

Winter Bulletin

January 29th 2018



Ville de / Town of
BARKMERE



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

It is now winter and Mother Nature is being temperamental. From intense cold to mild weather, from snow storm to sleet and ice rain, She is not sparing any efforts to remind us that it is not summer. We must say that She is probably only reacting to the attacks She has to sustain since we have filled the atmosphere with greenhouse gases. In Barkmere, far from the big cities and their smog, we have a privileged link with nature, a very fragile link that we must continue to protect.

First, I would like to thank you for the trust that you have renewed for my team and me. I welcome back to the Council Jake Chadwick, Marc Frédette, Stephen Lloyd and Chantal Raymond. By the same token, I welcome Marc-Olivier Duchesne and Andrea Leber. Their arrival, along with their new ideas, will galvanize the Council, and we already have some interesting projects on our plate.

Among those projects, one is particularly dear to us: the Citizens Forum. Following the example of other municipalities that have already implemented it, we feel that it is time to have meetings where the Barkmere citizens can express themselves freely, outside of the formal agenda of the Council meetings, or the fixed frame of the public consultation meetings on urban planning. This Forum will not be monopolized by the members of the Council, and they will satisfy themselves with listening to the ideas and the concerns of everyone. Given that these are often different whether people reside somewhere all year long or not, we will hold two meetings every year, one for the permanent residents, and one for the seasonal residents.

Winter in Barkmere is also the time when the Municipal Council adopts the budget of the Town for the coming year. Since the election process lasted a month more here than elsewhere, we were

forced to delay the budget process, and it will be adopted only at the Council meeting of February 10th. The budget determines the amount of municipal taxes that we will have to share in 2018. We are trying to minimize the impact of significant increases that we have to absorb in some budget items, like the Sûreté du Québec (10%), waste management (19%) and our fight against the Eurasian Milfoil (13%). Despite these increases, and a general decrease in property values of close to 1%, the general tax rate should only increase by slightly more than 2% in 2018, compared to 2017.

I wish you a wonderful winter (with good weather!).

Luc Trépanier,
Mayor

Extra docks for rental



We have finally received the missing structure for our new docks. No need to swim over anymore...

Therefore, we have 12 additional spots for rental. If you are interested, please contact Dave W. Roy at 819-681-3374 or at inspec-teur@barkmere.ca

Towards a Barkmere Compromise Solution for Crib Docks

By Stephen Lloyd



Bark Lakers know a lot about docks and wharfs and have much to say about them. They are a necessary part of our Town's infrastructure. However, Barkmere residents also recognize that, like all built infrastructure in and around the Lake, the lightest possible ecological footprint for these structures is to be favoured. In the case of our docks, a unique, made-in-Barkmere balance is required.

For good reason, provincial governments have stepped in to vigorously protect the shorelines and littoral zones (i.e. the submerged area between the high water mark and the centre of the water-course) of Canada's lakes. The goal is to allow for the free flow of water and to avoid the destruction of fish habitats and of the valuable native shoreline vegetation that acts as a strainer to protect the overall lake ecology. These plants control the flow of nitrates, sediments and other materials that would otherwise enter the waterway and cause our lakes to die prematurely.

In Ontario, you are required to obtain a provincial work permit to dredge or in any way fill in the littoral area or to install any construction in the littoral area that exceeds 15 square meters.

In Quebec, the approach taken by our provincial government is a little different. Since 2005, it is prohibited to carry out ANY construction or works, regardless of size, in the littoral zone, subject to certain specific exceptions. The only form of new docks that are permitted are floating docks or docks built on pilings. New versions of the traditional Barkmere-style crib docks are NOT permitted. The scientific consensus appears to be that, because they block the free flow of water, crib docks are the most ecologically damaging of the three types of docks.

Our Quebec legislation also makes an important distinction based on the use of docks. Docks which are destined for commercial, industrial, municipal, public or public access purposes are treated differently from "other" docks (i.e. docks used for private, residential purposes). The Province sets the rules and has exclusive authority over the first category. Barkmere's municipal Council has no say over the commercial or municipal docks within the Town's territory; they are subject to provincial approvals.

However, within certain guidelines (and subject to any rules set by the MRC), the Town CAN set some of the rules which apply to private residential docks. In particular, Barkmere can make its own local rules governing the "maintenance, repair and demolition" of private residential crib docks which existed in 2005 and which therefore benefit from grandfather rights. These docks make up the large majority of our current built infrastructure on the Lake.

