CANADA PROVINCE OF QUEBEC MUNICIPALITY OF WEST BOLTON

A regular Council meeting of the Municipality of West Bolton, held on Monday, March 3, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall located at 9 Town Hall Road, West Bolton, with interactive webcast.

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT: Margarita Lafontaine, Councillor No. 1 Marie-Blanche Richer, Councillor No. 2 Loren Allen, Councillor No. 3 Eddy Whitcher, Councillor No. 4 Gilles Asselin, Councillor No. 5 Nancy Lanteigne, Councillor No. 6

The councillors present formed a quorum, and the meeting was presided over by Mr. Denis Vaillancourt, Mayor. The Director General and Clerk-Treasurer, Mrs. Léa Laplante, was also present, as per the provisions of the Municipal Code of Quebec.

Four other individuals were present during the session.

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
- 3. FIRST QUESTION PERIOD
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- 5. CORRESPONDENCE

5.1. Blood Drive – Brome-Bolton Wildlife and Fishing Club 5.2. Walking in Tune – Together Step by Step

- 6. TOWN PLANNING
 - 6.1. The Municipal Building and Environment Officer's Report
 - 6.2. File #447695 Preliminary CPTAQ Orientation Regarding Land Purchase for the Town Hall Project - Challenge of CPTAQ's Rejection of the Application
 - 6.3. Adoption of a Resolution for the Development of the Water Asset Management Plan (AMP-EAU)
 - 6.4. Tabling of the Minutes of the PAC for the Months of November and December 2024 AND January and February 2025
 - 6.5. Application for a Minor Exemption for the Setback of an Accessory Building at 21 Lakeview Road

7. ADMINISTRATION

- 7.1. Approval of Accounts Paid and Payable
- 7.2. Notice of Motion and Tabling of Draft Taxation By-law 467-2024-1 Amending Taxation By-law 467-2024
- 7.3. Notice of Motion and Tabling of Draft Bylaw Respecting Contract Management – 468-2024-1 Amending the Bylaw Respecting Contract Management 468-2024
- 7.4. Notice of Motion and Tabling of the Draft by-law Concerning a Fee on the Transfer of Any Immovable Located in its Territory – 461-2024-1 Amending the By-law Respecting the Transfer Tax 461-2024
- 7.5. Intermunicipal Agreement on the Delegation of Jurisdiction and Services for Recyclable Materials on the Territory of the Brome-Missisquoi RCM - Approval and Authorization to Sign
- 7.6. Mrs. Caroline Chrétien Becomes a Permanent Administrative Assistant / Receptionist
- 7.7. SPA Information Notice
- 8. ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE
 - 8.1. Report on Roads
 - 8.2. Support for the MTQ Project Bridge over Argyll Road Deck Replacement and Partial Rehabilitation of Abutments – P-01414

- 8.3. Mandate to the UMQ for the Group Purchase of Dust Suppressants
- 8.4. Training Approval Road Signs (Volume V) and Project Management Essentials in Public Works
- 9. ENVIRONMENT
 - 9.1. 2025 Request for Trees Tree and Forest Month
- 10. PUBLIC SECURITY
 - 10.1. Support Request for an Amendment to Section 226.2 of the Highway Code – Addition of the Concept of First Responder
- 11. HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
 - 11.1. Brome Missisquoi Social Geriatrics Sentinel Training
- 12. LEISURE AND CULTURE
 - 12.1. Renewal of the Pettes Library Agreement
 - 12.2. Resolution in Support of Intellectual Freedom in Public Libraries
- 13. VARIA
- 14. SECOND QUESTION PERIOD
- 15. ADJOURNMENT

1. CALL TO ORDER

With the members participating at the start of the meeting forming a quorum, the meeting was called to order by the mayor at 7:33 p.m.

The mayor made some opening remarks.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-021

IT WAS MOVED BY: Gilles Asselin SECONDED BY: Marie-Blanche Richer AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

TO ADOPT the agenda by adding item 9.2 – Support for the Town of Blainville – Opposition to Bill 93; An Act respecting, in particular, the transfer of ownership of an immovable of Ville de Blainville

ADOPTED

3. FIRST QUESTION PERIOD

Council held a first question period.

4. RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-022 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 3, 2025

IT WAS MOVED BY: Loren Allen SECONDED BY: Margarita Lafontaine AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT the English and French versions of the minutes of the regular meeting of **February 3, 2025**, be **approved as presented**.

ADOPTED

5. CORRESPONDENCE

A copy of the correspondence received was forwarded to members of Council.

