

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 2, 2016 AT 7:00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, BRANDON, MANITOBA

PRESENT: Mayor Rick Chrest, Councillor Shawn Berry, Councillor Ron W. Brown, Councillor Jan Chaboyer, Councillor Barry Cullen, Councillor Kris Desjarlais, Councillor Jeff Fawcett, Councillor Jeff Harwood, Councillor John LoRegio, Councillor Lonnie Patterson

ABSENT: Nil

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Chaboyer-LoRegio

570 That the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of City Council to be held on Monday, May 2, 2016 be adopted as presented. CARRIED.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Harwood-Cullen

571 That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council held Monday, April 18, 2016 be taken as read and so adopted, all statutory requirements having been fulfilled. CARRIED.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:

(A) ROGER REMPLE, SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER FOR MMM GROUP - CLIMATE RESILIENCY

Rodger Remple, Senior Environmental Engineer with WSP/MMM Group, appeared before Council with respect to climate resiliency. Mr. Remple highlighted the potential for significant climate change in the future and the impact on municipalities. He stated that climate change would likely lead to longer summers resulting hotter days, shorter winters, increased rain, flooding, fires, stronger storms, drought, and heat waves. Mr. Remple asked City Council to give consideration on how they tender, design, and build municipal infrastructure in light of possible changes to weather patterns.

Harwood-Patterson

572 That the presentation by Roger Remple, Senior Environmental Engineer for MMM Group with respect to Climate Resiliency be received. CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

(A) VARIANCE APPLICATION – 563 – 3RD STREET (DORNN CONSTRUCTION LTD)

City Council sat to hear representation on the appeal of the Planning Commission's decision to approve the variation application of Dornn Construction Ltd. for 563 - 3rd Street.

Ryan Nickel, Principal Planner with the City of Brandon, provided an overview of the variance request for 563 - 3rd Street noting that the intent of the application was to decrease the minimum required interior side yard setback from 3.0m to 1.2m, and to decrease the Railway Protection Overlay Zone for dwelling units from 30.0m to 20.0m, to allow for the development of a four-unit multiple dwelling.

Brian Dornn, developer of 563 - 3rd Street, spoke in favor of the variance application stating that the proposed development would be similar to other housing developments in the area and that a barrier free development required more square footage per unit.

Peter Kabaluk, 555 - 3rd Street, spoke in opposition to the variance to decrease the side yard requirement as he did not believe that the footprint of the building needed to be so large and could be reasonably reduced in size without sacrificing the overall success of the project. Mr. Kabaluk cited several other examples of buildings that were similar sizes, but did not infringe on the current zoning requirements.

Cam Plante, realtor, spoke in favour of the variance commenting that this type of development was in high demand for those seeking barrier free housing.

Lisa Halter, local area resident, spoke against the variance stating that the current standards provide adequate space to develop the building without the need for a decreased property setback.

No further written or verbal representation was put forward either in support of or in opposition to the application.

Patterson-Harwood

573 That the Public Hearing for Variance Application V-02-16-B at 563 – 3rd Street be concluded. CARRIED.

Patterson-Harwood

574 That Variance Application V-02-16-B to vary Table 11 of Zoning By-law No. 7124 by decreasing the minimum required interior side yard setback from 3.0m to 1.2m, and Subsection 51.1(b) of Zoning By-law No. 7124 by decreasing the Railway Protection Overlay Zone for dwelling units from 30.0m to 20.0m, be approved in the RMD Residential Moderate Density Zone at 563 – 3rd Street (Lots 29/30, Block 79, Plan 8 BLTO) in accordance with the intent of the application “Attachment A-1”, the attached letter of intent “Attachment A-2” and the attached site plan “Attachment B-2”. CARRIED.

COMMUNITY QUESTION PERIOD:

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

(A) POVERTY COMMITTEE

APRIL 27, 2016

April 27, 2016
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

Committee Members: Councillor Jan Chaboyer (Co-Chairperson), Councillor Lonnie Patterson (Co-Chairperson), Councillor Kris Desjarlais, Susan Spring, Mark Kovatch, Cynamon Mychasiw, Nathan Peto (City Clerk's Office) and Alexis Sukaroff (Recording Secretary).

