

VILLE DE SUTTON TOWN OF SUTTON

Rencontres
avec
les élus!

SYNTHÈSE | SYNTHESIS

des

of

Rencontres citoyennes | Town Hall Meetings

Meetings
with elected
officials!

Mardi 23 août 2022 (en français) | Tuesday, August 23, 2022 (in French)

Jeudi 25 août 2022 (en anglais) | Thursday, August 25, 2022 (in English)

Samedi 27 août 2022 (en français et anglais) | Saturday, August 27, 2022 (in French and English)



**SUMMARY OF QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS COLLECTED
AT THE AUGUST 2022 PUBLIC MEETINGS**

Opinions, comments or recommendations	Mayor's and Town's responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Concern about artesian well recharge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There were no problems reported this summer with declining water levels in artesian wells. The problem last year was that surface wells went dry for much of the summer, forcing homeowners to dig artesian wells.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Aging of septic systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Town contracts out septic system pumping. The contractor is able to note deficiencies and report them to the Town. For your information, we are currently evaluating a multi-year septic system inspection project. This will be presented at budget time.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Municipal loans for septic field rehabilitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Town has no intention of doing this on a territory-wide basis. If there is a preferred location, it is in Glen Sutton. For several years, the Town has studied several options to improve the situation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Concerns about the hydraulic fracturing technique 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hydraulic fracturing for an artesian well is different from that used for shale gas. No chemical elements are used.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Population growth and demand for drinking water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ At present, the problematic situation is in the mountains, in the area near Mount Sutton where the supply and demand of drinking water are in balance, hence the moratorium on real estate

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	<p>construction in this area. In the village, the water table can serve a maximum of 400 new doors. Elsewhere in the territory, the availability of water by means of an artesian well is in balance. Given this situation and the current state of knowledge, residential construction will be oriented towards the village core.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presence of heavy trucks on Principale Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Noise, pedestrian, and cyclist safety, and speeding on Principale Street are among the Town's key concerns. A meeting will be held at the end of September with the Ministère des Transports du Québec (MTQ) to initiate a consultation on a series of common issues. Remember that Principale Street, Maple Street, Route 139, Route 215, a portion of Scenic Road and the Missisquoi Valley Road are all owned by the MTQ.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Little SQ presence in the territory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Before the series of vandalism and burglaries, the Sûreté du Québec justified the lack of presence on the territory by the fact that crime was very low, even non-existent in Sutton. The events of the last few weeks have forced us to reconsider the police deployment in our sector of the MRC. Measures have been taken to increase the police presence and the Town is satisfied with the intervention of the SQ in the context of the wave of vandalism.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Excessive speed on Route 139 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This issue is well documented with speedometers at the north entrance of the village. On the other

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	<p>hand, at the southern exit towards Abercorn, there is a lot of speeding by all types of vehicles: motorcycles, trucks, etc.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lack of daycare spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A waiting list of approximately 100 children currently exists. The Town is in discussion with the administrators of the Jardin d'enfants de Sutton, which currently uses the John Sleeth Centre, to support the request for recognition of a subsidized daycare centre with 12 spaces that could be expanded to 40 spaces.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Availability of IHR Fibre-optic service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Since the beginning of January, the Town has been at IHR's heels, the non-profit company that manages the deployment of fibre optics in the Brome Missisquoi MRC. The Town of Sutton is at the end of the network. The project ends on September 30 and no connections are yet available on the territory. The MRC has issued a 7-million-dollar bond to guarantee the execution of the work. The Town of Sutton's share is \$1.3 million.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Low-maintenance lands and length of lawn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ See section 34.2 of By-law 460 regarding peace, order, and nuisance (translation of the French text): <p style="text-align: center;">RAGWEED AND GRASS</p> <p>“It is a nuisance for the owner, tenant, or occupant of land:</p>

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	<p>a) Located within one hundred metres (100 m) of a <i>dwelling house</i>, not to cut ragweed (<i>Ambrosia trifida</i> or <i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i>) at least two (2) times per calendar year, the first cut to be made prior to July 15 and the second cut to be made between August 15 and 25. This paragraph does not apply in an agricultural zone, on land under cultivation, on the portion of land subject to an easement for the protection of a natural environment, on the bank of a watercourse or a lake or under the forest cover of a wooded area;</p> <p>b) in respect of a grassed area, not cutting the grass when it reaches a height of thirty centimetres (30 cm) or more. This paragraph does not apply on a golf course, in an agricultural zone, on land under cultivation, on the portion of land subject to an easement for the protection of a natural environment, or on the bank of a watercourse or lake.”</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Collection of residual materials on private roads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Town will not collect bins on a private road for a variety of reasons related to the fact that private roads were not designed to accommodate collection trucks. The bins must therefore be placed at the intersection of a private road and a public road. For your information, a reflection is underway to modify the regulations and, ultimately, the general collection method in Sutton.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Access to water bodies for swimming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The subject is currently being studied and a pilot project could be carried out next year in Glen Sutton in collaboration with the local population and the Organisme de bassin versant de la baie Missisquoi..
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Future development of the Filtext site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It should be noted that a large part of the Filtext site is owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway. The railway company owns a right-of-way along the tracks. The Town is negotiating with CPR to use the strip of land on the Filtext site. One of the options being considered is to connect Depot Street to Pine Street. Sanitary services could also be installed. Other options are also being explored and will be presented later this fall at public consultations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ecocentre at the municipal garage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There are no plans to relaunch the ecocenter at this time. Citizens are instead invited to use the MRC's ecocenter in Cowansville.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Future of libraries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Town will encourage the two libraries to find a "modus vivendi".
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Oriflammes on Maple Street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Corporation de développement économique de Sutton, in collaboration with the Town of Sutton, is in discussion with Hydro-Québec for the project to be realized as soon as possible.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Need for a residence for semi-autonomous seniors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ At last count, there was no longer a waiting list of new residents at Villa des Monts. In addition, the

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	Société d'habitation du Québec had refused the Villa des Monts 2 construction project.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Permanent presence of bins along roads and paths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Town is very aware of this issue and will act to ensure that the bins are properly stored at the curb or roadside only a few hours prior to pick-up. For your information, a reflection is underway to modify the regulations and, ultimately, the general mode of collection in Sutton.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Light pollution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Town's new Environmental Inspector has begun an inventory of violators of By-law 233 on outdoor lighting. The Town's approach with violators is gradual. First, the Town sends a letter reminding them of the requirements of the by-law and the penalties for non-compliance. Property owners are encouraged to contact the Town to determine what solutions can be implemented. If there is no response or action, the Town will send a second letter giving the property owner three weeks to comply with the by-law. If there is still no compliance, the penalties set out in the by-law will be imposed. For a first offence, fines range from \$300 to \$2000. For a second offence, the fines range from \$600 to \$4,000 depending on whether the owner is an individual or a corporation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Files assigned to Town's councillors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Councillors participate in advisory committees: Advisory Committee on Planning and Sustainable Development (ACPSD), Advisory Committee on the

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	Environment (CCE) and Advisory Committee on Quality of Life (ACQOL). They also participate in working groups on short-term rentals and mobility.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Intersection of Western and Principale Street North 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This is a difficult intersection due to the irregular design of the crossing. As part of the rehabilitation of the northern portion of Western Street next year, the Town is looking at options to improve transit.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transport Larose truck exit safety issue on Western North 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This issue will be addressed as part of the repair of northern part of Western Street.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Excessive speed on Western Street North at the 215 intersection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Various traffic appeasement measures will be evaluated in the coming months as part of the street repair's project.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Google indicates to use Pleasant Street to reach Route 215 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This is information that the Town did not know. An intervention with Google would be appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Who will pay for the costs of hydrological studies? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The cost of the studies this year will be covered by the Town's non-allocated surplus.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Future of the John-Sleeth Centre site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Town is considering several options as part of the Dream Sutton project. The population will be consulted on these options during the fall. A room in the Sutton Museum will be set up with display materials to receive the public. A website dedicated to the Dream Sutton projects will also be put online soon.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Unsafe pedestrian traffic on Route 139 South to Jordan Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The lack of sidewalks along Route 139 South to Jordan Road makes pedestrian traffic particularly

