
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WESTMOUNT HELD AT CITY HALL ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2016 AT 4:09 P.M. AT WHICH WERE PRESENT:

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

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 September 19, 2016

It was agreed that the Agenda of the September 19, 2016 meeting of the General Committee of Council be adopted, with the addition of the following items under New Business:

- Dogs in Summit Park – Schedule Changes and Off-leash Contract (Councillor Lulham);
- Status of the King George Park and WAG Dog Runs (Councillor Drury); and
- Dawson College Commemorative Event (Councillor Davis).

Confirmation of Minutes of the Meeting of General Committee Held on September 6, 2016

The Minutes of the General Committee of Council’s meeting held on September 6, 2016 were adopted with corrections.

Business arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of General Committee Held on September 6, 2016

The Mayor referred to Council's decision at its previous General Committee meeting to seek the services of Mr. Mark Wilkins, who currently runs his own polling firm, in order to validate the legitimacy of the City's polls. The Mayor informed Council that he met with Mr. Wilkins, who pointed out a few potential issues with the City's most recent poll. Further to the Mayor's request for Mr. Wilkins to provide the City with a quote for assistance with future polls and properly interpreting the recent one, the Director General reported that the quote was deemed reasonable and has been accepted.

The Director General informed Council that the City has informed Mr. Dan Lambert, President of the Westmount Walking and Cycling Association, that the City will participate in the Winter Cycling Congress that is to be held in February 2017.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

DRAFT BY-LAW - GLEN ARCH AND ITS ADJACENT BANKS - HERITAGE PROPERTY RECOGNITION

Ms. Myriam St-Denis, Project Manager, and Mr. Tom Flies, Assistant Director of Urban Planning, joined the meeting at 4:26 p.m.

The Mayor noted an issue with the draft by-law's terminology; the "Glen Arch" is a questionable use of the term "arch," however appropriate *arche* may be in French. He explained that an arch implies a curved structure with little depth, usually above-ground. Moreover, the structure in question has been referred to as the "Glen Tunnel" for roughly one hundred years. He noted that perhaps the most appropriate technical term would be the "Glen Viaduct" which would have the advantage of appropriateness in French as well. Ms. St-Denis agreed that "*le Viaduc Glen*" would be an appropriate term in French.

- **It was agreed** that the "Glen Arch" will be formally known as the "Glen Viaduct / *le Viaduc Glen*."

Ms. St-Denis explained the draft by-law's objective: to recognize the Glen Viaduct and its adjacent banks as a heritage property through the regulatory power delegated to the City under the *Cultural Heritage Act*. Said recognition obliges landowners to ensure the preservation of the property's heritage value and to obtain the City's authorization, to be based upon the Local Heritage Council's analysis, prior to carrying out any interventions on the property. Ms. St-Denis reported that the site in question is owned in part by the City, the MUHC, the Canadian Pacific Railway (CP), and *les Tours du Parc Westmount*.

Ms. St-Denis explained the Glen Viaduct's heritage value as a function of its historical, technological, architectural, landscape, and symbolic values. She pointed out that the Glen Viaduct was built in 1892, just before the Village of Côte-Saint-Antoine was renamed Westmount.

Ms. St-Denis presented the timeline for the prospective by-law's adoption. If Council gives a notice of motion at the October Regular Sitting, a public consultation would be held in December and the by-law could be adopted in early 2017.

Confidential items were discussed.

- **It was agreed** to give notice of motion at an upcoming Council meeting for the By-Law Regarding the Glen Viaduct and its Adjacent Banks – Heritage Property Recognition.

Confidential items were discussed.

Councillor Lulham explained that in order to avoid liability for a potential accident, CP installed a simple chain-link fence lining the sides of the tracks above the Glen Viaduct. She suggested the possibility of the Westmount Historical Association of raising funds for the construction of a fence that would be more appropriate given the structure's heritage value.

Confidential items were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m., at which point Council held its Regular Sitting. The meeting was reconvened at 5:07 p.m.

Confidential items were discussed.

Ms. St-Denis left the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

NOMINATION OF THE PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) MEMBERS

Councillor Samiotis presented Urban Planning Director Joanne Poirier's recommendations. Director Poirier recommended the renewal of Mr. Erik Marosi's mandate as one of the three permanent members of the PAC for a period of two years from when his current mandate is to expire in February 2017. The other two permanent PAC members' mandates are valid until June 2018. Director Poirier recommended the renewal of Mr. Gerald Soiferman's mandate as a substitute member, which is also scheduled to expire in February 2017. Director Poirier proposed the appointment of an additional substitute member, Mr. Mehdi Ghafouri. Finally, Director Poirier recommended the appointment of Mrs. Eve Wertheimer, non-resident and architect, and Mrs. Rosalind Pepall, specialist in cultural heritage, as resource-persons to be consulted on an ad hoc basis for special planning projects

- **It was agreed** that the City will renew the mandates of Mr. Erik Marosi as a permanent PAC member and Mr. Gerald Soiferman as a substitute PAC member, and appoint Mr. Mehdi Ghafouri as an additional substitute PAC member, as well as Mrs. Eve Wertheimer and Mrs. Rosalind Pepall as resource-persons to be consulted on an ad hoc basis.