5.1. Blood Drive – Brome-Bolton Wildlife and Fishing Club

The Brome-Bolton Wildlife and Fishing Club is organizing a blood drive on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at the Brome Lake Community Centre, situated at 270 Victoria Street.

5.2. Walking in Tune – Together Step by Step

The 16th edition of La Marche Au Diapason will take place on May 4th; you are invited to participate in the event or to make a donation at <u>www.lamarcheaudiapason.com</u>

6. TOWN PLANNING 6.1 TOWN PLANNING REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND ENVIRONMENT OFFICER

The Director General and Clerk-Treasurer tabled the activity report of the Building and Environment Department for the month.

February 2025 Number of permits issued: 6 Value of work: \$62,000.00

Billing for services: \$1,490.00

Violations: 12 Value: \$0.00

1 worksite visit

No permit was sent to the RCM – awaiting confirmation from the MRC on the follow-up of the permits sent; nearly 130 permits to be processed at the RCM between 2017 and 2024.

6.2. RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-023 FILE 447695 – PRELIMINARY CPTAQ ORIENTATION REGARDING LAND PURCHASE FOR THE TOWN HALL PROJECT - CHALLENGE OF THE CPTAQ'S REJECTION OF THE APPLICATION

WHEREAS on February 17, 2025, the *Commission de protection du territoire agricole du Québec* (CPTAQ) submitted its report and **preliminary orientation** regarding the application to purchase land for the Town Hall project;

WHEREAS this preliminary orientation is unfavourable to the Municipality's request;

WHEREAS Council deems it necessary to seek appropriate remedies to challenge this decision;

CONSEQUENTLY, IT WAS MOVED BY: Gilles Asselin SECONDED BY: Margarita Lafontaine AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

- **TO AUTHORIZE** the necessary process to contest the rejection of the application to the CPTAQ;
- **TO AUTHORIZE** management to take all necessary steps to file the challenge, including obtaining legal advice if necessary;
- **TO AFFIRM** the Municipality's commitment to continue this project in the interest of the community.

ADOPTED

6.3. RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-024 ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION TO DEVELOP THE WATER ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN (WATER-AGP)

WHEREAS the Municipality of West Bolton recognizes the importance of effectively managing its municipal assets to ensure their long-term sustainability;

WHEREAS the Municipality of West Bolton has reviewed the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's Water AMP Guide (AMP-Water) and related tools and understands each part of the AMP;

WHEREAS the objective of asset management is to put in place activities necessary to maintain assets in a condition to offer sustainable and quality services to citizens;

WHEREAS the Water Asset Management Plan (AMP-Water) contributes to achieving the strategic objectives of the Municipality of West Bolton and to providing sustainable and quality services in line with the agreed level of service;

WHEREAS the MAMH's Municipal Water Asset Management (PGA-Water) approach provides a structured framework and clear principles for assets;

WHEREAS this AMP will maximize the efficiency of human and financial resources by identifying priority assets and proactively planning expenditures;

WHEREAS the implementation of the PGA will contribute to the resilience and sustainability of municipal infrastructure;

IT WAS MOVED BY: Gilles Asselin SECONDED BY: Eddy Whitcher AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY THAT

- The Municipality is committed to developing and implementing a water resource plan to optimize the management of its municipal assets.
- The Municipality undertakes to send the Ministry the summary of the PGA-Water and the information required by the Ministry no later than December 31, 2026;
- Council approved the document "Approach to the Management of Municipal Water Assets" and authorized the filing of the documents with MAMAH.

ADOPTED

6.4. TABLING OF THE MINUTES OF THE PAC FOR THE MONTHS OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2024 AND JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2025

The Director General tabled the following planning documents:

- Minutes of the November 2024 PAC meeting
- Minutes of the December 2024 PAC meeting
- Minutes of the January 2025 PAC meeting
- Minutes of the February 2025 PAC meeting

6.5. RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-025 REQUEST FOR A MINOR EXEMPTION FOR THE SETBACK OF AN ACCESSORY BUILDING AT 21 LAKEVIEW ROAD

Nature and effects of the request:

The purpose of this request for a minor exemption is to authorize the installation of an accessory building at a distance closer to the public road than the main building. The objective of the request is to regularize the location of a secondary building, designated as a "Poolhouse", whose concrete slab was poured without a permit.

Identification of the site concerned:

This application concerns 21 Lakeview, lot 5 662 843, registration number 8912-98-2046 of the cadastre of Quebec.