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	dangerous. This road is owned by the MTQ with whom the Town is scheduled to meet.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Renovation of the Olivet Church 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Planning and Sustainable Development Advisory Committee (PSDAC) and Town Council have issued several conditions for the renovation of the exterior of the building and the location of parking spaces. Finally, the Volunteer Centre agreed to comply with the Town's decisions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Veterans Park and Cenotaph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Veterans Park is a central location in the centre of the Village that currently serves as a mini-public square. It is used sparingly by the Town for recreational and community activities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ First Responders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A 25-person team of volunteer firefighters and first responders, residents of Sutton and the immediate area, is on call to respond to calls from 9-1-1 dispatchers. A digital application sends an emergency message to all team members. Based on the address provided by the dispatcher, the volunteer closest to the location goes there while another volunteer fetches the first responder vehicle. Since the implementation of this new system, we have responded to all P0, P1 and P2 life-saving calls to the satisfaction of the Ministère de la Santé and the ambulance stakeholders in the region.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mini homes and affordable housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ As part of the revision of the Urban Plan, the Town will study the conditions for the implementation of

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	<p>mini homes in the village core and in certain zones on the territory. The mini home concept is certainly a tool to respond to the lack of affordable housing in Sutton. The Town is aware of this deficit and is currently working with private and public developers to fill this gap.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minimum lot size 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This issue will also be studied as part of the revision of the Urban Plan.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Town's vision for the development of Glen Sutton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Town has no master plan or overall plan for the development of Glen Sutton. Rather, this issue will be discussed with the resident population over the coming months and year.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Access to the Missisquoi River 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Town, in conjunction with the OBVBM (Organisme de bassin versant de la baie Missisquoi), has analyzed the best sites to allow access to the water of the Missisquoi River. Originally planned for this year, the development of sites has been postponed to next year in order to promote optimal social acceptability.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wildlife protection, runoff control, drainage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Wildlife protection is a key concern for the Town, particularly with respect to endangered species such as the wood turtle. Water management to reduce erosion and sediment transport is also a priority for the Town and is incorporated into the repair works being done by the Public Works Department.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ownership of land along the Missisquoi River 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There is no question of expropriating land along the Missisquoi River to facilitate access to the water. Some citizens are asserting their property rights on riparian land, and this is currently under review. The Town assures that the property rights of citizens will be respected.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parking along the Missisquoi River 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Town understands that the issue of parking near the Missisquoi River is a major concern for the residents of Glen Sutton and is committed to initiating a dialogue with the public on this issue. The mayor proposes that residents form a citizens' committee to facilitate this dialogue.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ High-water mark to demarcate private or public property from the shoreline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Town will consider the proposal that the high-water mark should be the dividing line between public and private property.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Traffic on Burnett Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Traffic on Burnett Road is fast and noisy. The Town will work with stakeholders to address this issue.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cushion Road Maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Mayor conveyed to the Director of Public Works the congratulations of the participants who noted a great satisfaction with the quality of the maintenance work on Cushion Road.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Signage at the corner of Missisquoi Valley Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Town is aware that the intersection is dangerous and that the sign is located at the bottom of a slope. The Town will investigate the possibility of improving the signage in front of this intersection.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Services need in Glen Sutton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Town notes the lack of services (convenience store, restaurant, etc.). However, the Town is studying the possibility of organizing community and recreational activities in the Vivarté room where the citizens' meeting was held.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Water quality tests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In response to the possibility of the Town conducting water quality testing in Glen Sutton, the Mayor replied that this was not in the Town's plans.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lack of recreational activities in Glen Sutton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In response to suggestions for recreational and sports activities for Glen Sutton youth, the mayor explained that the Quality-of-Life Committee (QLC) has been mandated by the Town to undertake projects to improve the quality of life. A budget of \$50,000 has been set aside for this purpose. Citizens will propose projects and vote for the most relevant ones. The Mayor invites the citizens of Glen Sutton to participate in this project.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sewage in Glen Sutton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Several projects have been studied over the years, but no solution has yet been identified. The Town will revisit this issue in the coming year.