

PUBLIC

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTMOUNT HELD AT CITY HALL ON FEBRUARY 1, 2016 AT 5:05 P.M. AT WHICH WERE PRESENT:

Chair	Philip A. Cutler
Mayor	Peter F. Trent
Councillors	Rosalind Davis Victor M. Drury Nicole Forbes Cynthia Lulham Patrick Martin Christina Smith Theodora Samiotis
Administration	Sean Michael Deegan, Director General Martin St-Jean, Director of Legal Services and City Clerk
Recording Secretary	Andrew Brownstein

GENERAL COMMITTEE AGENDA

Adoption of the General Committee Agenda of February 1, 2016

It was agreed that the Agenda of the February 1, 2016 meeting of the General Committee of Council be adopted, with the addition of the following items under New Business:

- Winter Carnival (Councillor Davis); and
- St-Léon School (Councillor Davis).

Confirmation of Minutes of the Meeting of General Committee Held on January 11, 2016

The Minutes of the General Committee of Council's meeting held on January 11, 2016 were adopted with corrections.

Business arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of General Committee Held on January 11, 2016

Director General Deegan informed Council that Director Raggo will present an update on the status of the greenhouses to the General Committee at its upcoming February 15th meeting.

Items from Council Agenda to be discussed in General Committee

Mayor Trent pointed out a correction to be made to the January 11, 2016 Regular Sitting of Council minutes. Specifically, the City increased its average yearly investment in Hydro Westmount by 60% from the 2002-2009 period to the 2010-2015 period, as opposed to the 6% increase indicated on the draft minutes.

Councillor Samiotis explained that the by-laws being presented under Items 25.2, 25.3, 25.4, and 25.5 each deal with an aspect of the *Schéma d'aménagement* that must be integrated into the City's by-laws. She will present two of the items and Councillor Lulham will present the other two at that night's Regular Sitting.

M^e St-Jean distributed a copy of the resolution that will be presented under Item 28, "New Business." This draft resolution concerns Council's decision to authorize an expenditure of \$2,000 to cover the travel, accommodation, and expenses for Councillor Lulham's participation at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' 2016 Sustainable Cities Conference.

Council Question Period Follow-up

The Director General reported that the CodeRED emergency messaging system is now delivering messages in both English and French. Councillor Martin inquired as to whether the CodeRED user can select a preferred language. Councillor Cutler noted that the system's technology is somewhat limited. The Director General responded that he will look into the matter. Councillor Smith pointed out that as the messages appear to be sent from a 1-800 number, they are often ignored. The Director General responded that he will determine whether this can be changed.

Director General Deegan informed Council that the search engine for the City's by-laws is now available on its website.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

LANDSCAPING / REFORESTATION OF SUMMIT CIRCLE

Copies of the following documentation were distributed:

- Memorandum from Sean Michael Deegan, Director General, to the General Committee of Council, dated January 27, 2016;
- Memorandum from Jayme Gerbrandt, Horticulture and Arboriculture Inspector, and Elisa Gaetano, Assistant director – Engineering and Infrastructure, to Sean Michael Deegan, Director General, dated January 25, 2016;
- Visual of existing conditions of Summit Circle, prepared by Landscaping Architects, Fauteux and Associates; and
- Visual of the new foot path and reforestation of Summit Circle, prepared by Landscaping Architects, Fauteux and Associates.

Ms. Elisa Gaetano, Assistant Director - Public Works Engineering and Infrastructure, joined the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Ms. Gaetano outlined the landscaping and reforestation project for the closed-off portion of Summit Circle. She explained that the area will be made more pedestrian-friendly. The paved road will be replaced with a porous gravel surface, which will facilitate the maintenance and repair of the City of Montreal's water mains located beneath the roadway, and bollard lights will be installed. A stone wall will also be added facing the Mount Royal summit.

Ms. Gaetano informed Council that the footpath connecting Ridgewood Avenue to Summit Circle, which is currently quite steep at certain points, will be regraded.

Ms. Gaetano reported that in order to avoid any issues with invasive species, only indigenous trees, shrubs, and grasses will be planted.

She informed Council that further to the City's submission of the project to the *Ministère de la Culture*, the *Ministère* has agreed to fund 50% of the project's cost, \$375,000 specifically, as per the projected \$750,000 budget submitted. Ms. Gaetano noted that the City is awaiting the *Ministère's* formal confirmation of its decision.