WHEREAS the Municipality has received a request for a minor exemption to authorize the installation of an accessory building located closer to the public road than the main building;

WHEREAS the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) has analyzed the application, including the evaluation grid for minor exemptions, the complete file, and information relating to the previous permit application (2021-05-0065), and has made a recommendation to the Municipal Council;

WHEREAS the analysis of the file reveals that the concrete slab on which the accessory building would rest was probably poured without a permit between the acquisition of the land by the current owners in 2021 and the year 2023;

WHEREAS the land in question offers sufficient space to allow the building in question to be positioned in compliance with the standards of the municipal by-laws in force;

WHEREAS the non-compliance of the building covered by the application goes beyond the simple issue of the setback, and whereas the proposed use does not correspond to the definition of an accessory building under Zoning By-law 264-2008;

WHEREAS the Municipal Council cannot conclude that the rejection of the application for an exemption would cause serious prejudice to the owners, and whereas such authorization could not be granted without violating several sections of the Zoning By-law;

The floor was given to people wishing to express their views on the matter.

Mr. Philippe Laflamme, representative of Paysages Knowlton and landscaping contractor for the project located at 21 Lakeview, took the floor. He expressed his concern about the financial impacts that would result from the rejection of the request for a minor exemption, due to the investments made for landscaping around the existing concrete slab. He asked for clarification on the setback applicable to the building in question, in particular, if it was calculated from a private road or a public road. He also questioned the criteria for qualifying a building as a primary or accessory building and the reasons justifying why the proposed structure is considered a main building rather than a secondary building.

ACCORDINGLY

IT WAS MOVED BY: Nancy Lanteigne SECONDED BY: Margarita Lafontaine AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

TO REJECT the request for a minor exemption to authorize a shorter distance for the accessory building located at 21 Lakeview Road, **considering that it does not meet the analysis criteria set out in section 145.4 of the Act respecting land use planning and development (LAU), in particular**:

- The absence of serious prejudice caused to the owners in the event of rejection of the exemption, since the land allows for a compliant installation (criterion 4);
- Whether the application of the by-law does not create undue hardship that would justify an exemption (**criterion 3**);
- The risk that the minor exemption, if granted, will allow the establishment of a building whose use does not correspond to the zoning standards in force, which could affect the integrity of the municipal regulatory framework (criterion 7).

TO INFORM the applicant of the reasons for this rejection, in particular the incompatibility of the proposed use with the regulatory provisions in force;

TO MAKE IT KNOWN that any new structure must comply with applicable municipal standards and by-laws.

ADOPTED

7. ADMINISTRATION

7.1 ADMINISTRATION RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-026 ACCOUNTS PAID AND PAYABLE

IT WAS MOVED BY: Marie-Blanche Richer SECONDED BY: Gilles Asselin AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

TO APPROVE the list of accounts and transfers as of March 3, 2025, in the amount of \$306,095.06 and salaries in the amount of \$24,456.12 for a total of \$330,551.18.

THAT COUNCIL AUTHORIZES the Director General and Clerk-Treasurer to settle these accounts.

ADOPTED

7.2 ADMINISTRATION

NOTICE OF MOTION AND TABLING OF DRAFT TAXATION BY-LAW – 467-2024-1 AMENDING TAXATION BY-LAW 467-2024

NOTICE OF MOTION AND TABLING OF DRAFT BY-LAW was given by Councillor Eddy Whitcher, that at the next Council meeting, By-law 467-2024-1, amending Taxation By-law 467-2024, would be presented for adoption.

Proposed Amendments:

It was suggested that the preamble to By-law 467-2024 be amended as follows:

WHEREAS, in accordance with section 244.1 of the Act respecting municipal taxation, a local municipality may, by by-law, impose a financial rate for the services it offers;

WHEREAS under section 252 of the Act respecting municipal taxation, a local municipality may determine the number of payments, the date of the payments and the terms and conditions for the application of interest on outstanding payments for property tax, compensation and rates;

Draft By-law 467-2024-1 provides for adjustments to the pricing of municipal services, as well as the management of property tax payments, in accordance with these legislative provisions.

To comply with the requirements set out in section 445 of the Municipal Code (CQLR, c. C-27.1), a copy of draft By-law 467-2024-1 was tabled at the meeting and is appended to this notice. The draft by-law is also available on The Municipality's website, and paper copies will be made available before the start of the meeting.

