



Session ordinaire du 1 décembre 2020
PÉRIODE DE QUESTIONS /
Ordinary sitting of December 1, 2020
QUESTION PERIOD

Début: Fin:

1	Q	<p>1) Has the purchase of the 14 lots from Hydro QC been completed? If not, what is holding up completion?</p> <p>(2.1) Do you still intend to have a public consultation on the draft Dock By-Law itself?</p> <p>(2.2) Do existing municipal lands include the former rail corridor in which the community trail is located?</p> <p>(2.3) It still the intention of the Council to restrict wharf ownership on the Gatineau River in Chelsea to residents of Chelsea?</p> <p>(2.4) Does this mean that lots 3031696 (the road to the Cascades Club & aerodrome) and lot 4790318 (the small lot to the North of the Cascades Club) will not be sold to the Cascades Club or to anyone else?</p>
	R	<p>We are waiting for the deed of sale to be notarized, the purchase is proceeding, and the administration has been having discussion about specific clauses in the contract with Hydro-Québec. We just want to ensure that all our legal responsibilities are clearly understood.</p> <p>There were several questions about the update on the draft Dock By-Law and the public access to the Gatineau River. In order to clarify the points that were raised: We will be holding a public consultation on a public access to Gatineau River starting in January. We held the public consultation on the draft Dock By-Law itself and, we received a lot of comments on that. We are focusing now on the access to the river.</p> <p>There were questions about the municipal lands and about having public access where the Community trail abuts the shoreline. We withdraw the Cases 1 and 2 because they are on private land and the by-law pertains to the use of municipal land. So, we will be looking at the possible rental agreements of docks on municipal land.</p> <p>There were also questions about the submerged lots and the lots leading to Cascades Club and aerodrome and a lot to the North of Cascades Club. The council has taken a position that we will not be selling any of the land that we're acquiring from Hydro-Québec.</p> <p>Un sommaire en français est donné :</p> <p>La question est à savoir si l'on va de l'avant avec l'achat des lots d'Hydro-Québec ? La réponse est oui.</p> <p>Il y a eu une mise à jour sur le règlement sur les quais, on a enlevé les scénarios 1 et 2 parce qu'ils sont sur des lots privés. Les lots privés ne sont pas touchés par le règlement qui touche les terrains municipaux. Alors, il y aura une consultation publique sur l'accès à la rivière, elle est prévue pour le mois de janvier.</p> <p>Le conseil a décidé de retenir les lots submergés que l'on va acheter d'Hydro-Québec, soit pour deux lots spécifiques, le conseil n'a pas l'intention de vendre des lots.</p>
2	Q	<p>1. <u>Danger at intersections between steep roads and Voie Vert (the trail).</u></p> <p>1) Could Council please confirm it will implement these risk mitigation measures (signs installed based on the conclusions of risk assessments) for these intersections in December?</p> <p>2) Could the Municipality please cite the provision(s) from the provincial highway safety legislation or from municipal bylaws based on which it believes it has the authority to regulate traffic on private roads?</p> <p>2. <u>Parking areas at the bottom of steep private roads</u></p> <p>3) Would the Municipality prefer to post the recommended signs or are we permitted to post them? Please confirm which of these strategies is preferred.</p> <p>4) Can the records be entered into the official records of the council meetings with enough detail to enable other residents not present at the meeting to grasp the details of the questions asked by residents and the responses provided by the mayor?</p>
	R	<p>A summery is given of the four questions.</p> <p>Vélo-Québec submitted a report on the intersections along the Community trail: There were four places that were identified for roads stop signs and there was a recommendation to put yield signs near intersections. The recommendation will be reviewed by the committee and by the department.</p>