Councillor Lulham explained that the bollard lights, as well as unlit bollards with reflective tape denoting the presence of the pathway, were selected in order to minimize unnecessary light pollution.

Councillor Lulham informed Council that the path is being moved towards Summit Woods. She explained that the path will be lined with prairie grass and shrubs, creating an open-concept landscape, and will wind slightly in order to add to the pedestrian character. She added that the stone wall facing the Mount Royal summit will be modest in size and will direct pedestrians to stop and appreciate the view.

Councillor Martin questioned whether there will be sufficient lighting along the path, further to the concerns that have been expressed to him regarding female residents feeling unsafe after dark in Summit Woods. Councillor Lulham responded that the bollard lights will provide sufficient lighting to ensure that pedestrians feel safe.

Councillor Forbes inquired as to whether a curfew will apply to the pathway. Councillor Lulham responded affirmatively, explaining that as the pathway will be part of Summit Woods, the same curfew will apply.

Mayor Trent presented a draft letter that will be sent to residents informing them of the landscaping and reforestation project. He explained that while the project will cost \$400,000, the City will ultimately save money as the area will conclusively be converted from roadway to greenspace, the former costing much more to rebuild, and requiring more costly maintenance. The Mayor noted that this financial benefit should be specified in the communications letter.

The Mayor informed Council that he will request that Ms. Anne Renaud determine the difference in cost between a two-page letter and a four-page letter, in order to provide residents with more information on the project. Councillor Lulham noted that in either case, a link to the City's website should be included as a source for more information.

Councillor Lulham recommended that the City address the question of the pathway's lighting by inviting the *Westmount Independent* to publish an article on the project. This will allow the City to assure residents on both sides of the issue that the specific lighting was chosen in order to minimize light pollution and maximize safety. She specified that prior to proceeding with this communications initiative, the City should obtain the *Ministère's* formal confirmation of its decision to subsidize the project at 50%.

Councillor Davis inquired as to whether Montreal's *Parcours découverte* will connect with this new pathway. Councillor Lulham responded affirmatively.

Councillor Cutler noted that in order to address the security concerns expressed by some residents, the City should consider installing Code Blue emergency telephones in the area.

Council members congratulated Councillor Lulham on her work on the project.

Ms. Gaetano left the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

PARKING METERS PRESENTATION

Copies of the following documentation were distributed:

- Memorandum from Sean Michael Deegan, Director General, to the General Committee of Council, dated January 27th, 2016

Mr. Claude Vallières, Division Head – I.T., joined the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

The Director General reported that *The Gazette* will be publishing a story on the new pay-by-plate parking meter system. He added that Mr. Greg McBain, Director of Public Security, has been interviewed, and Councillor Cutler will be contacted for his comments shortly. Councillor Lulham noted that CJAD recently interviewed Councillor Cutler on the new system.

Director General Deegan informed Council that contrary to what had been discussed at previous General Committee meetings, the current rate for parking on Greene Avenue is \$2/hour, the same rate as in Victoria Village. He reported the administration's recommendation to make parking \$2/hour for all metered areas throughout the City upon the new system's installation in order for it to be well-received; with only one parking zone at a uniform rate of \$2/hour, the system will be easier to use and its installation will not be criticized as a pretext for an indirect tax grab. The Director General relayed Director McBain's suggestion to implement one uniform rate throughout the City at \$2.25/hour or \$2.50/hour. Director General Deegan expressed his opinion that the new system will be best-received if the uniform rate is made to be \$2/hour.

The Mayor reported that the finance department calculated that, out of total revenue of \$2.4 million, the City would experience an estimated \$350,000 loss if the rate was made to be \$2/hour throughout the City. However, this calculation is based on the occupancy rate remaining the same. Mayor Trent explained that the expected increased occupancy rate and the greater capacity owing to the elimination of uniformly-sized spots will likely balance out this loss.

Councillor Martin inquired as to how much revenue the City gains from the metered parking on Greene Avenue from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Council members agreed that the revenue is likely not enough to justify the criticism the City receives for maintaining the metered parking until 9:00 p.m.

Councillor Drury directed Council's attention to the ease with which numerous zones can be programmed into this new parking meter system, a characteristic to which Council was initially attracted. He added that the new system's installation will not be criticized as a pretext for an indirect tax grab if the status quo as to the two different rates for metered parking in the City is maintained.