Your Poverty Committee has met and wishes to report as follows and submit recommendations where deemed necessary and expedient:

In February, 2016, the Poverty Committee set out our strategic plan for the next year. A verbal report was provided at the February 16, 2016 City Council meeting. Our priorities include:

- Continued focus on housing with three main goals: 1) facilitate a review of housing by-laws; 2) advance the sustainability of the Safe and Warm Shelter; 3) further investigate a Housing First Rent Supplement.
- Inviting specific community organizations to make a delegation to the Committee in order to keep up-to-date on poverty in Brandon. These organizations are: the Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation, the Community Advisory Board on Homelessness, and Nancy McPherson from Prairie Mountain Health to discuss the Brandon results of their first comprehensive Community Health Assessment.
- Set-up a joint meeting with the Brandon Urban Aboriginal People's Council and the Age Friendly Committee to discuss topics of common concern.
- Pursue further action on the Brandon Food Charter.
- Consider resolutions for submission to the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) annual meeting in November, 2016.

A summary of action that has taken place on these priorities is as follows:

- Gathered and begun an internal committee review of housing by-laws for more in-depth discussion at a future meeting.
- Heard a delegation from the BNRC on current activities and their partnership with the City.
- A joint meeting with BUAPC and the Age Friendly Committee will occur on May 31.
- A resolution on a Financial Institutions Indemnity Agreement providing protection against certain losses due to fraud or forgery involving Provincial benefit cheque encashment has been drafted for Council's consideration and included in this report.

Proposed AMM Resolution – Financial Institutions Indemnity Agreement

Concerns about difficulties with cashing provincial government cheques faced by low-income residents without an account at a financial institution were raised by community members to the Poverty Committee. These concerns included an inability to cash these cheques outright or a requirement to pay fees that reduce an already low income.

In response, the Committee investigated the matter further and discovered that some provinces have established agreements with financial institutions to ensure protection against loss due to fraud or forgery that guarantees an individual can cash a provincial cheque at these financial institutions.

Manitoba does not have a program similar to this in place and the Poverty Committee respectfully requests City Council's consideration to raise the problem and proposed solution at AMM District Meetings in June, 2016 so it can be considered for debate at AMM's annual meeting in November, 2016.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the report of the Poverty Committee dated April 27, 2016, be received.

That the Strategic Plan and Priorities for 2016 as set out in the report of the Poverty Committee dated April 27, 2016 be approved.

That the following resolution regarding Financial Institutions Indemnity Agreement for the Province of Manitoba be submitted to the Association of Manitoba Municipalities for consideration at the June District Meeting:

“WHEREAS there is a demonstrated need for financial institutions to provide enhanced benefit cheque encashment services to the Province's benefit recipients;

AND WHEREBY entering an agreement would provide Institutions with protection against certain losses due to fraud or forgery resulting from the encashment of such benefit cheques;

AND WHEREBY the signing institutions desire to participate in the Province's program to provide protection against certain losses due to fraud or forgery;

AND WHEREAS provinces including Alberta and British Columbia already have such programs in place;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association of Manitoba Municipalities lobby the Province of Manitoba to establish a program including a Financial Institutions Indemnity Agreement providing protection against certain losses due to fraud or forgery involving Provincial benefit cheque encashment.”

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor L. Patterson
CHAIRPERSON

Patterson-Chaboyer

575 That the report of the Poverty Committee dated April 27, 2016, be received. CARRIED.

Patterson-Desjarlais

576 That the Strategic Plan and Priorities for 2016 as set out in the report of the Poverty Committee dated April 27, 2016 be approved. CARRIED.

577

Patterson-Desjarlais

That the following resolution regarding Financial Institutions Indemnity Agreement for the Province of Manitoba be submitted to the Association of Manitoba Municipalities for consideration at the June District Meeting:

WHEREAS there is a demonstrated need for financial institutions to provide enhanced benefit cheque encashment services to the Province’s benefit recipients;

AND WHEREBY entering an agreement would provide Institutions with protection against certain losses due to fraud or forgery resulting from the encashment of such benefit cheques;

AND WHEREBY the signing institutions desire to participate in the Province’s program to provide protection against certain losses due to fraud or forgery;

AND WHEREAS provinces including Alberta and British Columbia already have such programs in place;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association of Manitoba Municipalities lobby the Province of Manitoba to establish a program including a Financial Institutions Indemnity Agreement providing protection against certain losses due to fraud or forgery involving Provincial benefit cheque encashment. CARRIED.

