

Echoes from Barkmere – March 2017

Here is a summary of the last council meeting held Saturday, March 11th 2017.

- We have a final agreement with the Régie Incendie Nord-Ouest Laurentides. This agreement is valid for a year and will be renewed for five years (before June 2017 though). The Régie has important costs engaged and wants therefore all municipalities to sign for 5 years. There are a few particularities to resolve, specifically because of special circumstances concerning Barkmere (parts of the territory are not accessible for emergency vehicles, even private roads would probably not be accessible for fire truck engines). We will have to find a way to proceed. In particular, to be more efficient in applying security rules for smoke detectors, the Town of Barkmere will do its own visits of residential properties and al. The municipal Inspector will visit 20% of properties every year, in order to respect the regulation of a visit every five years. Furthermore, this procedure will permit substantial savings, because the Régie wanted to do these visits by paying two firemen, time and a half, without ensuring itself that the residences would be accessible.
- The 2017 rental rates for the municipal wharves will rise by 1.4% and will be set at \$506.00 for a big mooring and \$279 for a small mooring. Once again in 2017, the Town is well below the threshold amount and it is not required to collect the applicable sale taxes.
- The ministry of Environment has strongly suggested that the town purchases protective water curtains to use when removing milfoil. These curtains prevent fragments of plants to disperse when we remove them. The town will buy 2 curtains.
- The Municipal Council has adopted bylaw 244 amending bylaw 134 concerning false alarms. Now that the new fire service will give a fine to the Town for every false alarm, and not on the second one anymore, the amended bylaw will permit the Town to charge back this fee immediately to the concerned proprietor.

- At the mayors' council of the Laurentian MRC, organic waste collection was discussed. The ministry of Environment gives all municipalities until 2020 to collect organic matter. The reason behind this is that the burial sites are already full and the ministry does not want to emit permits to open new ones. Nevertheless, the small municipalities will not be obliged to do individual collection but will be allowed to use other methods as: either distribution of domestic composters, or big bins could be available at the landing, or individual collection could be made in the village, etc. Because of the wilderness intrinsic to Barkmere, we are not obliged to collect meat residues, only organic matter. In return, the ministry asks that this measure be accelerated: in 2017, 30% of residences have to conform to these requirements, in 2018, 50% and in 2019, 70% for a total of 100% by 2020. It is too late this year to apply the 30% because, for one, we have already adopted the budget. The penalty is not very big and we want to wait in order to get a better idea of what our strategy will be.

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



Ville de / Town of

BARKMERE

182 ch. Barkmere road

Barkmere, QC J0T 1A0

Tel : 819-687-3373

communications@barkmere.ca