The Director General responded that the issue of motorists paying for parking in the \$2/hour zone and then parking in the \$3/hour zone will be difficult to manage. More importantly, he explained that in order for the new system to be well-received, it should be

as simple as possible for the user with one zone and the same hours for metered parking throughout the City. He seconded the Mayor's prediction that the increased occupancy will likely account for an increase in revenue that will balance out, or at least mitigate, the loss of making all metered parking \$2/hour, particularly around Dawson College where the current occupancy rate is only 47%. Director General Deegan explained that at a rate of \$2/hour, which can be paid remotely from the mobile phone application, the occupancy around Dawson College should drastically increase. Councillor Martin agreed that the added occupancy of the metered parking in the eastern section of the City will result in a significant increase in revenue, possibly more than balancing out the loss associated with making all metered parking \$2/hour.

Mr. Vallières explained that while from a technological standpoint, it is simple to program multiple zones, it will potentially be complicated for the user who is not yet accustomed to the parking meter system.

Councillor Cutler agreed that for the system to be well-received, it will be best for it to be kept as simple as possible at the outset.

Councillor Lulham pointed out that if the metered parking in front of Alexis Nihon Plaza ends at 6:00 p.m., the area will be very busy. Councillor Cutler responded that any difference in metered parking hours in one area will require it to be classified as a different zone.

M^e St-Jean expressed his support for launching the new system with one parking zone throughout the City. He explained that it will be difficult to manage the issue of motorists paying for parking in the \$2/hour zone and then parking in the \$3/hour zone.

Councillor Forbes expressed her support for launching the new system with one uniform rate for all metered parking throughout the City.

Councillor Drury explained that he doubts the issue of motorists paying for parking in the \$2/hour zone and then parking in the \$3/hour zone will be particularly prevalent. Further to Councillor Drury's inquiry, the Director General confirmed that approximately 260 of the 750 parking meters in the City currently operate at a rate of \$3/hour. Councillor Drury cautioned that if the City alters its rate to a uniform \$2/hour throughout the City, it will likely be severely criticized if it then raises the rate to \$3/hour in certain areas shortly thereafter.

Councillor Samiotis supported a uniform rate throughout the City; however, she proposed setting it at \$2.50/hour, pointing out that once the user is paying electronically, there is no reason for the City to feel restricted to whole-number rates. She explained that \$2/hour is too low for parking in commercial areas.

Councillor Davis directed Council's attention to the four-hour maximum currently applicable to parking in any one spot in the City. She inquired as to how the new system will account for enforcing this maximum if a motorist parks his vehicle in several spots throughout the City over the course of the day. She also directed Council's attention to the question of whether there will be metered parking at the WRC.

Mayor Trent suggested maintaining the \$3/hour rate around Dawson College and programming the rate into the pay station in order for motorists using the pay station not to be obliged to identify the zone in which he is parking his vehicle. He explained that he doubts many motorists will seek to pay the rate in the \$2/hour zone and then park in the \$3/hour zone. Councillor Davis pointed out that motorists can simply pay via the mobile phone application and select the \$2/hour zone. Council members agreed that this will present an issue.

By connecting his mobile phone to a projector, Mr. Vallières presented the new parking meter system's mobile application. A motorist is asked to enter in the appropriate parking zone. Up to three vehicles can be saved to each account. Numerous credit cards' information can be saved as well. A confirmation request is ultimately presented to the user with all the information related to the parking payment transaction. Mr. Vallières explained that the motorist can then extend the parking period at any time. Moreover, five minutes prior to the expiration of the time paid for, the user receives a warning asking if he would like to extend the parking period. Mr. Vallières demonstrated the "Find Parking" tool, which shows the user the number of vehicles parked in various areas throughout the City in order to allow for a preliminary assessment of a given area's parking space availability.

Councillor Martin inquired as to whether other similar mobile applications exist and were considered. Mr. Vallières responded affirmatively, adding that the mobile application selected has already been used elsewhere for the same parking meter system that is to be installed in the City.