(B) GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE April 22, 2016

April 22, 2016
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

The Grants Review Committee is comprised of Councillor Lonnie Patterson recently appointed as Chairperson; Councillor John LoRegio and Councillor Jan Chaboyer. City Council makes grants to a number of service, cultural, performance and recreational organizations each year to assist them in their efforts to add to the quality of life for citizens of Brandon.

The Grants Review Committee was established October 28, 1985 to examine applications and make recommendations to City Council. Recommendations are formulated by the Committee on the basis of perceived need for the proposed program, breadth of impact in the community and financial need of the organization. (Terms of Reference - 1985)

At this time, organizations requesting grants must meet the following criteria:

- a. Be a non-profit organization;
- b. Clearly demonstrate that the organization is fulfilling a need in our community which is in line with the City’s mandate to provide social support and recreational, cultural, and youth services;
- c. Include fundraising efforts as an important part of the organization’s financial efforts;
- d. Clearly demonstrate a financial need for the funds requested.

Following a meeting held April 21, 2016, the Committee decided that in light of the growing number of applications and an effort to more evenly distribute funding to a broad range of community organizations, that an additional clause be added stating that:

“Major building capital such as construction; redevelopment; or property purchases will not be considered.”

Beginning in May of each year, applications outlining details of the request are to be accompanied by the organization’s most recent annual financial statements and by its budget for the upcoming year and are reviewed on a case by case basis in the fall. The City Treasurer shall also conduct a cross reference of all applicants to determine any agreements in place, or receipt of other funding/gift-in-kind services from the City of Brandon, and refer such information back to the Committee.

Recommendations are made to Council prior to Budget Deliberations, with all decisions of Council being final, and funds being issued upon adoption of the subsequent year’s Financial Plan. As part of the application process for 2017 and continuing thereafter, applicants who receive funding shall now also be required to submit to the Committee a brief report and list of expenses relative to the approved grant by no later than April 1st of the following year.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report of the Grants Review Committee dated April 21, 2016, be received.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Lonnie Patterson
CHAIRPERSON

Patterson-LoRegio

578 That the report of the Grants Review Committee dated April 22, 2016, be received. CARRIED.

(C) CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MAY 2, 2016

May 2, 2016
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

Committee Members: Councillor Kris Desjarlais (Co-Chairperson), Councillor Lonnie Patterson (Co-Chairperson), Debbie Nelson (City Clerk’s Office), Community Participants: Marcel Roberge, David Simard, Theresa Gibbons, Walter Gibbons, Chris Brandon, Graham Janz, Joel Springer, Larry Todd, David Neufeld, Caroline Slimmon, Patrick Desjarlais

Your Citizen Engagement Committee has met and wishes to report as follows and submit recommendations for further consideration of Council:

The Committee was struck by Council on February 17, 2015 to focus on ways to increase civic engagement in Brandon through increased voter participation, increased candidates in municipal elections, and increased participation in public meetings.

Three meetings of the Committee were held. In addition, members of the committee participated in the Rock the Vote Event to gather feedback from the general public on ideas generated during discussions at the first two meetings.

Community Meeting – April 29, 2015

A summary of this meeting, inclusive of those in attendance is attached as Appendix A.

Rock the Vote – August 29, 2015

The Brandon Civic Engagement Committee attended the Rock the Vote event at Princess Park to encourage people to vote in the Federal Election. We provided a handout with proposed recommendations to gather feedback, as well as an opportunity for citizens to provide additional ideas. 24 people took the opportunity to provide feedback. A summary of the feedback is provided in Appendix B of this report.