7.3 ADMINISTRATION NOTICE OF MOTION AND TABLING OF DRAFT CONTRACT MANAGEMENT BY-LAW – 468-2024-1 AMENDING CONTRACT MANAGEMENT BY-LAW 468-2024

NOTICE OF MOTION AND TABLING OF THE DRAFT BY-LAW was given by Councillor Marie-Blanche Richer that at the next Council meeting, By-law 468-2024-1, amending the Municipality's Contract Management By-law 468-2024, would be presented for adoption.

The purpose of the draft Regulation is to update the terms and conditions for awarding contracts in **section 34**, by giving priority to Québec or other Canadian businesses, as well as suppliers with an establishment in Québec or elsewhere in Canada, for contracts by mutual agreement or contracts below the public call for tenders threshold.

To comply with the requirements set out in the law and to guarantee contract management in accordance with current practices, a copy of the draft By-law will be tabled at the meeting and will be available on the Municipality's website. Paper versions will also be made available during the session before it starts.

7.4 ADMINISTRATION

NOTICE OF MOTION AND TABLING OF THE DRAFT BY-LAW CONCERNING A FEE FOR THE TRANSFER OF ANY IMMOVABLE LOCATED IN ITS TERRITORY – 461-2024-1 AMENDING THE BY-LAW REFERRING TO THE TRANSFER TAX 461-2024

NOTICE OF MOTION AND TABLING OF THE DRAFT BY-LAW was given by Councillor Gilles Asselin that at the next Council meeting, By-law 461-2024-1, amending By-law 461-2024 concerning a fee for the transfer of any immovable located on the territory of the Municipality of West Bolton, would be presented for adoption.

The draft by-law aims to revise the procedures for collecting the property transfer tax, in **the preamble to paragraph 2**, taking into account annual adjustments based on the CPI. Thus, the tax base for the transfer tax for immovables with a value equal to or less than \$500,000 will be as set out in the *Act respecting duties on transfers of immovables*. This draft by-law amends By-law 461-2024, which repeals and replaces By-law 370-2020 as well as any other previous by-law related to this fee.

In addition, an amendment to **section 7** will clarify that the suppletive duty does not apply when an exemption from transfer duties is granted due to the death of a spouse.

The by-law is amended to include the following provision:

WHEREAS the Municipality may provide that the suppletive duty is not to be paid in the following situations:

When a transfer results from the death of the transferor, in accordance with Article 20, paragraph 1, subparagraph d of the Act respecting duties on transfers of immovables;

When a transfer is made between a transferor and his or her spouse following this death, in accordance with applicable legal provisions.

A copy of the draft by-law will be tabled at the meeting and will be available on the Municipality's website. Paper versions will also be made available before the start of the session.

7.5 ADMINISTRATION RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-027 INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR THE DELEGATION OF JURISDICTION AND SERVICES FOR RECYCLABLE MATERIALS ON THE TERRITORY OF THE BROME-MISSISQUOI RCM - APPROVAL AND SIGNING AUTHORITY

WHEREAS the *Environment Quality Act* (CQLR, c. Q-2) ("the Act") was amended by the *Act to amend mainly the Environment Quality Act with respect to deposits and selective collection* (S.Q. 2021, c. 5), assented to on March 17, 2021;

WHEREAS section 53.31.0.2 of the Act, as amended, provides that no municipality or group of municipalities may, on its own initiative, develop or implement all or part of a curbside recycling system for certain recyclable materials where the development, implementation and financing of such a system are entrusted to persons by regulation;

WHEREAS the Government of Quebec adopted the *Regulation respecting a system of selective collection of certain residual materials* (CQLR, c. Q-2, r. 46.01) ("the Regulation"), which came into force on July 7, 2022;

WHEREAS Éco Entreprises Québec (ÉEQ) is the management body designated by the government that is responsible for developing, implementing and financially supporting a curbside recycling system for certain recyclable materials throughout Quebec;

WHEREAS the By-law provides for the conclusion of an agreement between ÉEQ and a municipal body concerning the collection and transportation of the materials referred to in section 24 of the Regulation;

WHEREAS the Regulation prescribes the minimum content of this agreement, in particular with respect to the parameters surrounding gathering and transportation services, the conditions surrounding the awarding of contracts for these services and the terms and conditions relating to quality control;

WHEREAS ÉEQ has identified the Brome-Missisquoi RCM as the signatory organization to enter into such an agreement;

WHEREAS the framework agreement drafted by ÉEQ requires that the municipal body have "jurisdiction over the management of recyclable materials for the entire territory of application";