Councillor Cutler informed Council that when San Francisco instituted a pay-by-plate system, it revised its rates every 6 months, re-evaluating the metered parking rates, hours, and zones based on the data gathered since the new system's installation. He explained that the City can ultimately revise its rates, hours, and implement distinct zones in light of the data it will gather through this new system. He acknowledged the issue of the public's reaction to this eventual increase in rates, but affirmed that the new system's data will make these modifications easily justifiable. Technologically, these changes can be implemented in seconds. As part of these eventual modifications, Councillor Cutler proposed that as the City's permit system can be integrated into the parking meter system, different rates can be applied for residents. For example, after 6:00 p.m., residents can be allowed to park for free anywhere in the City while non-residents are required to pay a reduced rate of \$1-\$2/hour.

The Director General noted that further to the WRC's construction, membership rates were kept the same for three years. When these rates were then increased, the City did not receive any criticism. He reiterated his recommendation to institute the new system with a uniform \$2/hour rate throughout the City in order for it to not be criticized as a pretext for an indirect tax grab.

Councillor Samiotis recommended that the City's communication plan emphasize the intention to use the data that will be gathered upon the installation of the new parking meter system to guide the City in its establishment of appropriate rates, hours, and zones.

Copies of the “Pay-by-Plate Communications Plan” were distributed, which outlines the framework and schedule for the City’s communications plan.

Regarding the impact that the new parking meter system will have on revenue, Councillor Drury pointed out that while it is preferable for parking-related revenue to come as much as possible from parking meter payments as opposed to from tickets for parking infractions, this system is expected to reduce the number of tickets issued. He explained that this loss in revenue should be considered as part of the broader calculation of the impact that the new system will have on parking-related revenue.

Councillor Davis suggested that the new system be instituted with several zones already in place in order for users to begin growing accustomed to this aspect from the outset.

Mr. Vallières introduced Sentinel, the system through which the new parking meter system will be managed. He explained how Sentinel will be used by Finance and Public Security.

Mr. Vallières left the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

HYDRO WESTMOUNT SUMMARY ON DEBRIEFING MEETINGS ON POWER OUTAGES OF JANUARY 2nd TO JANUARY 6th, 2016

Copies of the following documentation were distributed:

- Memorandum from Sean Michael Deegan, Director General, to the General Committee of Council, dated January 27th, 2016; and
- Memorandum from Benoit Hurtubise, Director of Hydro Westmount, to Sean Michael Deegan, Director General, dated January 20th, 2016.

Mr. Benoit Hurtubise, Director of Hydro Westmount, joined the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Director Hurtubise briefed Council on his report regarding the post-mortem analysis of the manner in which the January 2nd to January 6th power outages were managed as well as the proposed ways to improve the handling of such situations in the future. He informed Council that the *Info-pannes* system is now functioning, and an article was recently published in the *Westmount Independent* to this effect. Director Hurtubise explained that upon any power outage, *Info-pannes* sends an email to the affected residents informing them of the predicted length of the given power outage.

Councillor Davis pointed out that Director Hurtubise’s report indicates that Hydro Westmount will seek to avoid load shedding in the future. Director Hurtubise explained that load shedding will be reserved for exceptional circumstances, particularly cases in which the weather is particularly cold and a given area will be without power for a long period of time (more than six to eight hours, to be qualified according to the temperature).

Director Hurtubise left the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

RENEWAL OF WESTMOUNT'S ELECTORAL MAP

Copies of the following documentation were distributed:

- Memorandum from Sean Michael Deegan, Director General, to the General Committee of Council, dated January 27, 2016;
 - Memorandum from Me Martin St-Jean, Director of legal services and City Clerk, to the General Committee of Council, dated January 26, 2016;
 - Westmount electoral map;
 - Bylaw 1429; and
 - Quebec's Chief Electoral Officer procedure chart.
- **It was agreed** that the City will renew its current electoral map and district divisions. Accordingly, a resolution will be drafted for Council's formal approval of this decision, by which M^e St-Jean will be mandated to communicate the City's intention to renew its current electoral map and district divisions to the *Directeur général des élections du Québec*.

PERMIT PROCESS FOR MAJOR PROJECTS

Copies of the following documentation were distributed:

- Memorandum from Sean Michael Deegan, Director General, to the General Committee of Council, dated January 27th, 2016; and
- Summary of thoughts on Westmount's built form and the need for early disclosure of proposed major projects, prepared by Mayor Peter F. Trent, dated January 24, 2016.

The Mayor outlined his thoughts on the City's built form and the need for early disclosure of proposed major projects.

