removal of a portion of the barrier may be the safest and least obtrusive option for the circulation of trucks during the construction period. The Assistant Director General presented the STM’s proposed truck route for the construction period.

Councillor Smith, Councillor Davis, and Councillor Lulham confirmed that they will attend the STM’s public meeting to be held on February 21st. Councillor Smith requested that a member of the administration attend as well, suggesting Mr. Jonathan Auger, Traffic Technician – Public Works.

**BILL 122 – ITS IMPACT ON THE PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC NOTICES**

Mme St-Jean explained that as part of the omnibus Bill 122, the City will be permitted to adopt a by-law that sets out the terms governing the publication of its public notices. Said by-law would have to prescribe the publication of public notices on the internet and could include publication by other means as well. Mme St-Jean recommended adopting said by-law when Bill 122 comes into effect, indicating that the City will be publishing its public notices on its website in both English and French. In order for the information to reach as many residents as possible, Mme St-Jean recommended establishing a policy of distributing copies of the notices via email to a list of subscribers, as well as maintaining the practice of publishing the notices in the *Westmount Independent*. He explained that as the notices would be published in both languages on the City’s website, they could be published only in English in the newspaper, which would be less costly.

The Mayor recommended continuing to publish all public notices in both languages in the local newspaper. He emphasized the importance of making every effort to communicate with the public and that francophone Westmounters read the local paper, too. Accordingly,
the Mayor recommended that Council adopt a policy at an upcoming Regular Sitting by which the City will continue to publish bilingual notices in the local newspaper, defining local as a newspaper aimed at a Westmount readership only.

Councillor Lulham noted Bill 122’s provisions on the deterioration of private property and the situations in which the City can expropriate a building that is not being maintained.

Confidential items were discussed.

**GLEN VIADUCT- THE WESTMOUNT LOCAL HERITAGE COUNCIL – OPINION**

Mr. Flies informed Council of the Westmount Local Heritage Council’s (LHC) recommendation to adopt the draft by-law presented at the January 25th public meeting, which would designate the Glen Viaduct as a heritage immovable, with the inclusion of a mention that the Viaduct is “also known as the ‘Glen Arch’.” With Council’s preliminary approval, said by-law will be presented to Council for its consideration and prospective adoption at the March 6th Regular Sitting.

Mr. Flies reported that the LHC also recommends creating a larger heritage site around the Viaduct, which would be a longer process as it would require an amendment to the planning programme. Mr. Flies relayed the LHC’s recommendation for the City to work with the WMA in order to educate residents as to the site’s cultural value.

The Mayor expressed his opposition to the inclusion of the term “Glen Arch,” as an arch is essentially a two-dimensional form without abutments. Moreover, the term was rarely used in English prior to 2013 when this file was made public, at which time it was known as the “Glen Tunnel” or the “Glen Bridge.” The Mayor explained that these two terms are still more commonly used by residents in English than the “Glen Arch.” This is why he had suggested using the term viaduct for its technical description, a term which encompasses a greater physical volume and is the same term in French and in English. Councillor Lulham agreed, pointing out that many residents refer to the structure as the “Glen Tunnel.”

Councillor Samiotis expressed her satisfaction with the January 25th public meeting, as residents played a direct role in the naming of the site. She recommended referring to the structure as the “‘Glen Viaduct’, also known as the ‘Glen Tunnel’ and the ‘Glen Arch’.”

Councillor Samiotis informed Council that Mr. David Hanna, a member of the LHC, will be of particular assistance throughout the study on the houses of worship, namely in terms of the aspect dealing with their accessory uses given his work with the Conseil du patrimoine religieux du Québec.

Mr. Flies informed Council that the study on the houses of worship is the LHC’s next priority.

Confidential items were discussed.

In relation to the element of the study regarding the accessory uses of the houses of worship, Mr. Flies explained that as each house of worship has different accessory uses
depending on their location and denomination, this analysis will need to be carried out on a case-by-case basis rather than attempting to establish a uniform list of accessory uses for all of the houses of worship. He explained that as this will be a lengthy process, it must proceed without delay.

Councillor Samiotis informed Council that Mr. Hanna will be providing the City with a few examples of similar studies on houses of worship carried out in other municipalities.

➢ It was agreed that the draft “By-law to Recognize the Glen Viaduct as a Heritage Immovable” will be submitted to Council for its formal consideration and prospective adoption at the March 6th Regular Sitting.

Mr. Flies left the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

A PORTRAIT OF THE CITY OF WESTMOUNT

The Mayor presented “A Portrait of the City of Westmount,” a local photographer’s book of photographs of various areas of the City throughout the seasons. The local photographer has offered to donate her work to the City in order for it to publish the book and distribute it at a reasonable cost.

Confidential items were discussed.

Councillor Lulham expressed her preference for the title “A Portrait of the City of Westmount/Un Portrait de la Ville de Westmount,” as opposed to “A Family Album/Un Album de famille.” The Mayor agreed.

Councillor Drury recommended that the photograph used on the back cover, which shows a street lined with many trees with changing colours during the fall, be used for the front cover. The Director General took note of Councillor Drury’s recommendation.

Councillor Davis drew Council’s attention to a photograph of the planting arrangement near Victoria Hall, unfortunately taken at a time when it was subtly vandalized, as well as to several photographs in which individuals can be identified. In relation to the latter, Mme St-Jean advised that these photographs be removed or the consent of the identifiable individuals be sought.

➢ It was agreed that the photograph of the vandalized planting arrangement and the photographs in which individuals can be identified, unless their consent is sought and obtained, will be removed from “A Portrait of the City of Westmount.”

VARIOUS REPORTS INCLUDED ON THE CITY WEBSITE

The Director General explained that various local groups frequently request copies of reports commissioned by the City. Rather than distributing these reports only to groups that request them, as the practice for the future, he recommended establishing a policy by
which the administration will be instructed as to which reports it is to publish on the City’s website.

The Mayor explained that information should not be made semi-public. As a rule, all information should be available to the public as a whole, and therefore on a publicly accessible medium like the City’s website, and by exception, when necessary, certain information should remain confidential.

The Assistant Director General pointed out that many reports indicate projected costs for the projects they analyze. He explained that as the City seeks bids for these projects after the reports are completed, all estimated costs should be removed before the reports are made public.

Councillor Cutler recommended only making reports publicly available once they are final.

Councillor Samiotis agreed that as all a rule, all reports should be public, with the exception of what must remain confidential, and that what is made public, is made publicly accessible to all through the City’s website.

- **It was agreed** that Mme St-Jean will provide Council with a draft checklist for the administration to assess whether a report is to be posted on the City’s website and what information is to be included. The report must be final in order to be made publicly available.

COUNCIL OBJECTIVES FOLLOW UP: URBAN PLANNING

Confidential items were discussed.

The Assistant Director General left the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

Confidential items were discussed.

NEW BUSINESS: ORGANIC FARMERS’ MARKET

Councillor Drury sought Council’s opinion on the possibility of hosting an organic farmers’ market. He relayed the proposal put forward by L’Autre choix, an organic grocery store located on Victoria Avenue. As a one-year pilot project, a farmers’ market could be established with ten stalls, to be held on the first or third Thursday of the month, from May to October. The location is to be determined. L’Autre choix has proposed that the City support the initiative in its first year and has estimated the required funding at $8,000. Councillor Drury pointed out that many residents already purchase organic food once a week during the summer in Westmount Park.
Councillor Lulham expressed her hesitation for the City to fund this project, particularly in light of its potential to disadvantage existing merchants. She recommended obtaining Mr. Pierre Boudreault’s study on the City’s commercial areas prior to initiating this type of project, and therefore considering it for next year.

Councillor Cutler expressed his support for the initiative, referring to the success of a similar market organized on Prince Arthur Street and Saint Laurent Street during the holiday season.

Councillor Smith expressed her support for the initiative. However, she expressed her opposition to the City providing funding.

Councillor Davis expressed her support for the initiative, suggesting that the market operate on Tuesdays or Wednesdays in order for more residents to purchase their groceries at the market, as many residents leave town on the weekends in the summer.

The Mayor expressed his support for the initiative. Noting the taxes imposed on the City’s existing merchants, he expressed his opposition to the City providing funding.

Councillor Samiotis recommended waiting for Mr. Boudreault’s study in order to ensure that the City prioritizes its existing merchants’ interests. If a pilot project is initiated this year, she expressed her opposition to the City providing funding.

Confidential items were discussed.

**ABSENCES**

Council members were requested to submit their absence sheets to the City Clerk.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.