

Echoes from Barkmere – October 2016

Here is a resume of the last council meeting held Saturday, October 8th, 2016.

- The new municipal building is near completion. We are meeting the planned budget, no cost overruns. We were a little disappointed that it runs late in delivery due to 3 main reasons: there were modifications made to the exterior staircase and the arborite for the countertops was discontinued, which then delayed the plumbing. Also, the wood paneling for the ceiling of the community center arrived later than projected. We hope, though, to hold next council meeting in the new premises. *Alea jacta est!*
- Concerning FILAU (high speed internet), once more there are delays affecting Barkmere. They've had a virus that affected their network equipment which was badly damaged. Also, they've had bad internal management. Work for Barkmere is thus postponed until next year.
- The town will build a decontamination pad for boats. When trailers are decontaminated, they are too close to the ground and it is hard for the landing attendant to decontaminate them thoroughly. To clean well, Mr. Steve Deschênes, our Director General, has suggested to make a pad where the car AND the trailer can drive onto and be easily washed. The contract was awarded to Gilbert Miller & Son for \$6,550.00 and this amount is to be taken from the town's non affected surplus.
- The current community center will soon be transformed into a municipal garage where we can store boats, buoys, etc. We install a new garage door and transfer the electrical entrance from the old town hall to these premises.
- In November or December, we will proceed with the demolition of the old town hall. We are waiting for the asbestos removal and the transfer of electrical panels, but as soon as it is done, Mr. Gilbert Miller will demolish and remove everything, cement blocks included, and will level the ground, for a contract amount of \$3,300. Here is a souvenir picture of the building which was a Barkmere landmark.



- We have finally reached the last chapter concerning the dam: we received a letter from the Hydric Center stating that they have accepted the report from our engineers under the condition that we do a study on the stability of the concrete structures which would necessitate a very very low cost.

- A notice of motion was given to introduce a future bylaw amending Zoning Bylaw 201 to revise the acquired rights (grandfather rights) applicable to non-conforming road constructions, in order to ensure the security of citizens and the protection of the environment.

- At the MRC mayors' meeting, Hydro Quebec made a presentation on charging stations for electric cars. There are 3 types of stations:
 - a) Rapid charging (very onerous)
 - b) Slow charging
 - c) Station for internal municipal usage

If a public terminal is publicized it will attract visitors to Barkmere. It is very obvious that electric cars are coming and we will thus start studying options.

Once again, for more details, consult the minutes of the council meeting that will be posted on our website next month.