He felt that Council has to come to grips with what it sees as the future of Westmount and act upon that vision when it comes to managing the evolution of its built form. Should Council, he said, continue to sit by as developers carry on carpeting southern Westmount with high-rise condominium buildings? It is changing our demographic and flies in the face of our goal of attracting young families. He mentioned the problem of population density; already, the City of Westmount has the greatest population density of any City in Quebec. In some areas below Sherbrooke, it reaches the equivalent to 10,000 people per square kilometre – thanks to all the post-war high-rise development that continues apace.

The irony, he said, is that Westmount's population in the last 60 years has actually plummeted, yet the number of dwellings has steadily increased. With some exceptions, post-war construction has been made up of taller buildings with one-or-two residents in each dwelling unit within. They have been squeezing out the established built forms. And even the traditional housing stock has gone from four-to-six residents per dwelling to less

than three. This, of course, is a trend right across Canada. He noted the increase in the total number of private occupied dwellings from 6,260 in 1951 to 8,637 in 2011 and the decrease in the average number of persons per dwelling from 4.0 in 1951 to 2.2 in 2011. The Mayor added that while condominiums are often perceived as significant potential sources for tax revenue, they still place a correlative increased demand on the City's services. Ultimately, he recommended that the City consider this phenomenon and establish its planning programme accordingly.

Mayor Trent then proposed that the City make preliminary public consultations, organized by the developer, obligatory for all major projects, including those that respect the City's zoning by-laws. This extends the scope of the intention expressed by Council regarding a possible policy requiring the same preliminary public consultation for projects seeking to qualify under the PPCMOI by-law. Specifically, the City will require that the developer hold a public consultation in which he is to present the prospective project to the public before the PAC deals in detail with the application for a permit. This will allow for the developer to be the party selling the project to the public, rather than the City; which, under the current system, decides to approve the building permit for the project before the public is even consulted. Moreover, the concerns expressed at this preliminary stage will guide the PAC in its analysis of the application. The Mayor proposed qualifying "major projects" as any construction that is to have a total floor area of over 10,000 square feet.

Councillor Lulham supported the Mayor's proposal to institute this preliminary public consultation for all major projects. She noted that she had made the same proposal in 2008.

Councillor Martin agreed with the Mayor's proposal and suggested going further and making the PAC meetings public. He explained that Notre-Dame-de-Grâce's and Saint-Laurent's PAC meetings are public.

Councillor Drury expressed his support for the Mayor's proposal.

Mayor Trent relayed the general philosophical tendency regarding public consultation and approval emerging across Canada and elsewhere, as expressed by lawyer Marc-André LeChasseur (who specializes in urban planning matters); public consultation has become more important while public approval via referendums have become less common, reflecting the distinct roles of the resident and the elected official.

Councillor Smith expressed her support for the Mayor's proposal, noting that the public consultation held by Mr. Laframboise for his proposed redevelopment of 4898 De Maisonneuve Boulevard effectively served its purpose.

Councillor Lulham specified that while the Notre-Dame-de-Grâce PAC meetings are public, those who attend can do so as observers. They must then direct their questions and concerns to their councillor.

Councillor Davis expressed her support for the Mayor's proposal, adding that perhaps the qualification of "major projects" should include any construction that is to have a total liveable area of over 8,000 square feet. Mayor Trent responded that the threshold number

of square feet will not target most single-family homes, but rather large development projects.

Councillor Samiotis expressed her support for the Mayor's proposal.

- **It was agreed** that at that night's Regular Sitting, under "Mayor's Reports," the Mayor will announce that Council will be adopting a policy by which developers for any prospective major project will be obliged to seek the public's input in the preliminary stage of the permit application process.

The Mayor noted that, while he is unsure as to whether the PAC members would be as efficient, as thorough, and as frank if their meetings were made public, it might be worth considering.

PPCMOI BYLAW 1489

Copies of the following documentation were distributed:

- Memorandum from Sean Michael Deegan, Director General, to the General Committee of Council, dated January 28th, 2016;
- Memorandum from Joanne Poirier, Director of Urban Planning, to Sean Michael Deegan, Director General, dated January 28, 2016; and
- Revision of draft Bylaw 1489, prepared by Joanne Poirier, Director of Urban Planning.