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R	<p>There is a specific question about the provision from the provincial highway safety legislation and the authority to regulate traffic on private roads. Article 404 of the Highway Safety Code mentions that vehicle leaving a private property must yield the right of way to any vehicle or pedestrian moving on the public highway.</p> <p>Regarding public parking on Winnisic Road, we will be looking at possible remedies and how to reserve parking for the residents of a private road. The owner has the right to install their own signs.</p> <p>This council meeting is being recorded and will be on the website the following week. The details of questions will be also in the written form on the website.</p>
Q	<p>1) Is Council legally <u>allowed</u> to release these studies, which involved environmental (including wetland) impact assessments of the road construction, given that decisions regarding the recommendations contained in these studies have been made as construction contracts have been awarded and budgets approved?</p> <p>2) Will Council make these studies available for public review?</p> <p>3) Will Council commit to hiring <u>an ecological expert in river watersheds and a surveyor to urgently survey and visually identify all the wetlands along the river road prior to the beginning of construction next spring?</u></p> <p>4) How was it determined in the Chelsea wetland bylaw that wetlands smaller than 1000 sq.m. had no ecological value worth protecting? Based on what scientific knowledge, literature was this decision made? (section 4.15.1 of by-law 636-05). If this is based on a provincial law, please provide the relevant section.</p> <p>5) This Chelsea bylaw regarding wetlands dates back to 2005. Since then, the province has passed Bill 132 (ch 14 in 2017), an act representing the conservation of wetlands and bodies of water. What is the implication of these wetlands being a connected system for the current minimum 1000 sq.m. minimum size for Chelsea wetlands?</p> <p>6) Will the municipality update its mapping of wetlands in ward 5 in time to ensure that these wetlands will be adequately conserved, rather than protected, during the River Road construction process? and is the municipality proposing to offset by creating a new wetland or by paying a fine for any of the negative impacts on these wetlands necessitated by the construction?</p>
3	<p>A summary of the 6 questions that were submitted concerning the wetland and the River Road construction project is given.</p> <p>(It is to be noted that the by-law specifies that one question and one supplementary question can be submitted to council).</p> <p>The studies concerning River Road construction project have not been completed and therefore are not available to the public. The contract has not been awarded for the construction. Once the studies have been completed and council will look at them, we will decide if they will be made public or how that could be open for review. A section of the municipality's biologist briefing mentions that the firm CIMA+ was hired by the Municipality to conduct a environmental survey to identify and find all wetlands, streams invasive plant species and species or interest endangered, or otherwise along River road. This firm is also hired to conduct a Phase I and Phase II environmental survey for this project. All reports will contain the information pertaining to the required authorizations (municipal, provincial or federal) necessary to complete the project. All wetlands, regardless or size, are protected. No work or constructions or any kind may encroach on a wetland without the proper provincial authorizations, the section of the by-law 636-05, that mentioned, aims to apply an additional protection to the provincial by applying a strip surrounding wetlands larger then 1 000 sq.m where work and construction is not authorized.</p> <p>With regard to connected wetlands smaller than 1000 sq.m, they have a 15 m protection strip as is required by the provincial law. Wetlands larger than 1000 sq.m will have the 30 m protection strip regardless of if they are connected or not as per the by-law 636-05.</p> <p>Finally, CIMA + was hired to do an environmental survey to identify and map all wetlands, streams, or important habitats. The Municipality will therefore have updated mapping for this project. Any submission for a Certificate of Authorization (CA) by the Ministère de l'environnement et de la lutte contre les changements climatiques (MELCC) to conduct work within a wetland requires the Municipality to evaluate if it is possible to first avoid the wetland. If that is not possible, to demonstrate how it will minimize its impact on the wetland.</p> <p>If that is not possible, the Municipality must demonstrate why it is unavoidable to encroach in the wetland. If the wetland cannot be avoided and a loss of 30 sq.m or more will occur as a result of the project, a financial contribution must be given to the Fonds vert of the MELCC and /or work to restore or create wetland is necessary. The Municipality will apply to all necessary authorizations to complete the project.</p>
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4	Q	What are the key elements of the pilot project of the installation of the curb and markers on the east side of the Notch Rd and the criteria for success for this project? when should we expect to see the results published by the municipal staff?
4	R	<p>As part of the project pilot for the installation of concrete curbs on Notch Road there will be a:</p> <p>Evaluation period of the project over a period of one year (covering all 4 seasons); Compilation of users' comments; Verification of accident reports listed by the MRC police; Verification of various insurance claims; Evaluation of the pavement in different situations given to different climatic conditions; Validation with our operators of the results of maintenance of the infrastructures; Verification of the infrastructure come in spring, specifically after the winter season; Analysis of speed before and after the installation of concrete curbs.</p> <p>The document will be submitted to the public works and infrastructures committee and a recommendation will be made to the council on maintaining the curb after transportation of infrastructure or not.</p>
5	Q	Are radars on Notch road recording and collecting data?
5	R	We are going to verify if radars on Notch road are recording and collecting data and we will give an answer. (After review, the radars have been collecting data).
6	Q	<p>1) Can the Municipality put yield signs on the trail to improve its safety?</p> <p>2) Is there a timeframe of when the Municipality could get the no parking signs and refer people to Farm Point rink?</p>
6	R	<p>The Municipality is looking into different possibilities, such as, Chelsea residents receiving a community trail parking pass. We are brainstorming on finding adequate parking spaces near those private roads. We certainly encourage people to use Farm Point community center, skating rink area and we are having discussion with Larrimac Golf course and around the Freshmart and the CLSC building.</p> <p>The Municipality will look at the possibility to install yield signs.</p> <p>As for the timeline, the Trail committee and the staff are working on this matter but are awaiting to receive the report from Velo-Quebec on the signage and all intersections, therefore we do not have a timeline yet.</p>
7	Q	Can the Municipality explain its position regarding the yield signs and the fact that we want them to be on the path?
7	R	Given all concerns regarding the visibility and the increase usage on the trail, the Public Works department will look at the possibility of putting temporary signs and will analyse again the input of the Vélo-Québec report in the coming weeks.
8	Q	Is there any talk of removing the existing signs for road users, for the cars, rather than adding signs for the trail?
8	R	At this point, there hasn't been. We received several emails specific to Ramsay Road, asking that the stop signs be maintain in order to help ensure that speed kept down for one, and protect to peoples on the Ramsay Road. We have not discussed taking down a stop signs on Ramsay road. There was a request on the position of the stop sign, it was not visible.
9	Q	<p>1) Will Public works visit our intersection? Is the Municipality aware of the danger?</p> <p>2) Are you going to be publishing on the web site the Vélo-Québec study? Will the Municipality consider putting gates before road crossing?</p>
9	R	1) Yes, The Municipality has received several emails and is aware of the situation. The trail committee is looking at the Velo-Québec report and staff as well. If necessary, we can put up temporary signs.



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9	R	2) The possibility of putting gates is part of the discussion the trail committee is having and as for the publication of the study on the website. We are just still going through the report it is not finalized yet.
10	Q	What mechanism has council established to ensure that the funds are allocated to the items that we have identified?
	R	The Municipality do not see any reason that would not use the money in manner that you identified and would work with the trail committee; both Mr. McGuire and Mrs. Chan are on and represent council with staff. We have noted the areas that you would like this money to be applied. We will stay in touch with the future work on the trail.
11	Q	1) Est-ce exact que le rapport de Vélo-Québec n'est pas encore finalisé et qu'il sera encore discuté à une session du comité sur les sentiers le 17 décembre? La session sera-t-elle ouverte au public M. McGuire ? 2) Est-ce que Vélo-Québec avait pour mandat d'évaluer les risques et dangers associés aux intersections visées ce soir, c'est-à-dire les quatre rues dont on parlait, dont Cora-Rose ? 3) Est-ce que la municipalité prévoit étendre une matière abrasive aux intersections, la justement où il y a l'intersection entre le sentier et les chemins privés, afin d'éviter des accidents quelconques avec une matière écologiquement acceptable?
	R	1) Oui, il y aura une période de questions qui est ouverte au public dès le commencement de la rencontre. 2) Le mandat était d'évaluer toute la longueur du sentier soit les vingt-deux kilomètres et de faire des recommandations pour les intersections dans un but de prévention et pour assurer la sécurité des usagers aux intersections. 3) Je n'ai pas la réponse en ce moment. Alors, je vais demander que le personnel communique avec vous. Mais ceci sera débattu au comité sentiers et une recommandation au conseil sera faite.
12	Q	Regarding the River Road repairs, where can I find information regarding the 50 meters protection stripes protecting water and wetlands of less than 1,000 sq.m?
	R	At this point, the CIMA + report is not finalized, and the contract has not been given. I refer to the notes prepared by the biologist. The mapping will be completed by CIMA+.