

Ogden Chronicle

70 Ogden road, Ogden (Quebec) J0B 3E3 • Tel. : (819) 876-7117 • Fax : (819) 876-2121 Email : info@munogden.ca • Internet : www.munogden.ca

May / June 2021



MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT JUNE 2020 TO MAY 2021

<u>Roads</u>

<u>Marlington Special Project</u> – Rebuild base and dig ditches and regravel 100 metres to eliminate annual thaw bulges.

Roads resurfaced – For a total of 8.6 km

1- Marlington – 2.9 km 2- Tomifobia – 2.9 km 4- Cedarville – 1.2 km

Paving – Stanstead Road for 500 metres and Marlington repair for approximately 100 metres

Ditches – We are continuing to dig the ditches on the problematic portions of certain roads. We are gradually reducing the width of some roads to improve their conditions especially in the spring. Boynton Road has been reduced to 25 feet and all ditches have been dug. We have noticed a huge difference in the spring.

<u>Replacement of culverts</u> – We continue to replace defective culverts.

<u>High Speed Internet</u> – Fibre Optic - The municipalities' lobbying finally paid off. The provincial government has told us that ALL underserved homes (100% of Ogden homes are underserved) will be connected by the end of August 2022.

<u>Social Activities</u> – A very difficult year for social activities in the municipality. Despite the pandemic, we had a coffee get-together (Valentine's Day), Yoga, Tai chi and Zumba with over 60 people in total taking part.

The social activities are greatly appreciated by the citizens. This year the activities may be compromised because of the pandemic, but we will gradually start again in July with outdoor classes at Weir Park.

<u>Meeting with the Mayor and his team</u> – Unfortunately, this very popular activity did not take place and was missed by many citizens who greatly appreciated it.

Administration

<u>By-law for residual materials</u> – Change in collection - now everything must be placed in the right bin - otherwise it will not be picked up. Modified collection schedule - Garbage pick-up once a month, compost every 2 weeks in the summer.

<u>Central garbage site redesign</u> – The central site is now redesigned and secure. The electronic chip access works very well, and we now know who is accessing the site and when. The camera system also helps us to determine who are the rule breakers of the site. We have also asked the SQ to advise us on the control of illegal dumping that regularly occurs at the central site. Fines will be the first step.

Increased boat wash hours - Now up to 4 pm on weekends.

Transfer taxes – Total in 2020 = 31 transfers

In 2019 = 20 transfers In 2018 = 24 transfers In 2017 = 29 transfers In 2016 = 18 transfers In 2015 = 7 transfers

<u>Budget Surplus</u> – You may notice that the municipality has a surplus that will look very comfortable to some. This amount was advised by our auditors as being the recommended amount for a municipality of our size. With climate change, you have certainly noticed that the rain episodes are not like before. It rains much less, but when it does rain, it is rather very violent storms that fall on our municipality. Most of the time, this violence destroys sections of roads that need to be repaired and require more maintenance. The flooding we experienced in November 2019 is also an example of what can happen in the future. 3 sections of roads with bridges could have easily been washed away. These costs could have been absorbed by our surplus. A surplus is an insurance policy, and climate change tells us that we will need more insurance to cover the damage that could be caused by such events.

A recent study for the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy Project by environmental professors from the University of Montreal and the University of Sherbrooke indicates that Ogden is one of the municipalities that is most vulnerable to disasters that could be caused by the effects of climate change due to its geographic location. We must take these studies seriously and ensure that we have the necessary funds in case of a major disaster.

Our tax experts recommend this amount and confirm that we are taking the right actions to achieve this.

Have a good summer.