Councillor Samiotis outlined the proposed provision included in the new draft By-law 1489. In order to ensure that residents are informed of projects seeking to qualify under the PPCMOI at an earlier stage, public notice must be given when the PAC recommends a request for a specific proposal to Council. The proposed provision provides that a notice is to be published on the City's website and, at the cost of the person presenting the specific proposal, in a weekly publication available in the territory of the City. The notice must include the address of the immovable property that is the subject of the specific proposal, the identity and coordinates of the person requesting the specific proposal, and mention that the document expressing the reasons for the application, an abridged description of the specific proposal, and a list of the variant elements to the different applicable norms in the Urban Planning by-law(s) that are the object of the proposal are available for consultation at the Department of Urban Planning. The public will then have a minimum of 30 days following this publication to consult the aforementioned documents and express their concerns before Council makes a decision on the application.

Councillor Samiotis explained that the City cannot integrate a preliminary public consultation into the PPCMOI by-law. However, this public notification will allow for residents to communicate their concerns at this preliminary stage. The official public consultation will be held after the project is approved by Council.

Councillor Samiotis drew Council's attention to section 4.1 of the draft By-law 1489. She explained that the fees related to an application under the PPCMOI, excluding the publication fees, are payable upon the filing of an application, and are non-refundable, the cost of the serious consideration required for a potential project that does not conform to the City's by-laws.

Mayor Trent explained that the PPCMOI process needs to be understood in tandem with Council's policy to submit all major projects to a preliminary public consultation.

- **It was agreed** that the proposed provision imposing a public notification for any projects seeking to qualify under the PPCMOI by-law will be included in the ultimate PPCMOI by-law.

OBLIGATION TO REPORT CERTAIN GIFTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

M^e St-Jean informed Council that in accordance with sections 9 and 10 of By-law 1461, *By-law respecting the Code of Ethics and Good Conduct of Elected Municipal Officers of the City of Westmount*, Council members must report all gifts received with a value of greater than \$200. Accordingly, he inquired as to whether Council members had any such gifts to report.

NEW BUSINESS: WINTER CARNIVAL

Councillor Davis inquired as to whether all members of Council had received the Winter Carnival programme in the mail. Most council members indicated that they had. Councillor Davis explained that it has not yet been delivered to all residents.

She informed Council that the following morning, the City will decide whether the Winter Carnival will be held outdoors or inside the WRC. She explained that currently, the hill in King George Park has an insufficient amount of snow for sledding and the ice cannot be skated on.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m., at which point, Council held its Regular Sitting. The meeting was resumed at 9:57 p.m.

COUNCIL OBJECTIVES FOLLOW-UP

TRAFFIC

WRC Parking

The Director General informed Council that further to Director McBain's observation of the parking occupancy at the WRC, daytime parking must be further regulated. He explained that many individuals who frequent the nearby buildings use the WRC parking lot. Director

General Deegan reported that Director McBain recommends a maximum two-hour parking for non-permit holders and a four-hour maximum for those who have permits. He added that this can be instituted by resolution. He pointed out that this will not alter the status quo for permit holders, as the four-hour maximum applies throughout the City.

Councillor Lulham supported the proposal, noting that this will lessen the occupancy of the parking lot, particularly in the summer when the pool is open.

Further to Councillor Cutler's inquiry, Councillor Lulham responded that overnight parking at the WRC is currently prohibited.

Councillor Davis supported the proposal, recommending that the restriction should not apply in exceptional situations such as when sports tournaments and swim meets are held.

- **It was agreed** that Council will adopt a resolution by which parking at the WRC will be limited to four hours for permit holders and to two hours for non-permit holders. This restriction will not apply in exceptional circumstances.

Councillor Davis informed Council that residents who drive vehicles provided to them by their companies need a lawyer's letter in order to receive a parking permit. Councillor Lulham responded that this may no longer be the case, listing a few businesses that have vehicles with said permits. Councillor Davis responded that she will inquire with Director McBain as to the applicable procedure.

Councillor Lulham explained that the TAC meetings lack order and efficiency. She proposed that Councillor Cutler, Councillor Martin, and her meet with Director Raggo to discuss how this can be improved, and namely the policies that Council should provide to the TAC in order to guide its decisions. She added that councillors should not add items to the TAC's agenda, but should rather propose said items in advance to Mr. Jonathan Auger of Public Works, to be added to the agenda at the administration's discretion.