We now have over a decade of experience with the new piling and floating docks. We have also had to grapple with the issue of the old submerged cribs left over from where piling docks have replaced crib docks. The informal feedback that the Council has received over the past years is that the status quo on the municipal regulation of these crib docks is problematic.

We need to hear more systematically from you, our residents, as to what you think is an appropriate balance between environmental protection and a workable regulation of a key part of our community's infrastructure. Please reach out by email or by phone to any one of our elected members of Council with your thoughts on the subject. We would like to proceed with this project in time for this spring.

NAVIGATION

By : Andrea Leber



Being a responsible boat owner is a key element to having a safe and enjoyable time on Bark Lake. We would like to remind the citizens that, before their re-entry next spring, all motorized boats on Bark Lake must have an identification label, as per by-law 243. This measure will help insure that boats are properly decontaminated. Aimed at helping in the fight against Eurasian Milfoil, this measure will also have a significant impact on the quality of the lake's water and aquatic environment. All details to acquire the necessary documents can be found on the town's website and are available at the Town Hall.

Federal law requires boat drivers to have a "**Pleasure Craft Operator Card**". However, children under 16 years of age are subject to additional requirements:

- ⇒ *Children under 12 may not operate a pleasure craft with a motor exceeding 10hp.*
- ⇒ *Children from 12 to 15 may not operate a pleasure craft with a motor exceeding 40 hp*

You can obtain a license by following an online course, offered by many companies, including: aceboater.com or cartebateau.com.

You may also take the exam in person with Carte Bateau or the Institut de sécurité nautique at one of the many trade shows. This option is more costly though and you must obtain a grade of 38/50 to pass.

Here are a few upcoming trade shows:

- Salon du Bateau et des Sports Nautiques, Place Bonaventure: February 1 to 4, 2018
- Salon Plein Air, Chasse et Pêche, Place Bonaventure: February 15-18, 2018

An informed and knowledgeable boat driver is a safer and better driver!

Infrastructure, Services and Citizen Forums

By: Marc-Olivier Duchesne



I am honoured by your trust in this first mandate as municipal councillor in Barkmere. My family and I have fallen in love with the lake during summer 2015. I had the chance to be part of the Executive of the BLPA last year. I would like to thank all the people that contributed voluntarily or not to my integration in our magnificent community by sharing their friends, the history of Barkmere, its traditions and a few anecdotes.

In fact, when I arrived, I met a first citizen by towing him to my dock after he ran out of gas. I must say that he was rowing at 200 feet from my dock and that I was arriving on my dock, alone, boat keys in one hand and a beer in the other (taking a break from intense renovations...), and I told myself: it is a sign! Thirty minutes later while leaving to go shopping in my car, I met a smiley citizen that had seen my act of bravery! She had mostly seen my promptness (over 100 meters) to get back to my beverage on my dock and firmly stated that it was «illegal (according to Federal law) to circulate at high speed within 50 meters of the shore subject to fines!» Before this sincere greeting, I smiled and shared a few church words with my wife, while pulling up the window... this same person came back to compliment my renovations and has offered an excellent service with her implication with the BLPA and has finally helped me during the last election. From this, I learned two things: frank discussions build better friendships ... and moreover, if you think you are doing a good deed, bring your refreshment in the boat!

Infrastructure and Services

The team has asked me to take charge of the infrastructure and services. We invest our energy in restarting all the files so that we are ready for next season and to exchange with you on all major subjects as reorganising of public docks and boathouses without omitting the elements of infrastructure that we have sometimes neglected over time.

Citizen Forums

Soon, with my colleagues, we will start the Citizen's Forums and the first one will be dedicated to concerns that touch directly residents from the village. We will look at life from the point of view of the luckiest people of the town, the permanent residents, the ones that do not have to leave at the end of summer or on Sunday nights.

A Citizen Forum gives a tribune and a space to express oneself and exchange on concerns pertaining to the community in an informal and relaxed atmosphere, which is not permitted by the formal and legal character of the municipal council. It can take the form of a round table, of workshops and even visits of a situation on the ground. It can also be a moment of deep exchange with councillors or to explore new ideas with them. We can adapt the format of these meetings according to your needs. During summer, we will also have the opportunity to have a second Citizen Forum, this time by underlining discussions pertaining to the lake. For these two meetings, we hope you will come in great number to exchange on life in Barkmere, from your point of view. To better organise these Forums, we would like you to propose subjects of discussions. You can transmit them to us and we will contact you. Otherwise, I am available to exchange with you and represent you on your concerns. To the pleasure of meeting you soon!

