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**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL (GC) OF THE CITY OF WESTMOUNT HELD AT CITY HALL ON FEBRUARY 5, 2018 AT 4:34 P.M. AT WHICH WERE PRESENT:**

Chair	Anitra Bostock
Mayor	Christina Smith
Councillors	Mary Gallery Kathleen Kez Conrad Peart Jeff J. Shamie
Absent	Marina Brzeski Philip A. Cutler Cynthia Lulham
Administration	Benoit Hurtubise, Director General (DG) Nicole Dobbie, Assistant Director of Legal Services and Assistant 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.

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Ms. Jocelyne Dragon, Director of Human Resources, joined the meeting at 4:34 p.m.

**GC AGENDA**

**Adoption of the GC Agenda of February 5, 2018**

**It was agreed** that the Agenda of the February 5, 2018 meeting of the GC be adopted, with the addition of the following items under New Business:

- Snow Removal Update (DG Hurtubise); and
- Arena Compressors (DG Hurtubise).

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION**

Confidential items were discussed.

Director Dragon left the meeting at 5:08 p.m. M<sup>e</sup> St-Jean joined the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

Confidential items were discussed.

M<sup>e</sup> St-Jean left the meeting at 5:33 p.m.

**SUMMARY OF DEMOLITION PROJECTS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE REPLACEMENT PROGRAMS: 4014-4022 SAINTE-CATHERINE AND 2307 DORCHESTER BOULEVARD**

Ms. Nathalie Jodoin, Assistant Director of Urban Planning, joined the meeting at 5:33 p.m.

Further to Urban Planning's preliminary assessment of the permit applications received for the properties located at 4014-4022 Sainte-Catherine Street and 2307 Dorchester Boulevard, two demolition hearings have been scheduled in February.

The applicants for the property located at 4014-4022 Sainte-Catherine Street have requested a full demolition of the three-storey commercial building, built in 1928 and modified in 1960, for it to be replaced with a mixed-use building, half of which having seven storeys and the other half having ten storeys. The maximum building height for this portion of Sainte-Catherine Street was increased recently, largely due to the significantly greater building heights to the west and to the east.

Only a small part of the property located at 2307 Dorchester Boulevard, the former site of the Montreal Children's Hospital, is within the City. Built circa 1930, the portion of the complex located within the City is one-storey high and is an enclosed parking lot. The proposed redevelopment is a mixed-use urban complex ranging from 20 to 32 storeys high. As a temporary replacement program, the area would be landscaped in order to improve pedestrian circulation.

Ms. Jodoin relayed Urban Planning's recommended conditions for each demolition permit and specifically for the property located at 2307 Dorchester Boulevard in the event that it is awarded further to the hearing. Most notably, the structural integrity of the *Maison des infirmières*, a Category I building that is to be maintained given its heritage value, must be protected during the prospective demolition.

Confidential items were discussed.

Ms. Jodoin left the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

- **It was agreed** that the documents that will be made available for consultation and referred to as such in the public notices for the upcoming demolition hearings will be posted on the City's website, with the exception of any design plans owned by third parties.

**GC AGENDA (Continued)**

**Confirmation of Minutes of the Meeting of the GC Held on January 15, 2018**

The Minutes of the GC's meeting held on January 15, 2018 were adopted with corrections.

**Business Arising from the Minutes of the Meeting of the GC Held on January 15, 2018**

The DG reported that the Mouton Noir Café will keep its current lease and conditions with the City on the same terms with the exception of one modification, namely that the Café may remain open until 11:00 p.m.

**Items from the Council Agenda to Be Discussed in General Committee**

GC members discussed Item 13, "Notice of Motion – By-law to Modify the By-law Concerning Noise," which, if adopted, will ban gas-powered leaf blowers, having effect as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 when leaf blowers will begin to be permitted for the spring season, and will ban gas-powered lawnmowers as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Many North American municipalities have already imposed this ban, and neighbouring municipalities have expressed interest in following Westmount's lead on the Island. The City is purchasing electric leaf blowers for Public Works.

