



Strategic Development Plan 2023-2027

First public consultation - September 6, 2022, 5:30 p.m. - Minutes

Were present: the members of the municipal Council, with the exception of Councillor Patrick Proulx, as well as the General Director Me Abelle L'Écuyer-Legault and the Assistant General Director, Me Josiane Hudon.

Approximately 15 people were present in the audience at the beginning of the meeting and about 20 towards the end.

❖ **5:30-6:00 p.m.: Powerpoint presentation by the Council and Management** to :

- introduce the concept of a strategic development plan;
- present the current plan of the Municipality;
- indicate the future steps to be taken to accomplish the new plan.

See the presentation for more details.

Questions/comments during the presentation included:

- It would be helpful to know the demographics before beginning planning;
- It is requested that the presentations be done in English as well;
- What are the values established in the old plan?
- How long does it take to do the process?
- Is residential development part of the plan?
- Topics per consultation would be a good idea;
- If unable to attend: could citizens send comments afterwards or in anticipation of the meetings?

❖ **6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.: Question/comment period**

The floor is now left to the citizens present to express their opinions, their suggestions and their concerns. Here are the main interventions raised:

- Several residents present indicated that the main current issue facing the Municipality is the environment (pollution, use of the lake, conservation of

the lake, protection of shoreline areas, control of IAS (invasive exotic species), type of boat allowed, etc.);

- It is suggested that data be provided on seasonal residents (number), type and number of boats, bilingual population, etc.
- It is recommended to establish what the values/guidelines are first, before embarking on concrete actions, e.g., what is the value of a lake; is it a playground for everyone or do we prefer to limit access to protect it?
- Have a place in the Municipality where there could be a training center, a theatre/music/dance hall (more development of the artistic component);
- Do we need development for the municipal budget? Do we need to vary our revenues to be able to offer all these services? This may have an impact on our direction;
- Two citizens expressed their concern about traffic (speeding heavy trucks). Should we lobby the government for a bypass to divert the majority of heavy vehicles?

- Can partnerships be made with developers (Ripple Cove for example) to vary the municipality's revenues?

- It is proposed to involve children in the consultations in order to know their needs;

- At the next meeting, that the Council mentions what the city needs, its priorities;

- It is suggested that the development and organization of the Régie du Parc régional Massawippi be a priority so that it can be a functional and active player in the preservation of the lake;

- We must not neglect the businesses, which make our community a living and dynamic village (economic vitality);

- What will be the functioning of the next meetings (specific workshops, topics?);

- It is suggested to evaluate the possibility of adopting a more neutral formula to make the representations and the process (hire an external firm).

NEXT MEETING :

Tuesday October 4th at 5 :30 P.M. at the Community Center (176, Rosedale Street)
– The future of short term rentals in Ayer's Cliff : Do we want to ban short term rentals (Airbnb, tourist residence, etc.) in certain areas of our Municipality?