Confidential items were discussed.

NEW BUSINESS: DOGS IN SUMMIT PARK – SCHEDULE CHANGES AND OFF-LEASH CONTRACT

Councillor Lulham presented the Westmount Dog Owners Association's request, as presented by Mr. Brian Baxter, the Association's president, for schedule changes to the off-leash hours and dates in Summit Woods. The Association requests that during the summer period, which currently runs from June 16th until December 1st, when off-leash hours are currently permitted before 9:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m., said off-leash hours be extended by an hour in the morning and in the evening, before 10:00 a.m. and after 5:00 p.m. This change would allow parents to bring their dogs to the Woods on weekday mornings after bringing their children to school.

The Association is also requesting a modification of the winter period's starting date from December 1st to November 1st, when dogs are permitted to run off-leash at all times. Councillor Lulham explained that Summit Woods are very quiet during this period.

Councillor Lulham relayed the Mayor's concerns that the requested schedule changes may result in damage to the flora in Summit Woods as a result of increased activity. She relayed their joint recommendation to proceed with the modifications on a trial basis, noting that an extension of the winter period to begin on November 1st could result in damage to the Woods as the ground will still be wet as opposed to frozen. She informed Council of the opinion expressed by Mr. Nicolas Mory, the City's arborist, that the requested changes will ultimately cause less damage to the Summit Woods.

Councillor Lulham drew Council's attention to the uncommon, but nonetheless concerning, practice of certain dog owners allowing their dogs to run through Summit Woods with no supervision. She recommended adapting the Morgan Arboretum's rules for Summit Woods. Essentially, dog owners would be required to sign a contract by which they would obligate themselves to supervise and control their dogs, accept to have their dog's access privileges revoked in the case of aggressive behaviour, pick up their dog's feces, and respect the scheduled off-leash hours.

Councillor Lulham recommended communicating the modified schedule by placing sandwich boards at the entrances to Summit Woods, which would indicate that the new schedule is being implemented on a trial basis. Mr. Sebastian Samuel of the City's Communications department would work on further communicating the message.

- **It was agreed** that on a trial basis, the winter period, when dogs are permitted off-leash at all times, will begin as of November 1st, and off-leash hours during the summer period, from June 16th to November 1st, will be extended to apply before 10:00 a.m. and after 5:00 p.m.
- **It was agreed** that dog owners will be required to sign a contract by which they will obligate themselves to supervise and control their dogs, accept to have their dog's access privileges revoked in the case of aggressive behaviour, pick up their dog's feces, and respect the scheduled off-leash hours in Summit Woods.

NEW BUSINESS: STATUS OF THE KING GEORGE PARK AND WAG DOG RUNS

Councillor Drury inquired as to the status of the work being carried out on the King George Park and WAG dog runs. Councillor Lulham reported that the work is scheduled to be completed by mid-October. In King George Park, the work involves the installation of a taller fence, a half-moon of grass across the north side, grass along the east side, and cement between the two gates on the north side. At the WAG, the entrance to the dog run will also be cemented, and a large hedge removed and replaced by a new one as well as with cedars, all of which will be groomed in order to avoid them growing too high.

ONGOING ITEM: MTQ/AMT

Councillor Samiotis informed Council that the City has requested a meeting with the Minister of Transport, Sustainable Mobility, and Transport Electrification, Mr. Jacques Daoust regarding the prospective sound barrier behind Prospect Street. In the interim, the City will be meeting with the MTQ officials as well as the assistant for Mr. Jacques Chagnon, MNA for Westmount – Saint-Louis, on September 28th.

The Director General informed Council that Mr. Bruce Roberts and his wife, local artists with experience in painting murals, are willing to paint a mural on the temporary sound barrier to the north of Selby Park, which has been repeatedly covered in graffiti and posters. The couple estimates that the mural could be completed over a period of three weeks and could be initiated immediately. The MTQ will pay for all costs and supplies, but the couple has requested some remuneration for their prospective work. The Director General explained that they would be satisfied with a total of \$5,000 for their work. Councillor Forbes inquired as to the estimate cost of graffiti removal over the three and a half year period during which the wall is expected to remain in place. The Director General informed Council that the City has spent roughly \$12,000 on the removal of graffiti around The Open Door over the past three months. Councillor Forbes affirmed that \$5,000 for the proposed mural is therefore a good investment.

- **It was agreed** that the City will seek the services of Mr. Bruce Roberts and his wife for the painting of a mural on the temporary sound barrier to the north of Selby Park for a total cost of \$5,000.

Confidential items were discussed.

NEW BUSINESS: DAWSON COLLEGE COMMEMORATIVE EVENT

Councillor Davis reported on Dawson College's commemorative event marking the ten-year anniversary of the shooting. She informed Council that she attended the event with Councillor Drury, Director of Public Security Greg McBain, and the Director General. SPVM officers were honoured by name and Westmount Public Security was commended in general, but no mention was made of any Public Security Officers in particular. The Director

General noted two PSOs who had directly implicated themselves in the rescue efforts. He recommended awarding them with the medal of bravery.

ABSENCES

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Rosalind Davis
Acting Mayor

M^e Martin St-Jean
City Clerk