BUDGET 2018

By: Marc Frédette



Year 2017 in review

Based on 2017 preliminary figures (our financial year closes on December 31), we should be in a position to generate a surplus of approximately \$54,000. Total expenses were lower by \$72,000 versus what we had budgeted for 2017 mostly due to lower administration expenses despite election costs of \$9,000 including \$4,000 paid to three Town employees determined by the Quebec Municipal Elections Act. The administration costs were lower than budgeted by \$60,000 mainly due to a reduction of \$50,000 in legal fees as the main legal case has been postponed to Fall 2018.

Revenues were approximately \$50,000 above budget in large part from higher transfer taxes and more fines issued by the town administration. Grants and an increase in the number of transfer revenues were also higher than budgeted by \$11,000. We have therefore no need to utilise the \$70,000 we had budgeted from cumulated surplus from prior years.

2018 budget

For 2018, we expect the total expenses to increase by 2.3% from the 2017 budget to \$635,000 for a net increase of \$14,400. Overall our costs segments are expected to be down except for the following items:

- Our waste management cost dictated by the MRC and the RIDR, a group in charge of waste disposal, are expected to increase by 19% or \$4,400;
- Following the 2016 discovery of the Eurasian water-milfoil, we are planning to pursue the removal and control of this invasive plant and have budgeted \$22,500 in 2018. This amount is higher than 2017 budget by \$3,000 or 16% but closer to actual costs. As indicated last year, it is fair to assume this expense line be part of our cost structure going forward;
- The MRC has increased our allocation of its costs by 1.9% for roughly \$1,000;
- We are budgeting an overall employee salary increase of \$6,400 or 4.2% including bonuses, medical coverage and inflation;
- An increase in amortization, a non-cash expense, of \$9,000 resulting from various additional purchases.

We anticipate revenues to be higher by \$5,000 stemming from additional dock rental spaces for \$3,000 and \$2,000 from interest on our guaranteed investment certificates.

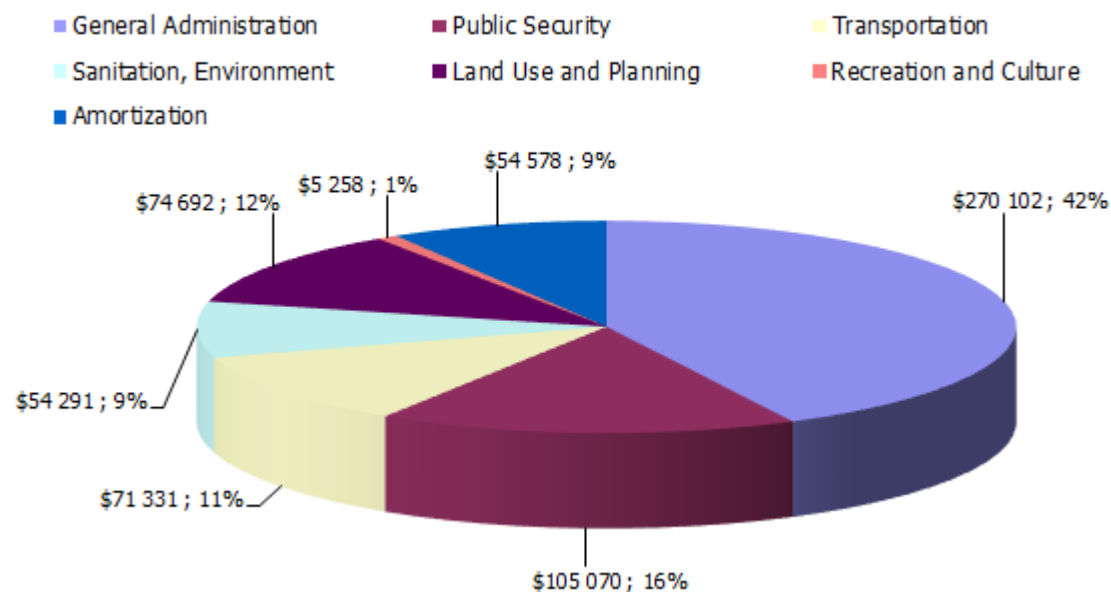
In order to minimize the burden on the citizens, we will use \$86,000 from the surplus generated in prior years. Therefore, on a net basis, the general tax rate is expected to increase by 2.2%.