Richard Violette, mayor

Compensation of elected officials in 2020 - Municipal Bylaw No. 2019.02

Mayor's salary	\$ 10,333.36
Mayor's spending allowance	\$ 5,166.68
Councilors' salary	\$ 3,444.48
Councilors' spending allowance	\$ 1,722.24
Mayor's salary from the MRC	\$ 2,442
Mayor's spending allowance from the MRC	\$ 1,221
Mayor's salary from Régie Incendie	\$ 400
Mayor's spending allowance from Régie Incendie	\$ 200

TOWN HALL

MAYOR

Richard Violette

COUNCILLORS

Michael Sudlow Councillor nº 1

Jean R. Roy Councillor nº 2

Claudette Dupras Councillor nº 3

Marie-Andrée Courval Councillor nº 4

Lise Rousseau Councillor nº 5

Sylvie Lefebvre Councillor nº 6

THE MUNICIPAL TEAM

Vickie Comeau Director General and secretary-treasurer

Emmanuelle Bilodeau Building and environment inspector

Vincent Langlois Road inspector

Ann-Marie Galvin Administrative assistant

MUNICIPAL OFFICE

70 Ogden road Ogden, Quebec JOB 3E3 Telephone : (819) 876-7117 Fax : (819) 876-2121 Email : info@munogden.ca Internet address : www.munogden.ca

BUSINESS HOURS

The municipal office is open from Monday to Friday from 9 am to Noon and from 1 pm to 4 pm.

GRAPHIC DESIGN AND PRINTING OF THE NEWSLETTER

Les Publications Municipales 1 877 553-1955

FINANCES 2020

Statement of Operations (unconsolidated)¹ for the year ended December 31st 2020

···· ·				
	Bu	dget 2020		2020
REVENUE				
Municipal taxes	\$	1,089,022	\$	1,100,667
Compensation in lieu of taxes	\$	752	\$	752
Government grants & transfers	\$	358,509	\$	432,072
User fees and sales of goods	\$	25,430	\$	26,226
Duties	\$	90,000	\$	154,201
Fines and penalties	\$	1,000	\$	865
Interest	* * * * * * *	14,000	\$	19,099
Other revenue	\$	4,140	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	9,628
	\$	1,582,853	\$	1,743,510
EXPENSES			_	
General administration	\$	365,235	\$	350,155
Public safety	\$	308,939	\$	315,420
Roads & transportation	\$	571,712	\$	525,855
Environmental services	\$	176,988	\$	161,036
Land use planning & devt.	\$	70,074	\$	68,647
Recreation & culture	\$	63,710	\$	58,648
Financing charges	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$		\$	
Amortization cost	\$	179,000	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	197,008
	\$	1,735,658	\$	1,676,769
Excess (shortfall) of revenue			_	
over expenses - before Other	-\$	152,805	\$	66,741
OTHER	*	470.000	<i>t</i>	407.000
Amortization cost	\$ \$ \$	179,000	\$ \$ \$	197,008
Assets disposal	\$		\$	
Gain (loss) on assets disposal	\$		\$	
Reimbursement of long-term	¢		¢	
debt Caraital averages	¢ ¢	204.010	¢	04 124
Capital expenses	\$ -\$ \$ \$	204,916	\$ -\$ \$ \$	94,124
Unrestricted operational surplus	⊅ *	152 740	¢	152 749
Restricted operational surplus Financial reserves & reserved	Þ	152,748	\$	152,748
funds	\$	25,973	-\$	48,357
	\$	152,805	\$	207,275
Operational excess (shortfall)	\$ \$		\$	274,016
	-		<u>+</u>	.,

Statement of investment (unconsolidated)¹ for the year ended December 31st 2020

	Buc	lget 2020	2020
SOURCES OF FINANCING		-	
Operational funds	\$		\$ 94,124
Government grants & transfers	\$	172,634	\$ 186,471
Taxation of duties	\$		\$ 13,942
Unrestricted surplus	\$		\$
Fin. reserves & reserved funds	\$		\$
	\$	172,634	\$ 294,537
EXPENSES			
General administration	\$		\$ 2,242
Public safety	\$		\$ 21,729
Roads & transportation	\$	172,634	\$ 270,566
Leisure and culture	\$		\$
	\$	172,634	\$ 294,537
	\$		\$

elements

Statement of Financial Position (unconsolidated)¹ as at December 31st 2020

		2020
	¢	204 267
Treasury	\$ \$	304,367
Accounts receivable	>	524,169
	\$	828,536
LIABILITIES		
Temporary bank indebtness	\$	_
Temporary loans	\$	_
Accounts payable & accrued liabilities	\$	65,703
Deferred revenue	\$	79,150
Long-term debt	\$ \$ \$ \$	-
5	\$	144,853
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	\$	683,683
NON FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets	¢	2,004,626
Inventory	ч ¢	2,004,020
Other non financial assets	\$ \$ <u>\$</u>	2,000
	<u>p</u>	
	\$	2,006,626
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS		
Unrestricted operational surplus (deficit)	¢	394,125
Restricted operational surplus	\$ \$ \$	167,376
Fin. reserves & reserved funds	¢	124,182
funds Net investment in long-term	Ψ	124,102
	-	

Notes to financial statements

- 1. The financial statements exclude the results of the controlled organisation (Regie intermunicipale de gestion des dechets solides de la region de Coaticook) in which the Municipality holds 0.8 % of the shares.
- 2. Auditors: Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton

List of contracts involving an expense exceeding \$25,000 (taxes included) entered into from Jan. 1st 2020 to Dec. 31st 2020

Pavages Maska Inc.: Regravelling of the roads	\$ 196,690
Régie Incendie Memphré. Est: Fire protection	\$ 104,126
Arlie Fearon inc: Household waste collections	\$ 114,136
Entreprise P.S. Roy: Snow removal	\$ 125,344
	\$ _
Couillard Construction: Paving	\$ 71,334
9185-8936 Québec inc.: Snow removal	\$ 97,922
Min. de la Sécurité publique: Police	\$ 195,500
Les Entreprises Bourget Inc.: Dust abatement	\$ 65,297
MRC de Memphrémagog: Cost sharing,	
appraiser, boat patrol, shrubs, Regie de recup.,	
FQM, FCM	\$ 99,514
Urbatek: Building & env. inspection service	\$ 35,407

MISCELLANEOUS

MEASURING OF SEPTIC SYSTEMS

The Municipality of Ogden has hired 2 students, Nicolas Pokora and Dominic Pokora, to work as environmental protection workers this summer. They will be coming by your property in the near future in order to measure your septic system. Welcome to the team, Nicolas and Dominic!



TEMPORARY JOB OFFER AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF OGDEN: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The municipality is looking for a candidate to fill the temporary position of Administrative Assistant for 5 days a week. If you have experience with reception work and accounting, please send your resume to <u>dg@munogden.ca</u>. Thank you!

THANKS FOR YOUR PHOTOS!

Thank you to the residents who sent in photos for our municipal website. For the moment, all the pictures are under the tab Ogden in pictures. When there will be a sufficient number of photos, we will add the following tabs:

- Participating and winning photos of the annual contest
- Ogden by the water (photos of the lake, shoreline and wetlands)
- Ogden Below Zero (Winter photos)
- Ogden is for the Birds (Birds and Nesting Boxes)
- Ogden by bike (bike paths and trails)
- Funny Ogden (funny pictures)
- Ogden and its hamlets (Dwellings)
- Herding Ogden (gardens and agriculture)

Other suggestions?

2,004,626

2,690,309

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You are all invited to participate, amateurs or professionals. Let's enrich our website together.