Recommendations for Action

Based on discussion at three Committee meetings and information gathered during the Rock the Vote event, 11 recommendations for action are suggested for further consideration by Council. Cost estimates are provided where available. These recommendations are:

Ideas to Increase Voter Turnout in Municipal Elections

1. Voting Day celebration on the day of the election. A city-wide event that encourages people to vote that includes events during the day.
2. Establish a partnership with the Brandon School Division, Assiniboine Community College, and Brandon University to educate students about the importance of voting.
3. Provide more communication where to vote and what ID is needed to vote.
4. Investigate the possibility of:
 - a. Online voting.
 - b. Providing free transit and handi-transit on voting day.
 - Providing free bus transit for cash fare customers on a typical weekday would result in an estimated \$1,560 in lost revenue, this includes \$300 for handi-transit.
 - c. Incentives to vote, such as an election levy that is paid upfront and returned once someone has voted, a lottery where everyone that votes is entered, or fines for people not voting.
 - d. Changing voter eligibility in municipal elections for Permanent Residents.
 - e. Better communicate that children of all ages are welcome at polling stations.
5. Changes to the election process:
 - a. Distribute voter information cards to all voters.
 - Based on enumeration reports we estimate there are 35,000 eligible voters in the City of Brandon. Mailing a voter information card to every eligible voter would cost approximately \$2,000 for printing and approximately \$30,000 for postage.
 - b. Increase the number of polling stations on voting day.

- c. Investigate recent changes made by Elections Manitoba with respect to advance polling times and locations to determine their applicability to the municipal election.
- d. Investigate the possibility of using multilingual literature.

Ideas to Increase the Number of Candidates in Municipal Elections

- 6. Investigate the possibility of offering a tax rebate for donations to candidates for Brandon City Council.
- 7. Begin providing information about how to be a candidate in advance of the municipal election via social media and website.
- 8. Council could do more education and outreach to schools and underrepresented groups of citizens to explain what the motivation to run was, what the job is, and what skills you need to be successful.

Ideas to increase engagement with the public between elections.

- 9. Investigate new ways for Council to engage the public on decisions. For example, setting up a table in the mall to discuss the proposed budget.
- 10. Continue to improve the ability to live stream public events and engage citizens online during the events.
- 11. Investigate new ways to promote public meetings.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Report of the Citizen Engagement Committee dated May 2, 2016, be received and referred to an informal meeting of Council for further deliberation and action.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor L. Patterson
CO-CHAIR

Patterson-Desjarlais

579 That the report of the Citizen Engagement Committee dated May 2, 2016, be received and referred to an informal meeting of Council for further deliberation and action. CARRIED.

(D) KEYSTONE CENTRE
VERBAL

MAY 2, 2016

May 2, 2016
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

Councillor Shawn Berry provided a verbal report to City Council on the Keystone Centre. Councillor Berry informed City Council that the early fiscal reports for the Keystone Centre were looking positive thanks to increased revenue from the Brandon Wheat Kings playoff run and new events like the Pet Expo.

He also confirmed that a deal had been reached to keep the Arabian Horse Show in Brandon thru to 2017. Councillor Berry informed City Council that the Keystone Board of Directors continued to review its governance structure and examine opportunities for alternative revenue.

Berry-Harwood

580 That the report of the Keystone Centre be received. CARRIED.

ENQUIRIES:

(183) REDEVELOPMENT/RESURFACING OF INTERSECTION AT 9TH STREET AND ABERDEEN AVENUE

Councillor Chaboyer requested an update on the status of the redevelopment/resurfacing of the intersection at 9th Street and Aberdeen Avenue.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the redesign, inclusive of the removal of the rock islands, widening the corners and resurfacing of the entire intersection was included in the 2016 Contract C Paving Works Tender and was expected to be completed by the end of summer. He advised that Aberdeen Avenue from the speed bump east to 6th Street would also be repaved this summer.

(184) HEAVY TRUCK TRAFFIC FROM 1ST STREET SOUTH TO CONSTRUCTION SITE

Councillor Brown advised that he had received complaints from area residents regarding heavy truck traffic travelling on 9th Street to access the construction site south of Crocus Plains School. He enquired if the trucks could be rerouted to 1st Street South.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the contractor had been contacted and advised that the trucks should be rerouted to 1st Street South.

