



Echoes from Barkmere – March 2020

Here is a summary of the last Council meeting held Saturday, March 14th 2020:

- In the absence of Mayor Trépanier (who was under the weather and did not attend the meeting), councillor and acting mayor Stephen Lloyd presides the council.
- The Citizen's Forum that was to be held after next council meeting in April has been postponed due to the Covid-19 flu (and to the fact that it was to be held on the Saturday before Easter and many people would not have been able to attend). Health and security of our community are of the utmost importance. We will keep you informed as to the date of the next Forum, once it has been established. We thank you for your understanding.
- There was additional discussion on the submerged lots issue. Our Director-General continues to have correspondence with various provincial agencies. Most recently, the Centre Hydrique seems to have taken a position that would be helpful to Barkmere residents, indicating that, in their view, the high water level of the lake is to be established independently of the "artificial" impact of the dam. It is possible that these troublesome submerged lots, which the Town feels were created by surveyor error, may eventually disappear. However, in the interim, the Town has received legal advice that it is required to deal with all permit requests on the basis that these lots, which are currently in the land registry, are valid.
- The town has adopted a resolution to support Mrs. Marie-Hélène Gaudreau, MP for Laurentides-Labelle, concerning her efforts to oppose the change in criterias applicable to grants given through the Federal Gas Tax Fund (TECQ) We support Mrs. Gaudreau, in her dealings with

the Federal government to ask to review their position in the categories of projects eligible in order to include municipal buildings, retention works and also make eligible the cost of municipal employees assigned to a project. Just remember that that is how we got the subsidies to build our Town Hall in Barkmere.

- The town of Barkmere will request from Hydro-Quebec that it installs non-permanent barriers along Jack-Rabbit road on the electrical line footprint near pylon 29. We will send a copy of this resolution to the Municipality of Montcalm and the various associations and clubs of sports and recreational vehicles, to get their support and to participate in the preparation and installation of information signs on the ecologically sensitive area upstream from Bark Lake.
- The town has approved an urban planning mandate for Ms. H el ene Doyon, Urbanist, to prepare draft by-laws concerning 3 items that were discussed at our public consultation last August: 1) exterior lighting; 2) form, permitted construction materials and colour of boathouses; and 3) approval by the CCU of new boathouses. This summer we will have another public consultation to discuss the fine print of these new by-laws with citizens.

Once again, for more details, consult the minutes of the council meeting that will be posted on the town's website once they are ratified, generally at the next council meeting.

Picture taken after council:



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