WHEREAS it is appropriate for the local municipalities to delegate to the Brome-Missisquoi RCM some of their powers, to allow the MRC to enter into the agreement with ÉEQ or any other management body required by the provincial regulation;

WHEREAS any local municipality may enter into any agreement with any other municipality, regardless of the legislation governing it, including a regional county municipality, in respect of all or part of an area within their jurisdiction;

WHEREAS the year 2025 will be a year of transition and that the delegation of jurisdiction in relation to residual materials will be evolving and that modifications to this agreement may be made;

WHEREAS the Brome-Missisquoi RCM has sent the intermunicipal agreement on the delegation of jurisdiction and services for recyclable

materials to local municipalities for comments and submitted an adjusted version;

WHEREAS the Parties wish to avail themselves of the provisions of articles 569 et seq. of the Municipal Code of Québec, CQLR, c. C-27.1 and sections 468 et seq. of the Cities and Towns Act, CQLR, c. C-19, to enter into the above-mentioned intermunicipal agreement;

WHEREAS 20 of the municipalities have signed the Intermunicipal Agreement on the Delegation of Jurisdiction and Services for Recyclable Materials on the Territory of the Brome-Missisquoi RCM;

WHEREAS the provisions of section 15 of the Intermunicipal Agreement on the Delegation of Jurisdiction and Services for Recyclable Materials on the Territory of the Brome-Missisquoi RCM provide that it is possible for a municipality to adhere to the said agreement under the conditions set out;

WHEREAS the Municipality of Saint-Armand has expressed its desire to join the Intermunicipal Agreement for the Delegation of Jurisdiction and Services for Recyclable Materials on the territory of the Brome-Missisquoi RCM via resolution 24-12-519;

WHEREAS the original agreement has been amended and sent to all the municipalities in the territory:

ACCORDINGLY IT WAS MOVED BY: Nancy Lanteigne SECONDED BY: Marie-Blanche Richer AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

THAT the Council of the Municipality of West Bolton approves the replacement of the Intermunicipal Agreement for the Delegation of Jurisdiction and Services for Recyclable Materials on the Territory of the Brome-Missisquoi RCM (the "Agreement");

THAT Council authorizes and mandates the mayor, and the Director General to sign the said *Agreement* for and on behalf of the Municipality;

THAT Council appoints the Director General, Léa Laplante, as the representative of the Municipality, and the Administrative Assistant, Caroline Chrétien, as a substitute, to sit on the intermunicipal committee of the said *Agreement* and to participate in it actively;

THAT Council appoints the Municipality's Director General to serve as the contact for the purpose of receiving communications and notices required under the *Agreement*;

THAT this resolution replaces Resolution #023-0224.

THAT A copy of this resolution be sent to the Brome-Missisquoi RCM.

ADOPTED

7.6 ADMINISTRATION RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-028 APPOINTMENT OF MRS. CAROLINE CHRÉTIEN AS PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT / RECEPTIONIST

WHEREAS Mrs. Caroline Chrétien began her duties within the Municipality on August 8, 2024, in order to support the administration;

WHEREAS her official hiring was ratified by Resolution 2024-10-451 dated October 7, 2024;

WHEREAS she has successfully completed her probationary period per the conditions of her employment contract;

WHEREAS obtaining her permanent status now allows her to enjoy the social benefits provided for in her contract;

IT WAS MOVED BY: Nancy Lanteigne SECONDED BY: Margarita Lafontaine AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

TO CONFIRM the permanent hiring of Mrs. Caroline Chrétien in the position of Administrative Assistant / Receptionist;

TO allow her to enjoy social benefits per the provisions of her employment contract;

 ${\bf TO}$ allocate her salary and benefits expenses to the appropriate budget items.

ADOPTED

7.7 ADMINISTRATION SPA – Information Item

The Municipality reminds citizens that under By-law 464-2024, all dogs must be registered with the SPA. The Society for the Protection of Animals (SPA) has been mandated to ensure the application of this by-law on the municipal territory.

Dog owners are invited to register their pets via the SPA's online platform. The registration link is available on the Municipality's website.

In addition, item 7.5 concerning the mandate of the SPA for the application of the provincial by-law on dogs was postponed during the last meeting. After verification, our municipal by-law already grants this mandate to the SPA, making any additional resolution unnecessary. This clarification is made to pre-empt any questions from citizens.

8. ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE 8.1. ROADS REPORT

Curbside parking

The Municipality reminds citizens that curbside parking is prohibited. This restriction is essential to facilitate snow removal operations and ensure everyone's safety. An improperly parked vehicle not only slows down municipal operations but also hinders the response of emergency services when needed.