Unpaid taxes

We have seen a substantial reduction in accounts receivable and we are at levels not reached since 2009. We thank all of you who pay on time. It reduces the time spent on collecting past-due amounts and helps in forecasting our funding needs.

Revenues			
	2016 Actual	2017 Estimated	2018 Budget
Taxes	\$451 193	\$475 842	\$496 122
Other revenues	\$119 613	\$126 287	\$53 201
Cumulated Surplus Allocation	-	-	\$86 000
Total	\$570 806	\$602 129	\$635 323
Expenses			
	2016 Actual	2017 Estimated	2018 Budget
General Administration	\$227 440	\$214 213	\$270 102
Public Security	\$86 947	\$92 681	\$105 070
Transportation	\$69 909	\$73 732	\$71 331
Sanitation, Environment	\$40 467	\$45 521	\$54 291
Land Use and Planning	\$66 487	\$69 374	\$74 692
Recreation and Culture	\$2 707	\$2 455	\$5 258
Amortization	\$42 147	\$50 493	\$54 578
Total	\$536 104	\$548 470	\$635 323
Surplus (deficit)	\$34 702	\$53 659	<i>Nil</i>

Expenses - 2018 Budget





Ville de / Town of

BARKMERE

**PROVINCE OF QUEBEC
RCM OF LAURENTIANS
TOWN OF BARKMERE**

TOWN OF BARKMERE RATEPAYERS

PUBLIC NOTICE

CODE OF ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT FOR ELECTED MUNICIPAL COUNCILLORS

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given by the undersigned, Director General and Secretary-Treasurer of the Town of Barkmere,

THAT at the special meeting on January 20th, 2018, the Council of the Town of Barkmere give a notice of motion and presented the draft Bylaw 240, regarding the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for elected Council Member of the Town of Barkmere.

SUMMARY OF THE DRAFT BYLAW

The governance of the Town of Barkmere is to be carried out in accordance with the following fundamental values:

- 1° the integrity of the members of the municipal council;
- 2° the honour associated with the duties of the members of the municipal council;
- 3° prudence in the pursuit of the public interest;
- 4° respect towards other members of the municipal council, the employees of the Town and its citizens;
- 5° loyalty toward the municipality;
- 6° the quest for equity.

The values set forth in this Code of Ethics shall guide all persons to whom it applies in the interpretation and application of its ethical rules.

The rules set forth in this Code of Ethics have as an objective preventing in particular:

- 1° any situation where the private interest of the member of council may influence his or her independence of judgment in the exercise of his or her duties;
- 2° any situation which is counter to the provisions of Articles 304 and 361 of the *Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities* (R.S.Q., chapter E-2.2);
- 3° favoritism, embezzlement, breach of trust and other misconduct.

ADOPTION OF BYLAW

Bylaw 240 will be adopted during the regular meeting on March 10th, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Community Center of the Town of Barkmere located at 199, Barkmere Road.

GIVEN AT Barkmere, QC, this 29th day of January 2018

Dave W. Roy
Assistant Director General



Ville de / Town of

BARKMERE

**PROVINCE OF QUEBEC
RCM OF LAURENTIANS
TOWN OF BARKMERE**

TOWN OF BARKMERE RATEPAYERS

PUBLIC NOTICE

RESOLUTION NUMBER 2017-096

Schedule of regular meetings of the Town of Barkmere to be held during the calendar year of 2018

Is hereby given by the undersigned, Secretary-Treasurer of the Town of Barkmere,

THAT at a regular meeting held on December 9th, 2018, the council of the Town of Barkmere adopted resolution number 2017-096 relating to the schedule of council meetings for the calendar year of 2018.

Schedule of regular meetings of the council of the Town of Barkmere

Meeting type	Date	Time	Place
Regular	Saturday, January 13, 2018	10am	Barkmere community center
Regular	Saturday, February 10, 2018	10am	Barkmere community center
Regular	Saturday, March 10, 2018	10am	Barkmere community center
Regular	Saturday, April 14, 2018	10am	Barkmere community center
Regular	Saturday, May 12, 2018	10am	Barkmere community center
Regular	Saturday, June 9, 2018	10am	Barkmere community center
Regular	Saturday, July 14, 2018	10am	Barkmere community center
Regular	Saturday, August 11, 2018	10am	Barkmere community center
Regular	Saturday, September 8, 2018	10am	Barkmere community center
Regular	Saturday, October 13, 2018	10am	Barkmere community center
Regular	Saturday, November 10, 2018	10am	Barkmere community center
Regular	Saturday, December 8, 2018	10am	Barkmere community center