- **It was agreed** that Councillor Cutler, Councillor Martin, and Councillor Lulham will meet with Director Raggo to discuss the policies that Council should provide to the TAC in order to guide its decisions. Similarly, councillors will no longer add items to the TAC's agenda, but will rather propose said items in advance to Mr. Auger, to be added to the agenda at the administration's discretion.

Councillor Martin informed Council that the TAC will be holding its upcoming meeting on February 3rd.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND PARKS

Councillor Martin pointed out two issues at WRC, noting that the relatively new building's maintenance should not be neglected. He explained that the air conditioning system's compressor is too loud and that there is an issue with water pooling. The Director General responded that he will look into the air conditioning issue. He explained that the water

pooling is arguably a defect from the construction. Accordingly, he will look into the matter with Legal Services.

Councillor Lulham informed Council that she met with Reverend Neil Whitehouse of the Westmount Park Church regarding his new "Faith in Nature" initiative. Reverend Whitehouse is seeking to revive interest in the Church with this initiative. Councillor Lulham informed Council that further to her invitation, Reverend Whitehouse will join the Healthy City Environment Committee.

COMMUNICATIONS

Website

Director General Deegan informed Council that Mr. Sebastian Samuel of Communications is updating the City's website.

Councillor Lulham noted that the placement of "Garbage and Recycling" at the top of the drop-down list under "Environment" should be reconsidered.

URBAN PLANNING

Councillor Samiotis reported that the Flower Show will be replaced with a PAC / architectural exhibit to be held on March 15th.

Director General Deegan informed Council that further to his survey of the other suburban municipalities' status as to the adoption of a PPCMOI, 9 of 14 responded, with four of the nine indicating that they have yet to begin drafting a PPCMOI by-law. He reported that he will inquire as to the decisions of the other municipalities, for which their respective director generals did not respond, at the meeting of the director generals that will be held the following day.

ONGOING ITEM: MTQ / AMT

Turcot Project - Update

A document from the MTQ entitled "*Mise à jour des travaux préparatoires*" was distributed.

Councillor Samiotis directed Council's attention to page 18, "*Déviation temporaire de l'A-720*." She explained that the temporary road will be situated to the south, closer to the houses on Saint-Antoine Street, the reason for the temporary sound barrier between the two. She informed Council that the work will begin in the spring, but the majority of it will be carried out in the fall.

Councillor Samiotis informed Council that the City has obtained revised sketches of the possible designs for the potential sound barrier to be erected behind Prospect Street. The possible designs, a cement wall or a natural wall, will be presented to the residents of Prospect Street at a meeting that will be held on February 11th at 5:00 p.m. A representative from Stantec will attend the meeting as well. She explained that many residents were opposed to the City subsidizing the installation of triple glazed windows in their homes.

Councillor Lulham pointed out that while triple glazed windows will help matters, SEL windows should be used if this approach is chosen. She explained that these windows are usually triple glazed and are also paired with a window frame and insulation that are effective in reducing the perceptible outside noise.

Councillor Martin inquired as to whether the province subsidizes the installation of improved insulation. Councillor Martin recommended informing residents of the possibility of obtaining both a subsidy from the province and from the City in the presentation of this option.

ONGOING ITEM: AGGLOMERATION SUMMARY REPORT

The Agglomeration summary report was distributed.

MEETING SCHEDULES

Copies of the following documentation were distributed:

- Council schedule of events for the month of February 2016; and
- Council schedule of events for the month of March 2016.

NEW BUSINESS: ST.-LÉON SCHOOL

Councillor Davis informed Council that St.-Léon School distributed a letter to the residents of Claremont Avenue informing them that the students residing on Claremont Avenue who are currently enrolled at St.-Léon School may not be able to attend the school the following year. Councillor Lulham inquired as to the body responsible for setting the territorial limitations of the catchment area. Councillor Davis responded that she believes it is both the school and the *Commission scolaire de Montreal*. Councillor Lulham recommended that the City write to those responsible that this is unacceptable, particularly in light of the school's requested expansion.

VARIA: SHRINERS' HOSPITAL VISIT

Councillor Drury informed Council that the City of Pointe-Claire's entire Council visited the Shriners' Hospital for a tour of the facility. He invited Council to do the same.

- **It was agreed** that Council will visit the Shriners' Hospital for a tour of the facility.

ABSENCES

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

The meeting was adjourned at 10:44 p.m.

Philip A. Cutler
Acting Mayor

M^e Martin St-Jean
City Clerk