Positioning collection bins

We also ask citizens to be vigilant about the location of their waste collection bins. This winter season has been marked by several episodes of strong winds and heavy snowfall. If a bin is overturned, improperly positioned or snow-covered, the contractor responsible for the collection may not be able to collect it. To avoid any inconvenience, we recommend placing the bins on an open and stable ground, at a reasonable distance from the road.

Thaw period

The thaw period is approaching and is scheduled for March 17 to May 16. We invite citizens and businesses to be careful and plan their deliveries and work involving trucking, especially on dirt or gravel roads. As much as possible, we recommend that these deliveries be scheduled outside of this period to preserve the condition of our road infrastructure and avoid damage to municipal roads.

8. ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-029 8.2. SUPPORT FOR THE MTQ PROJECT – BRIDGE OVER ARGYLL ROAD – DECK REPLACEMENT AND PARTIAL REHABILITATION OF ABUTMENTS – P-01414

WHEREAS the steel-wood bridge located on Argyll Road in the Municipality of West Bolton was built in 1963 and its wooden deck was replaced in 2001;

WHEREAS the load that this bridge can support has been limited for several years and whereas the Ministère des Transports du Québec (MTQ) has decided to replace the deck, including the steel girders, the support planks and the decking, as well as to make the necessary corrections to the abutments and replace the approach rails;

IT WAS MOVED BY: Eddy Whitcher SECONDED BY: Loren Allen AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT the Municipality of West Bolton supports the MTQ's project to replace the deck and partially repair the abutments of the bridge on Argyll Road (P-01414);

THAT the Municipality should collaborate with the MTQ in carrying out this work to ensure that it runs smoothly and to inform citizens of the temporary impacts on traffic.

ADOPTED

8. ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-030 8.3. MANDATE TO THE UMQ FOR THE CONSOLIDATED PURCHASE OF DUST SUPPRESSANT

WHEREAS the Municipality of West Bolton has received a proposal from the *Union des municipalités du Québec* (UMQ) to prepare, on behalf of itself and several other interested municipalities, a call for tenders document for a consolidated purchase of products used as dust suppressants;

WHEREAS sections 29.9.1 of the *Cities and Towns Act* and 14.7.1 of the *Municipal Code*:

- allow a municipal organization to enter into an agreement with the UMQ for the purpose of purchasing equipment;
- specify that the rules for awarding contracts by a municipality apply to contracts awarded under this section and that the UMQ undertakes to comply with these rules;
- specify that this contractual process is subject to "Regulation number 26 respecting the contractual management of the UMQ for its consolidation agreements" adopted by the UMQ Board of Directors;

WHEREAS the UMQ's proposal is renewed at each call for tenders of the group, on a voluntary basis;

WHEREAS the Municipality wishes to participate in this group purchase to obtain *chloride in liquid solution* in the quantities necessary for its activities;

IT WAS MOVED BY: Gilles Asselin SECONDED BY: Nancy Lanteigne AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT the Municipality should join the purchasing group set up by the UMQ for the years 2024, potentially 2025, and 2026, entrusting the UMQ with the

call for tenders process leading to the awarding of group purchase contracts for products used as dust suppressants (*chloride in liquid solution*) necessary for the Municipality's activities;

THAT to enable the UMQ to prepare its call for tenders document, the Municipality undertakes to provide the UMQ with the types and quantities of products it will need by filling out the registration form on the portal on the stipulated date;

THAT the Municipality entrusts the UMQ with the responsibility for analyzing the tenders submitted. As a result, the Municipality accepts that the product to be ordered and delivered will be determined following the comparative analysis of the products defined in the call for tenders document;

THAT if the UMQ awards a contract, the Municipality undertakes to respect the terms of the contract as if it had contracted directly with the supplier to whom the contract is awarded;

THAT the Municipality undertakes to respect the terms of this contract for its duration; that is, at the signing of the contract and until October 31, 2026;

THAT the Municipality acknowledges that the UMQ will receive, directly from the successful bidder, as management fees, a percentage of the amount invoiced before taxes to each of the participants; the said rate is specified in the call for tenders document;

THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the *Union des municipalités du Québec.*

ADOPTED

8. ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-031 8.4. APPROVAL OF TRAINING – TRAFFIC SIGNS (VOLUME V) AND THE ESSENTIALS OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT IN PUBLIC WORKS

WHEREAS the Association des travaux publics du Québec offers relevant training for public works personnel;