GIVEN AT Barkmere, QC, this 29th day of January 2018

Dave W. Roy
Assistant Director General



Ville de / Town of

BARKMERE

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC
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TOWN OF BARKMERE RATEPAYERS

PUBLIC NOTICE

**ADOPTION OF THE 2015 BUDGET
AND THE THREE-YEAR CAPITAL EXPENDITURES PROGRAM**

In accordance with article 474.2 of the *Cities and Towns Act*, is hereby given by the undersigned, secretary-treasurer of the Town of Barkmere,

THAT at a special meeting, to be held in the Community Center on February 10th, 2018 at 10:00 a.m., the Council of the Town of Barkmere will adopt the 2018 Budget and the Three-Year Capital Expenditures Program.

GIVEN AT Barkmere, QC, this 29th day of January 2018

Dave W. Roy
Assistant Director General

Mini Echoes from Barkmere

By Chantal Raymond



It is with great pleasure that I am taking charge again of the Communications Portfolio with Team Trépanier and I am happy to be able to give back again to this community that has brought me so much.

Cadastral Renovation

At the beginning of February, you will receive a package from the surveying firm Bérard Tremblay Inc. giving you your cadastral information on your properties in Barkmere, with a small map showing the pertinent proprieties and documentation on steps to take if you decide to contest these new subdivisions. You will be invited to a:

Public Consultation

February 14 and 15, 2018

from 2 :00 PM to 8:00 PM

at Montcalm Community Centre

33, Route du Lac-Rond Nord, Montcalm, Qc J0T 2V0

The law required this consultation in order to give you the occasion to receive the cadastral information specific to your property (that you will have received by mail) and to express, if needed, your opinion with regard to the representation of your property on this cadastral plan.

The consultation has 2 goals:

- to allow property owners to meet the land surveying firm that drew up the new plan and to express themselves on the property as represented;
- to permit the surveyor to further supplement his basic documentation by receiving your comments, documents and opinions of the portion of the new cadastral plan on which your property is shown.
-

If an owner cannot attend this consultation:

The owner that cannot be present at the consultation can mandate someone to represent them. A formal power of attorney is not necessary to consult the plans, but it could be mandatory in the case where the representative of an owner must ask for a revision of the prepared cadastral plan. However, Mrs. Chantal Chenel, from Bérard Tremblay Inc., assures me that a family member can repre-

sent you without a power of attorney. It would be important to verify with her beforehand the requirement for formal documentation.

The owner that cannot attend one or the other days of consultation, nor send a representative, must contact Bérard Tremblay as soon as he receives his notice. You can make other arrangements with them. Mrs. Chenel says that it is preferable to let them know your disagreement with their plan before the end of April, otherwise the procedure will take longer, due to the obligation to open a new file at the ministry, etc. She assured me that nothing is definitive and that after April, it is always possible to contest a point of disagreement with their plan.

If necessary, please communicate with Chantal Chenel from Bérard Tremblay Inc. at 1-800-363-1900, ext. 240 or by e-mail at c.chenel@berardtremblay.com or, for more information, go to the ministry's website at:

<https://foncier.mern.gouv.qc.ca/Portail/citoyens/renovation-cadastrale/pendant/rencontre-de-consultation/>

Please take note that the town of Barkmere is NOT RESPONSIBLE for this reform. It is the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources of the Government of Quebec that is responsible for the cadastral reform.

FILAU

Thanks to years of efforts to get high speed internet to Barkmere, FILAU has installed a new Tower in Arundel that now completes the coverage of Barkmere village area. If you want to obtain this service, you can contact customer service at 819-681-3399 to take an appointment to install equipment. The service is much faster and gives an alternative to Explore net that is often not very reliable and not very fast. The town of Barkmere is not responsible for this service.

Looking forward to seeing you in Barkmere!

INFORMATION ON CITY HALL

OPENING HOURS

November to April

Monday to Friday: 09:00 AM—04:00 PM

Mayor:	819-687-3373	maire@barkmere.ca
General Director and Treasurer	819-687-3373	dg@barkmere.ca
Urbanism and infrastructures:	819-681-3374	inspecteur@barkmere.ca
Communications:	819-687-3373	communications@barkmere.ca
Finances (tax bill)	819-687-3373	finance@barkmere.ca