GC members discussed Item 11, "Adoption – By-law 1515 Modifying the By-law on Paid Parking," one aspect of which would, if adopted, exempt all recognized car-sharing services, currently Car2Go and Communauto, from paying for parking. The two companies responded very favourably to the City's request for them to send the City their data from their vehicles' GPS regarding the locations in which they were parked and the timing of said parking as part of their annual reports. The companies consider Westmount to be their ideal demographic and contend that their services are particularly useful in eliminating the need for a household's second vehicle.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION (Continued)**

**DESIGNATION OF THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL TO SOLEMNIZE MARRIAGES AND CIVIL UNIONS**

Council members considered whether they would like to be designated by the Registrar of Civil Status as officiants to solemnize marriages and civil unions, as municipal council members are competent to be designated as such further to their council's adoption of a resolution requesting said designation. Since 2008, the City has requested this for the Council members who have desired it, and many marriages have been solemnized in City Hall.

- **It was agreed** that Item 17, “New Business – Appointment of Council Members as Officiants to Solemnize Marriages,” will be added to the agenda for that night’s Regular Sitting, which will, further to its prospective adoption, serve as the prerequisite for the City’s request for the Registrar of Civil Status to designate the Mayor, Councillor Bostock, Councillor Gallery, Councillor Lulham, Councillor Kez, Councillor Cutler, and Councillor Shamie as officiants to solemnize marriages and civil unions.

### **CLOSURE OF GREENE AVENUE**

GC members discussed the closure of Greene Avenue until 2019 due to the Turcot project.

- **It was agreed** that during the construction period, Council will recommend to the MTQ that Greene Avenue be closed to vehicular through-traffic and a bicycle lane and a pedestrian lane be installed. The City will instruct the MTQ to keep the area clean.
- **It was agreed** that the City will request the reprogramming of the traffic light at the intersection of Dorchester Boulevard and Greene Avenue to extend the pedestrian crossing time beyond the current 20 seconds.

### **CODE OF ETHICS AND GOOD CONDUCT FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS**

M<sup>e</sup> Dobbie briefed GC members on the draft “By-law Respecting the Code of Ethics and Good Conduct of Elected Municipal Officers of the City of Westmount” and how a municipality’s code of ethics and good conduct is established. Specifically, the provisions of the *Municipal Ethics and Good Conduct Act* determine the content that must be integrated into the code, which is enforced by the *Commission municipale du Québec*.

The provisions outlining the following elements are some of those that have therefore been included in the draft by-law. Council members may not accept any gift that may influence their independence or compromise their integrity in the exercise of their duties. Council members must disclose any current pecuniary interests related to an issue prior to its discussion. Council members may not use City resources for any purposes other than those related to their duties. Within 12 months of the end of their term, Council members may not serve as directors, officers, or senior executives of legal persons, or hold employment or any other position so as to obtain undue benefit for themselves or another person based on their previous office.

- **It was agreed** that at that night’s Regular Sitting, Council will give notice of motion for the prospective adoption of the “By-law Respecting the Code of Ethics and Good Conduct of Elected Municipal Officers of the City of Westmount.”

**ONGOING ITEM: MTQ**

A *bon voisinage* meeting will be held on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Councillor Kez expressed her intention to attend the meeting.

**ONGOING ITEM: AGGLOMERATION SUMMARY REPORT**

At the previous Agglomeration Council meeting, the suburban mayors individually and unanimously voted against the budget and then left the meeting in protest.

**NEW BUSINESS: SNOW REMOVAL UPDATE**

As 15 centimetres of snow is expected to fall on February 7<sup>th</sup>, snow removal has been scheduled for February 8<sup>th</sup>. The City typically budgets for six snow removal operations, which constitutes transporting the snow cleared from the roads and sidewalks to the snow dump. Given the particularly snowy winter to date, this will be the sixth operation of the season.

**NEW BUSINESS: ARENA COMPRESSORS**

The arena's compressor #3 needs to be replaced. In the interim, operations may continue with the two functioning compressors.

Confidential items were discussed.

**ABSENCES**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

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Anitra Bostock  
Chairman

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M<sup>e</sup> Nicole Dobbie  
Assistant Director of Legal Services and  
Assistant City Clerk