CONSIDERING that the Municipality wishes to ensure the continuous training of its staff in order to improve the management and efficiency of road operations;

CONSIDERING that the following training courses are considered relevant:

- Road Signs Volume V
- Project Management Essentials in Public Works

WHEREAS the Municipality's membership in the Association des travaux publics du Québec allows the Municipality to benefit from a reduced rate on the training offered;

IT WAS MOVED BY: Gilles Asselin SECONDED BY: Eddy Whitcher AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

- 1. To authorize Mr. Jarod Chagnon to take the above-mentioned training courses offered by the Association des travaux publics du Québec;
- 2. To authorize the payment of training registration fees, including the Municipality's membership fees to the Association des travaux publics du Québec in order to benefit from reduced rates;
- 3. To allocate these expenditures to the appropriate budget items.

ADOPTED

9. ENVIRONMENT

9.1. REQUEST FOR TREES 2025 - MAY, MONTH OF TREES AND FORESTS

The Municipality of West Bolton will be applying to participate in the **May**, **Month of Trees and Forests** program, in collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. This program provides free tree seedlings to citizens in an educational and community setting.

Those interested in receiving a tree(s) are invited to register by sending an email to <u>reception@bolton-ouest.ca</u> mentioning their **name, address of residence and preference for tree species** (deciduous or coniferous).

The species available are **yellow birch**, **sugar maple**, **white spruce**, **Norway spruce**, **white pine and red pine**. Please note that the Municipality cannot guarantee the granting of the desired species.

The trees will be distributed in May and citizens will receive more details about the distribution and educational activities organized as part of the program.

9.2.

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-032 SUPPORT FOR THE TOWN OF BLAINVILLE – OPPOSITION TO BILL 93; AN ACT RESPECTING THE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF AN IMMOVABLE BELONGING TO VILLE DE BLAINVILLE

WHEREAS Bill 93, An Act respecting the transfer of ownership of an immovable belonging to Ville de Blainville, was introduced in the National Assembly of Québec on February 27 by the Minister of Natural Resources and Forests, Maïté Blanchette Vézina;

WHEREAS the purpose of the Bill is to force the transfer to the State of land belonging to the Town of Blainville in order to allow for a project to develop and operate a sixth landfill cell for hazardous materials by Stablex Canada;

WHEREAS on September 22, 2023, the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement (BAPE) considered the project to be premature and recommended that the *ministre de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs,* Mr. Benoît Charette, should not authorize it in the absence of a complete portrait of residual hazardous materials in Quebec;

WHEREAS the Town of Blainville, the Thérèse-De Blainville RCM, the CMM, the Union des municipalités du Québec and the Fédération québécoise des municipalités are firmly opposed to the execution of the project on the land covered by the Bill;

WHEREAS the Bill provides that no standard enacted by the Town of Blainville, the Thérèse-De Blainville RCM or the CMM with respect to development, town planning, land use or construction shall be applicable to Stablex for its project and for any other ancillary intervention necessary for this project;

WHEREAS the Bill constitutes a serious infringement of municipal autonomy in the area of land use planning and its adoption would constitute a dangerous precedent;

IT WAS MOVED BY: Gilles Asselin SECONDED BY: Eddy Whitcher AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT the Municipality of West Bolton:

• supports the Town of Blainville in this matter;

- opposes Bill 93, An Act respecting the transfer of ownership of an immovable Belonging to Ville de Blainville, and reiterates that municipalities are local governments and calls on the Government of Quebec to respect their jurisdiction over land use planning;
- calls on the Government of Quebec to entrust the Bureau d'audience publique en environnement (BAPE) with a mandate to conduct an investigation and public hearing to provide an overview regarding the management of residual hazardous materials.
- send a copy of this resolution to Mrs. Liza Poulin, Mayor of the Municipality of Blainville, to Minister Isabelle Charest, Member of the Provincial Assembly for Brome-Missisquoi, to Mrs. Maïté Blanchette Vézina, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, to Mrs. Andrée Laforêt, Minister of Municipal Affairs, to the Union des Municipalités du Québec and to Mr. Patrick Melchior, prefect of the Brome-Missisquoi RCM.