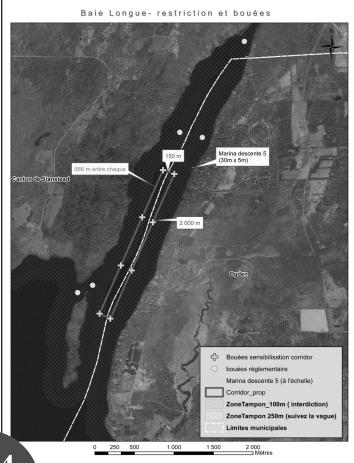
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Canada-Quebec agreement under the Safe Restart Agreement has provided financial assistance in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic to all municipalities to mitigate the impacts of this pandemic on municipal finances. A total of \$52,266 was provided to the Municipality of Ogden for fiscal years 2020 and 2021 and this assistance allowed the municipality to cover expenses resulting from COVID-19 in order to comply with health measures, public safety and the adaptation of municipal buildings/places/equipment. This assistance also allowed the municipality to reduce the tax burden on taxpayers by waiving interest and penalties on late tax payments until the end of May 2020 and lowering the property tax rate in 2021.

NEW BUOYS IN LONG BAY

Boaters who frequent Long Bay will notice the installation of buoys that serve as a corridor for wake surfing. The creation of this corridor is an initiative of the MRC, the municipalities of Stanstead Township and Ogden and with the collaboration of MCI.

Oversized waves from wake surfing boats cause a lot of erosion and damage. Studies show that Long Bay is too narrow for this practice. We hope that this corridor will reduce the negative impact. Thank you to all users for respecting it.



GARBAGE COLLECTION: A SMALL GESTURE THAT EVERYONE CAN DO!



The Cleanup Day in Ogden that was scheduled for May 15, 2021 unfortunately had to be cancelled due to the pandemic and the Estrie region entering the red zone at that time. This should not discourage anyone from doing their part by keeping our roads clean and not throwing garbage where it shouldn't be (ie on roadsides and in ditches!) We all have a sense of pride so let's keep our municipality as beautiful as it is. Let's keep our properties as clean as possible and pick up the garbage in the ditches along our route when out taking a walk.



MISCELLANEOUS

FOR USERS OF THE CENTRAL GARBAGE SITE

The hours for the central garbage site have changed for the summer months of June, July and August as they are now from 6:00 am to 7:30 pm. For the rest of the year, the hours are from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. Thank you for keeping this space clean by using the proper bins!

NEW PROCEDURE TO OBTAIN A FIRE PERMIT

To obtain a fire permit, you must now contact the Régie Incendie Memphrémagog Est at 819-838-5877 ext. 202.



RABIES:

As the raccoon rabies situation in southern Quebec and south of the U.S. border has improved significantly in recent years, the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP) has announced the cessation of vaccine baiting operations in Montérégie.

Raccoon vaccination operations are continuing in Vermont, New York and New Hampshire, helping to push raccoon rabies south and protect Quebec from reintroduction.

However, the enhanced surveillance operations in the Eastern Townships and Montérégie are maintained and are now the main tool for controlling raccoon rabies. This is why the MFFP is counting on you to contribute. Please report any raccoon, skunk or fox found dead or that appears sick, paralyzed, disoriented or unusually aggressive.

To report suspicious animals in any season, call 1-877-346-6763, Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or anytime at <u>Québec.ca/rageduratonlaveur</u>.

Report suspect animals

You can help with surveillance by reporting any raccoon, skunk or fox that is found dead or appears to be sick, paralyzed, disoriented or unusually agressive.

Rabies is a fatal, incurable disease that can be transmitted to humans by infected animals. Surveillance is therefore vital to ensure that the disease does not spread to Québec.

To report the presence of a suspect animal, regardless of the season, call 1 877 346-6763, Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or send an email at any time to

Québec.ca/raccoonrabies.



A RISK TO YOU ... AND YOUR PETS!

You can catch rabies if you are bitten by an infected animal or, more rarely, if you come into contact with its saliva along with a mucus membrane (eyes, nose, mouth) or wound.

Contact Info-Santé

- If you are bitten or scratched by an animal or come into contact with an animal you suspect may have rabies, wash the wound with soap and water for 10 minutes, however minor it may seem.
- Contact **Info-Santé 811** immediately. You may need a post-exposure vaccine to prevent the disease from developing.

