



Barkmere Echo – January 2025

The following is a summary of the last Town Council meeting held on Saturday, January 18th 2025:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The consultation period for the project of trekking paths on the peninsula will be extended to give us time to address the concerns of the landowners of the area and to answer their questions. In general, the feedback until now is very positive and favourable to the implementation of these paths.

FOLLOW UP ON THE LAST MEETING

The bylaws adopted in December and modifying our urban planning bylaws in conformity with our revised urban plan were transmitted to the MRC of the Laurentians for approval. Normally, the MRC should adopt a resolution during its February Council meeting. If accepted as is, the modifications will be effective at that moment.

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON URBAN PLANNING

The Council appointed a new member to the CCU, namely Victoria Henderson. Ms. Henderson is an architect by profession and is already participating to the committee of other municipalities. She will be replacing Ms. Barbara Pope, who participated actively to the deliberations of the committee for 15 years. Council thanked Ms. Pope for her dedication during those many years.

SECURITY CAMERAS

The Council authorized the purchase of new security cameras, with a better definition and a better recording system. Due to the poor quality of the current cameras, the municipal administration was having difficulties to identify the perpetrators of illegal waste dump made around the domestic waste containers.

Cameras will also be installed to cover the area of the rental wharves, where the tenants had been complaining about vandalism and theft. This should help to apprehend the culprits. These additional cameras will also allow to monitor the launch of boats coming from out of Town, outside of the opening hours of the boat washing service. Obviously, these boats are not being cleaned of any invading species before being launched.

LAST COUNCIL OF THE MRC

During the meetings of December and January, the Mayors' Council studied a proposal of Public Transportation Service of the Laurentians (TACL) to levy a tax on the registration of vehicles, to help financing their activities. Our mayor opposed this tax which penalizes the permanent residents, for a service that they do not use, and frankly, have no need for it.

The MRC modified its regulation regarding the disposal of domestic waste to increase the amount of the fines issued for contraventions to the regulation. Hence the importance for the Town to identify the culprits, otherwise these fines will have to be paid by all of us through our municipal taxes.

The MRC Council adopted the Regional Strategy for Protected Areas on the territory of the MRC. This strategy was prepared by the Eco-corridors Laurentien's organization for the benefit of the MRC. Therefore, it takes into account the objectives and concerns of the municipalities of Barkmere and Montcalm raised in their own project of a protected area. According to the criteria included in the strategy, our project should be classified advantageously in the prioritizing exercise to be done with the Ministry of Environment.

In addition, the Council of MRC Prefects of the Laurentian Region addressed a letter to premier François Legault to point out the importance of our region regarding the projects of protection another conservation initiatives for natural and hydrological environments in the province of Quebec.

MUNICIPAL TAXES – 2025

Please be advised that the 2025 tax bill was sent out today, January 30th. If you authorized us to send it by e-mail, we invite you to check your inbox to view your tax account. If you have not received it within 72 hours, please send us an e-mail to let us know. If you receive your tax bill by mail, please check your mailbox in the next few days.



Picture taken by: Martin Paul Gélinas, January 30th, 2025

For more details, please 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.