ADOPTED

10. PUBLIC SECURITY RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-033 SUPPORT – REQUEST FOR AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 226.2 OF THE HIGHWAY SAFETY CODE – ADDITION OF THE CONCEPT OF FIRST RESPONDER

WHEREAS section 226.2 of the Highway Safety Code (c. C-24.2) currently allows firefighters to use a flashing green light on a road vehicle other than an emergency vehicle when responding to an emergency call from a fire department;

WHEREAS this section does not apply to the first responders of a municipality;

WHEREAS it would be desirable to include first responders in this provision so that they can also use a flashing green light when responding to an emergency call, thereby facilitating their identification and movement in critical situations;

ACCORDINGLY IT WAS MOVED BY: Nancy Lanteigne SECONDED BY: Margarita Lafontaine AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT the Municipality of West Bolton supports the request of the Municipality of Sainte-Christine to amend section 226.2 of the Highway Safety Code (c. C-24.2) in order to add the concept of first responder, thus allowing them to use a flashing green light on a road vehicle other than an emergency vehicle when responding to an emergency call;

THAT this resolution be sent to the Deputy Premier and Minister of Transport and Sustainable Mobility, Mrs. Geneviève Guilbault, as well as to the Member of the National Assembly for the riding, the Fédération Québécoise des Municipalités, the Union des Municipalités du Québec and all Quebec municipalities.

ADOPTED

11. HEALTH AND WELL-BEING 11.1. BROME MISSISQUOI SOCIAL GERIATRY – INVITATION TO CITIZENS TO TAKE SENTINELLE TRAINING

Gériatrie sociale Brome-Missisquoi – Invitation to the Sentinelle training the Municipality of West Bolton invites its citizens to discover the new free social geriatric service deployed on the territory of Brome-Missisquoi. This program, overseen by the Regroupement Soutien aux Aidants de Brome-Missisquoi, aims to promote home care for seniors by quickly identifying signs of frailty. As part of this, Sentinelle training is offered to citizens wishing to play an active role in their community. These sentinels, as the "eyes and ears" of the program, will be able to help identify the first signs of vulnerability in seniors and alert a specialized community worker who will then take over.

The Municipality could organize a training session at Town Hall for those who wish to participate. For more information or to register, contact Fédéricke Dorais at geriatriesociale@rsabm.ca or at 450-263-4236, ext. 3.

12. LEISURE AND CULTURE RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-034 12.1. RENEWAL OF THE PETTES LIBRARY AGREEMENT

WHEREAS the Municipality of West Bolton has been offering free membership to the Pettes Memorial Library since 2016 under an agreement;

WHEREAS the 2025 budget provides for the amount necessary for its renewal, which should be formalized by resolution;

IT WAS MOVED BY: Eddy Whitcher SECONDED BY: Margarita Lafontaine AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT the Municipality of West Bolton formalizes the agreement with the Pettes Memorial Library for 2025, including the proposed fee adjustment. **ADOPTED**

12. LEISURE AND CULTURE RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-035 12.2. RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Whereas the motion for intellectual freedom in public libraries was prepared and proposed by the Association des bibliothèques publiques du Québec (ABPQ) and Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ), and seconded by the Réseau BIBLIO du Québec (RBQ);

Whereas this motion supports the importance of guaranteeing free and unrestricted access to knowledge, culture and information, without ideological, political or religious censorship;

IT WAS MOVED BY: Nancy Lanteigne SECONDED BY: Marie-Blanche Richer AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY

THAT the Municipality of West Bolton supports the motion for intellectual freedom in public libraries, recognizing the public library as a fundamental place for diversity of views and respect for intellectual freedom, and supporting library staff in the management of their collections without bowing to the pressure of censorship.

THEREFORE, the Municipality is committed to supporting this approach and defending the principles of intellectual freedom in public libraries.

This resolution will be sent to the *Association des bibliothèques publiques du Québec* (ABPQ), *Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec* (BAnQ), and the *Réseau BIBLIO du Québec* (RBQ) to acknowledge receipt and highlight The Municipality's support.

ADOPTED

Nothing to discuss.

14. SECOND QUESTION PERIOD

Council held a second question period during which those attending the live broadcast could ask questions to members.

Council answered all the citizens' questions.

Copies of the agenda were made available to the public prior to the start of the meeting.

15. ADJOURNMENT RESOLUTION NUMBER: 2025-03-036 ADJOURNMENT

The agenda having been exhausted;

IT WAS MOVED BY: Loren Allen SECONDED BY: Marie-Blanche Richer AND UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

TO ADJOURN the meeting AT 9:45 p.m.

Denis Vaillancourt Mayor **Léa Laplante** Director General and Clerk-Treasurer

I, Denis Vaillancourt, Mayor of West Bolton, certify that the signing of these minutes is equivalent to the signing of all the resolutions contained therein as per section 142 of the Municipal Code of Québec.