Be very careful

- Never approach an unknown animal, whether wild or domestic, even if it has been orphaned or seems harmless. An animal that looks healthy may still carry rabies. Make sure your children understand how important it is to follow this instruction.
- Do not relocate unwanted wildlife. In doing so, you may spread diseases to other areas.
- To avoid attracting wildlife to your yard:
 - Keep outdoor garbage cans out of reach.
 - Block places where raccoons and skunks could build a nest or den, for example by installing a metal grid around the space under your veranda or shed.

See a vet...

- to ensure that your pets receive regular rabies vaccines.
- to have your pet examined immediately if it is bitten by another animal or if it shows rabies-like symptoms such as a change of behaviour (aggression, listlessness, isolation, etc.), loss of appetite, excessive drooling or difficulty walking. In both cases, wear gloves when handling your pet, tie it up or isolate it, and follow the vet's instructions.

TOURIST ACCOMMODATION IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF OGDEN

In general, short-term rentals (31 days or less) are NOT permitted in the territory of the Municipality of Ogden. Residences located on Descentes are not permitted to have short-term rentals. There are only 4 zones where short-term rentals are permitted without any particular restriction: zones 14Rvc, 15Rvc, 21Rvc and 24Rvc. Zone 10R2 only allows residences with less than 4 rooms. Zones 1A, 2A, 3Ac; 4Af, 5Af, 7Af, 8Afc, 9Afc, 28Af, 29Af, 30Af, 31Af, 32Af, 33Af, 34Af and 47A2 allow tourist lodging establishments related to an agricultural or forestry operation that has received the required authorizations from the Commission de Protection du Territoire Agricole du Québec (CPTAQ).



In all cases, a person wishing to conduct short-term rentals must obtain

authorization from the Corporation de l'industrie touristique du Québec (CITQ) and a certificate of change of use from the Municipality. In conclusion, before embarking on your adventure, contact the municipal building and environment inspector to validate the conformity of your project.

PUBLIC SAFETY



REMINDER - OFF-ROAD VEHICLES

With the summer season approaching, the Sûreté du Québec wishes to remind off-road vehicle users of the laws and regulations in effect in order to prevent collisions resulting in serious injury or death.

Prohibited traffic on public roads

It is forbidden to drive on public roads, except in rare exceptions provided for by law. Drivers of off-road vehicles may cross or drive on public roads only if they have a driver's licence and a road sign permits them to do so.

Drivers operating on public roads outside of these exceptions are subject to a \$350 fine.



No driving on private property

The Act respecting off-highway vehicles states that off-road vehicle users cannot operate on private property without prior authorization from the owners.

In addition, the use of private property for recreational purposes sometimes generates noise complaints and affects the peace of the neighbourhood.

The Sûreté du Québec asks off-road vehicle enthusiasts not to use private property without authorization, otherwise they are liable to a fine of \$350.

Use by a person under the age of 16

A person under 16 years of age may not operate on a trail, road, public land or private land owned by a municipality.

He or she is permitted to ride on private family property without adult supervision. However, in any other place, for example, farmland belonging to a third party, who gives permission, he or she must have the permission of a parent and be accompanied by a person of legal age authorized to drive an off-road vehicle and travelling at a distance that allows him or her to be rescued quickly in case of an accident or difficulty.

The minor and the adult who allows or tolerates the situation are liable to a fine of \$450.

It should also be noted that the Criminal Code also applies to off-road driving. Police officers will therefore continue to monitor and intervene in matters of offences related to behaviours that represent a safety risk, such as dangerous driving and driving while impaired by alcohol and/or drugs.

For more information and to find out where it is possible to ride an off-road vehicle, the Sûreté du Québec invites the public to visit the Fédération québécoise des clubs quads (FQCQ) website at <u>www.fqcq.qc.ca</u> or the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ) website at <u>www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca</u>.