(185) UPDATE ON LEVELS OF ASSINIBOINE RIVER

Councillor Fawcett requested an update on the Assiniboine River levels.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the River had crested on April 30, 2016 and remained within its banks. He noted that the only potential flood threat was an extremely heavy rainfall such as was experienced in 2014, however, staff continued to monitor the situation and were prepared to act if necessary.

(186) UPDATE ON APPLICATION TO PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD ON WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES

Councillor Fawcett requested an update on the application to the Public Utilities Board (PUB) with respect to water and wastewater rates.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the General Manager of Corporate Services responded that the PUB had issued their Order on April 29, 2016 with the overall results showing very little change from the rates proposed by the City of Brandon in their application. He confirmed that By-law No. 7139 would be presented to City Council at the May 16, 2016 meeting and he was prepared to answer any questions at that time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

"SHAPING THE FUTURE" ABORIGINAL ECONOMIC FORUM AND LUNCHEON - MAY 24, 2016

Councillor Desjarlais announced that the Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council would be hosting an Aboriginal Economic Forum and Luncheon entitled "Shaping the Future" on May 24, 2016 at the Victoria Inn and encouraged everyone to attend.

SCREEN WRITERS OF "THE BUBBLE BOY" VISITING BRANDON

Councillor Desjarlais announced that the screenwriters of "The Bubble Boy", Mr. Cinco Paul and Mr. Ken Daurio, were expected to be in Brandon this week to attend the Crocus Plains' Dinner Theatre production of "The Bubble Boy".

PRESIDENT OF MANITOBA MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION

His Worship Mayor Chrest congratulated the City Clerk, Heather Ewasiuk, on being elected President of the Manitoba Municipal Administrators Association for the 2016-2018 term.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

(A) ACCOMMODATION TAX CAPITAL FUNDING REQUEST – LEGION NATIONAL YOUTH TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS - 2017 AND 2018

City Council considered the report from the Director of Economic Development dated April 22, 2016 with respect to the above.

Fawcett-Berry

581 That a grant of \$207,500 be provided to the City of Brandon to redevelop the Sportsplex track as set forth in their funding application for the purpose of hosting the 2017 and 2018 Legion National Youth Track and Field Championships in Brandon with said funds to be transferred from the Accommodation Tax Reserve to the Tourism Initiatives operating account. CARRIED.

(B) TENDER - SPORTSPLEX TRACK REDEVELOPMENT

Submitted for consideration was a report from the Sportsplex Facility Manager dated April 21, 2016 with respect to the above.

Fawcett-Berry

582 That the bid of Davan Group Ltd. to carry out the Sportsplex track redevelopment (Civil Work and Track Resurfacing) as per tender and specifications at a cost of \$611,000.00 (net of GST) be accepted. CARRIED.

(C) TENDER – CONTRACT C PAVING WORKS

Councillor S. Berry declared a conflict of interest in this matter due to his employment with one of the bidders and left the Council Chamber prior to any discussion.

Considered was a report from the Director of Engineering Services and Water Resources dated April 22, 2016 with respect to the above.

Harwood-Chaboyer

583 That the bid of Zenith Paving Ltd. to carry out the Contract C – Paving Works as per tender and specifications at a cost of \$1,383,785.93 (net of GST) be accepted. CARRIED.

Following the vote on the above motion, Councillor Berry re-entered the Council Chamber.

(D) PROPOSAL – COMBINATION SEWER AND CATCH BASIN CLEANERS

City Council considered a report from the Manager of Fleet Services dated April 22, 2016 with respect to the above.

LoRegio-Cullen

584 That the bid from Joe Johnson Equipment Inc. to supply two (2) 2016 Vactor Plus/2017 Western Star 4700 Combination Sewer and Catch Basin Cleaners as per proposal and specifications for a total price of \$1,018,079.75 (net of GST) be accepted;

and further, that additional funding in the amount of \$70,775.23 from the Wastewater Reserve, be approved. CARRIED.

BY-LAWS:

Nil

GIVING OF NOTICE:

Nil

ADJOURN:

Berry-Chaboyer

That the meeting do now adjourn. (9:23 p.m.) CARRIED.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK