

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

January 9, 2017 City Council Meeting

(222) WATERMAIN BREAK IN 1000 BLOCK OF 9TH STREET

Councillor Patterson noted that crews had repaired a watermain break in the 1000 Block of 9th Street a number of times in recent months and requested information on this issue.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager advised that in May 2016 crews had lowered the water service at 1011- 9th Street as it had froze. He noted that a line had been damaged while fixing a leak at the same location in October 2016 with those repairs completed in December 2016. The City Manager confirmed that this location continued to be monitored and the roadway would be repaired in the Spring.

January 23, 2017 City Council Meeting

(223) CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Councillor Patterson noted that the recommendations made by the Citizen Engagement Committee to improve voter turnout and increase candidates in the next municipal election were to be discussed at an informal meeting of City Council and enquired when that meeting was to take place.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that this issue would be discussed at an informal meeting of City Council to take place on February 7, 2017.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

(224) IMPACT OF FEDERAL CANNABIS LEGALIZATION AND REGULATIONS AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

Councillor Patterson referred to the recent Federal Government Task Force on Cannabis Legalization and Regulations report and enquired as to the impact of the proposed legislation on the City of Brandon.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that a preliminary review of the Task Force's report had been completed to identify the issues that municipalities may face when the legalization and regulation of cannabis occurs. He advised that while many of the key initiatives would be regulated at a national level, areas such as the minimum age of purchase; a tax regime that includes equitable distribution of revenues; oversight and approval with respect to personal cultivation as well as restrictions on places of public use and overall public safety would need to be addressed at the provincial and municipal levels.

The City Manager advised that policies and regulations would continue to be reviewed in preparation of the release of the proposed legislation and agreed to keep City Council updated on this issue.

(225) UPDATE ON THE ASSESSMENT OF THE WATER TOWER

Councillor Parker requested an update on the status of the structural assessment of the water tower.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the Engineering Department had received the report with the results of the study to be presented at the February 6, 2017 City Council meeting.

February 21, 2017 City Council Meeting

(226) REPAIR OF POTHOLES

Councillor LoRegio noted that the recent warmer temperatures had caused potholes to become a problem earlier than expected and enquired if temporary repairs to same were being completed.

At the request of His Worship the Acting Deputy Mayor, the City Manager responded that pothole repairs were underway. He encouraged residents to call the Pothole Hotline at (204) 729-2200 to report any problem areas.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

(227) POLICY ON MAINTENANCE OF BACKLANES

Councillor Desjarlais requested an update on the status of the internal policy with respect to the maintenance of backlanes.

At the request of His Worship the Acting Deputy Mayor, the City Manager responded that Administration continued to review this issue in conjunction with the overall infrastructure demands in the City of Brandon.

He advised that a detailed plan with respect to backlane maintenance, inclusive of how it would be funded, would be presented to City Council by the end of 2017. He confirmed that in the interim, backlanes would be maintained to a safe level of service for traffic and encouraged everyone to report any lanes that required attention.

March 6, 2017 City Council Meeting

(228) DRAINAGE AT 18TH STREET AND RICHMOND AVENUE

Councillor Brown referred to the large piles of snow on the parking lot at the Brandon Shoppers Mall and enquired how this may affect the ongoing drainage problems at 18th Street and Richmond Avenue.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that he had contacted the General Manager of the Brandon Shoppers Mall who confirmed that there were no plans to remove this snow at this time. He advised that the drainage problems at 18th Street and Richmond Avenue were related to high volume storms rather than snow melt and he was confident the snow melt would have no effect on the drainage.

(229) IMPACT OF CURRENT SNOWFALL ON STREETS AND ROADS CLEAN-UP

His Worship the Mayor requested an update on the clean-up efforts from the current snowfall and blizzard conditions.

The Acting City Manager responded that two sanders had been deployed and were expected to work throughout the night on the arterial and collector streets. He confirmed that an assessment would be done early Tuesday morning, following which crews would be dispatched as per the snow clearing policy with contractors called in if necessary.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

March 20, 2017 City Council Meeting

(230) PREVENTION OF WATER DRAINAGE ISSUES

Councillor LoRegio enquired as to the efforts being undertaken to address drainage problems and water pooling issues during the spring season.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that two portable boilers and two large vacor trucks were used to thaw frozen infrastructure to allow for proper drainage. He noted that every effort was being made to open and keep open all water drainage sites; however, should residents notice a problem area, same should be reported to the Public Works Department at (204) 729-2285 or via the online reporting system.

Councillor LoRegio noted that summer storms created drainage problems in certain areas of the City of Brandon and enquired how those issues were being addressed.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the Engineering Department continued to review problem areas to ensure underground infrastructure was working properly. He stressed the importance of keeping sewer drains clear of debris and invited residents to report any problem areas to the Public Works Department as noted above.

(231) UPDATE ON BRANDON AIRPORT REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Councillor Harwood requested an update on the status of the redevelopment project at the Brandon Municipal Airport, inclusive of the expected completion date.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that, barring any major weather issues or construction delays, the Terminal was expected to be fully completed by May 1, 2017. He advised that a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was planned for shortly after the project's completion.

(232) WESTJET FLIGHTS EAST TO TORONTO

Councillor Harwood enquired if discussions had taken place with WestJet in regards to service from Brandon east to Toronto.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that discussions with WestJet were ongoing with respect to the airport improvements and the City of Brandon's desire for expanded air service.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

(233) TRAINING PLAN FOR RESPONSE TO POTENTIAL HIGH WATER EVENT

Councillor Patterson referred to the potential for a high water event this spring and enquired if training plans were in place for employees required to respond to same.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that much work had been done to manage a flood threat in the City of Brandon, inclusive of upgrades and repairs to the dike and the removal of problematic outfalls. He advised that, although the work required to manage the water at the 2011 levels had been reduced with the above mentioned improvements, maintenance of pumps at key locations with overall 24 hour/7 days a week vigilance.

The Acting City Manager added that the Emergency Response Control Group had met several times to review the 2011 and 2014 responses with more detailed planning meetings with respect to the City of Brandon's high water response efforts as well as local Utilities and Emergency Social Services planned responses. He confirmed that all employees were being provided the necessary training and support to respond effectively and efficiently as needed. Mr. Sage also noted that the next Province of Manitoba flood outlook would be released on March 27, 2017 which was expected to provide a clearer picture of the potential spring flood threat.

His Worship Mayor Chrest reminded everyone that further information on this issue would be provided by The Honourable Brian Pallister, Premier of Manitoba, and The Honourable Blaine Pederson, Minister of Infrastructure, when they met with City Council later in the week.

(234) CLEANING OF DITCHES TO AID WITH DRAINAGE

Councillor Chaboyer noted that in previous years the ditches had been cleaned out in the spring to aid with drainage and enquired if same was expected to be completed this year.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that any ditches located in known problem areas would be checked and cleaned if necessary; however, not all ditches were regularly cleaned out in the spring. He encouraged everyone to report problem areas to the Public Works Department at (204) 729-2285.

Further to this issue, His Worship Mayor Chrest noted that spring was also pothole season and encouraged residents to report any pothole problems by calling the Pothole Hotline at (204) 729-2200 or online at www.brandon.ca/report-an-issue.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

April 3, 2017 City Council Meeting

(235) UPDATED FLOOD REPORT

Councillor Fawcett requested an updated report on the potential flood threat for the City of Brandon.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the current Assiniboine River level was 1171.83 feet above sea level measured at First Street, with this level being within a few inches of the river being considered to be over-bank. He reminded residents that river levels were very unpredictable this time of year and encouraged everyone to stay away from the edge of the Assiniboine River. The Acting City Manager advised that the Manitoba Hydrologic Forecast Centre estimated the first peak of the river to arrive between April 10-17, 2017 at approximately 1176.80 feet above sea level as measured at First Street. Mr. Sage confirmed that staff continued with preparations such as readying pumps, sealing manholes and overall monitoring of the situation and updates would be provided to City Council twice daily for the foreseeable future.

April 18, 2017 City Council Meeting

(236) CONDITION OF MEMORIAL CRESCENT

Councillor LoRegio advised that he had received complaints from residents with respect to the poor condition of Memorial Crescent and enquired if any work was planned for this street.

Councillor LoRegio also enquired as to the process for determining which streets were scheduled for resurfacing during the year.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that a Pavement Management Analysis was conducted on all roadways in the City of Brandon in 2014 with the data collected used to calculate an overall Pavement Condition Index (PCI) score. He advised that maintenance was performed on the streets with the lowest PCI first. Mr. Sage advised that Memorial Crescent had been identified as having a low PCI, however, the condition of base and sub-base suggested that more than a typical mill and overlay was required at this location. He confirmed that test holes had been drilled at this site in March and the results were currently being reviewed. Mr. Sage further advised that, should these results indicate that reconstruction is required, same would be budgeted for with the next 1-2 years and agreed to keep City Council updated on this situation.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

(237) CANADA 150 AND BRANDON 135 CELEBRATIONS

Councillor Harwood requested an update on the activities planned for the Canada 150 and Brandon 135 Celebrations in 2017.

His Worship the Mayor responded that \$50,000 had been allocated in the 2017 City of Brandon Budget for these Celebrations. He advised that a portion of those funds were to be used to enhance the Canada Day Celebrations hosted by Brandon Riverbank Inc. with the remainder to be accessible for other organizations requesting financial assistance for events planned in the community.

(238) PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS FOR CANADA 150/BRANDON 135 EVENTS

Councillor Harwood enquired if there was an opportunity for the City of Brandon to partner with local organizations such as Daly House Museum, the Brandon General Museum and Archives Inc. or the Commonwealth Air Training Plan Museum to host activities/events within the community.

His Worship the Mayor responded that as noted above, there were funds available for any local organizations wanting to partner with the City of Brandon in creating special events to celebrate Canada 150 or Brandon 135. He confirmed that, to date, there had been no inquiries received, however, it was still early in the year.

May 1, 2017 City Council Meeting

(239) AVAILABLE ELECTRICAL POWER AT PRINCESS PARK

Councillor LoRegio advised that in previous years, vendors at events in Princess Park had found it necessary to bring generators to operate their equipment. He noted that these generators were loud and disturbed the spectators at events and enquired if the availability of electrical power for vendors at Princess Park had been investigated.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that an investigation had determined that there was sufficient power to run City of Brandon events held in Princess Park and there were no plans at this time to increase the amount of electrical outlets. The Acting City Manager confirmed that all vendors operating on City of Brandon property were advised that they needed to be self-sufficient when they received their annual business license.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

Mr. Sage advised that the noise issue had been addressed by encouraging food vendors to move further from the stage area and the situation would be monitored over the summer months to ensure a comfortable environment for both patrons and vendors.

(240) FAILURE OF CROSSWALK LIGHTS ON RICHMOND AVENUE BETWEEN THE SHOPPERS MALL AND MACDONALDS RESTAURANT

Councillor LoRegio advised that the crosswalk lights on Richmond Avenue between the Brandon Shoppers' Mall and McDonalds Restaurant were not working and enquired if same could be repaired as soon as possible.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that these lights may have been temporarily disabled by the construction crew at the Brandon Shoppers' Mall. He confirmed that he had contacted City of Brandon electricians who would work with the contractor to have the lights operational as soon as possible.

(241) UPDATE ON PROPOSED OUTDOOR SPORTS FIELD COMPLEX AT ASSINIBOINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE (ACC) NORTH HILL CAMPUS

Councillor Berry requested an update on the status of the proposed Outdoor Sports Field Complex to be located at the ACC North Hill Campus.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that City of Brandon Administration continued to work with the Province of Manitoba and the Outdoor Sports Complex Committee on the transfer of land and funding for this project. He agreed to keep City Council apprised of the progress on this project.

(242) UPDATE ON PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT REC CENTRE

Councillor Chaboyer requested an update on the status of the proposed development at the Rec Centre.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the City of Brandon Development Services staff continued to work with the applicant (Horizon Builders) to prepare a Master Plan and hoped to have a rezoning/subdivision submission for a portion of the golf course property prepared within two months.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

(243) CONDITION OF WHEAT CITY GOLF COURSE

Councillor Desjarlais requested an update on the condition of the Wheat City Golf Course.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the upper portion was open with the lower portion expected to be open by mid-May and overall, the Course was in good condition.

(244) SIGHT OBSTRUCTION BY SIGN AT TRACY STREET AND SYCAMORE AVENUE

Councillor Brown advised that a large wooden sign located at the intersection of Tracy Street and Sycamore Avenue was causing a sight obstruction and enquired if this matter could be investigated and the sign moved.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the Planning Department had been made aware of this situation and the owner of the sign would be requested to move it as soon as possible.

May 15, 2017 City Council Meeting

(245) CONDITION OF INTERSECTION OF 34TH STREET AND LAKEVIEW DRIVE/ABERDEEN AVENUE

Councillor Berry advised that the intersection of 34th Street and Lakeview Drive/Aberdeen Avenue was in poor condition. He noted that patchwork repairs had been done many times and enquired when a permanent solution to this problem was expected.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that milling and resurfacing of 34th Street, along with improvements to the pedestrian crossing at this intersection were scheduled for this summer. He noted that upgrading of this street, inclusive of the installation of curbs has been scheduled in the Capital Budget for the year 2022, however dependent on the rate of population growth in the area, same could be brought forward for discussion at earlier budget deliberations.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

(246) SEQUENCING OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT INTERSECTIONS IMPACTED BY CONSTRUCTION

Councillor LoRegio referred to his recent enquiries whereby he had noted that the sequencing of traffic lights had been impacted by construction at two intersections within the City of Brandon. He raised concerns that more intersections may be impacted in the same way and enquired if all traffic light sequencing at intersections was reviewed following construction.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

June 5, 2017 City Council Meeting

(247) FIRE PIT REGULATIONS AND POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF BUFFER ZONE

Councillor Patterson advised that she had received complaints from residents with respect to the amount of smoke generated from backyard fire pits. She enquired as to what regulations were in place to try and limit the amount of smoke generated from backyard fires, and further, whether or not the establishment of a buffer zone system with regards to same had ever been considered.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor the Acting City Manager responded that the size and type of fuel for backyard fire pits was regulated in City of Brandon Open Air Fire By-law No. 6746 which ensured clean burning results with very little smoke. He advised that if a complaint was received, the Fire Department attended the site immediately and, if there was a violation of the by-law, the fire was extinguished immediately. The Acting City Manager noted that residents who were non-compliant or repeat offenders would have their permits revoked and a possible fine issued. With respect to the buffer zone, the Acting City Manager responded that with typically few complaints received, the need for a buffer zone had not been considered.

(248) SCHEDULED RECREATION HUBS AND REASSESSMENT OF PRIORITY FOR PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENTS

Councillor Desjarlais noted that, during budget deliberations, moving up the scheduled recreation hubs and reassessing the priority for playgrounds had been discussed. He requested an updated on the status of both these issues.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the Capital budgets had been reviewed with some modifications having been made. He advised that the improvements to Crocus Playground, Park Community Common and the Wascana Drive Park were currently out for tender. The Acting City Manager confirmed that the Valleyview Recreation Hub was expected to be completed in 2018. He added that smaller park amenities were to be added to Patricia Heights Park and the North End Community Centre Park over the summer months with a full update to City Council on this issue expected to be provided by the end of summer.

(249) TIMELINE OF DEMOLITION OF 8TH STREET BRIDGE AND SAFETY ISSUES/TRANSIT CONCERNS

Councillor Desjarlais requested an update on the timelines for the demolition of the 8th Street Bridge, inclusive of the communications efforts being made and how safety issues and transit concerns were being addressed.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that work continued on dismantling the structure, with final completion no later than October 2017. He noted that concurrently, the Engineering & Planning Departments had been gathering and compiling feedback from two public consultation sessions regarding the conceptual design of an Active Transportation Connection with the conceptual design to be presented to Council as well as the community in the Fall of 2017 for consideration and direction on next steps.

Mr. Sage stated that communication efforts included multiple public media releases since the New Year, when the tender opportunity was advertised and awarded and the timelines became more certain. He also noted that prior to the demolition commencing, letters were sent to all properties on 8th Street North and 9th Street North between Assiniboine Avenue and Stickney Avenue.

The Acting City Manager advised that safety concerns continued to be at the forefront. He noted that with the commencement of the bridge demolition, pre-existing trespassing issues had been compounded. The Contractor had fenced off the demolition site to protect the public from unsafe conditions during the demolition and the Engineering Department continued to work with Canadian Pacific Rail Police regarding ways to prevent trespassing.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

Mr. Sage advised that hourly bus service via the Assiniboine route remained in place during the demolition and that Transit was currently reviewing all routes in the City and welcomed input from the public. To date, Transit had received just one emailed concern regarding this area and no one from the Stickney area attended the first public consultation held May 31, 2017. He indicated that the second consultation was scheduled for Thursday, June 8, 2017 and encouraged all residents to attend the presentation and provide their feedback.

(250) PLAN FOR BACKLANE REHABILITATION

Councillor Desjarlais requested an update on the City's plans for establishing a process to deal with back lane rehabilitation.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement whereby a detailed response would be provided to City Council within one month.

(251) POTENTIAL IMPACT OF REDUCED PROVINCIAL FUNDING TO TRANSIT/POLICE

Councillor Desjarlais noted the Provincial Government had announced it was reducing funding of Winnipeg for Transit and Police and enquired if the City of Brandon would be affected by similar funding cuts.

His Worship Mayor Chrest stated that any change in funding from the Province for 2017 had not been confirmed at this time. He advised that through the Association of Manitoba Municipalities, a meeting with provincial officials had been requested to discuss any concerns and that he would advise Council of any developments.

(252) UPDATE ON SPRAYING OF TENT CATERPILLARS IN CITY OF BRANDON

Councillor Fawcett requested an update on spraying for tent caterpillars throughout the City of Brandon.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, Acting City Manager, Rod Sage informed Council that the Parks staff had attempted to spray since May 24, noting that all guidelines must be followed which included no rain within 24 hours, or winds over 20 km/h. He advised that staff was unable to spray due to these guidelines, however the caterpillars were now in the cocoon stage, eliminating the need to spray.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

June 19, 2017 City Council Meeting

(253) APPROVAL OF TRANSIT ROUTE RESTRUCTURING

Councillor LoRegio requested an update on the changes to the Brandon Transit System routes, and enquired if City Council approval was required for same.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the proposed changes were based on usage, whereby route times remained the same and there were no changes to the hours of service. Mr. Sage confirmed that as the transit route restructuring did not require additional funding, the conditions approved by City Council in the City of Brandon Financial Plan had been met, and City Council approval of the proposed changes was not required.

(254) UPDATE ON SOIL TESTING ON MEMORIAL CRESCENT

Councillor LoRegio requested an update on the status of the soil testing on Memorial Crescent.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the review of the test hole logs had been completed and the data collected had not indicated that a full reconstruction was warranted. He advised that milling and overlay was expected to be completed in the 2018 construction season.

(255) UPDATE ON CONDITIONAL ASSESSMENT AND PENDING WORK FOR WATER TOWER

Councillor Parker noted that City Council had approved the recommendations of structural engineers with respect to necessary repairs for the water tower and requested an update on the status of same.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the recommended short term improvements including the removal of protruding foundation anchor bolts, removal of overflow stand pipe, and replacement of two diagonal braces would be completed by 2018. He advised that a structural assessment was to be conducted every 5 years and the recoating of the structure every 10-15 years as necessary, had been budgeted for accordingly in the Utilities Capital Budget.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

July 17, 2017 City Council Meeting

(256) REMOVAL OF SPEED BUMP ON ABERDEEN AVENUE

Councillor Brown requested an update on the potential removal of the speed bump on Aberdeen Avenue.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that research to document traffic counts and any speed-related concerns, inclusive of feedback from affected residents, would take place in the near future. He advised that the Manager of Infrastructure and Construction had confirmed that once all data had been collected and analyzed, a decision would be made regarding the best traffic calming option for this roadway. Mr. Sage noted that dependent upon the time taken to review the data, this project may be completed this year.

(257) RECONSTRUCTION OF INTERSECTION AT 34TH STREET AND VICTORIA AVENUE

Councillor Cullen requested an update on the reconstruction of the intersection of 34th Street and Victoria Avenue, inclusive of the redirection of traffic and the estimated timeline for completion.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the reconstruction of Victoria Avenue from 32nd to 38th Street began today with the intersection of 34th Street and Victoria Avenue expected to be fully closed for 5 days for the replacement of the water and sewer infrastructure. He confirmed that for the majority of the construction period, every effort would be made to have one lane of traffic in each direction maintained on both 34th Street and Victoria Avenue. He advised that the Contractor had provided the Engineering Department with a Traffic Management Plan, with any deviations from that Plan requiring the approval of the Engineering Department. Mr. Sage stated that many of the side streets in the vicinity of the construction were expected to see increased traffic however, should the increased traffic become problematic, the City of Brandon Engineering Department would address the issue. The Acting City Manager thanked area residents for their patience during the reconstruction period and advised that the entire project was expected to be completed by October 15, 2017.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

(258) INCREASED HEAVY TRUCK TRAFFIC ON CLARK DRIVE AND PARK AVENUE WITH DETOUR FROM 34TH STREET AND VICTORIA AVENUE

Councillor Harwood advised that he had received complaints from residents of Clark Drive with respect to the heavy truck traffic now being rerouted to their street due to the construction along Victoria Avenue and enquired if this issue could be addressed by the Engineering Department. Councillor Harwood also advised that he had received calls from residents along Park Avenue who raised concerns with both the volume and speed of traffic on that street due to the construction on 34th Street and Victoria Avenue. He enquired if the Brandon Police Service could be requested to monitor this situation.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take both these matters under advisement.

(259) COLLECTION OF OUTSTANDING TAXES IN ARREARS

Councillor Berry referred to a recent newspaper article whereby it was noted that the City of Brandon hired an outside firm to collect property tax arrears and enquired why this was not being done by the City of Brandon itself.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, Mr. Dean Hammond, General Manager of Corporate Services, responded that the tax sale process was regulated by the Municipal Act of Manitoba and was very regimented. As a result, a company called Tax Service had been utilized for a number of years by the City of Brandon for their expertise in this area. Mr. Hammond confirmed that all costs incurred by the usage of Tax Service were recovered from the property owners whose taxes were in arrears whether or not they went to tax sale.

August 14, 2017 City Council Meeting

(260) CLEAN UP OF RESIDENTIAL YARDS FOLLOWING REPAIR WORK BY CITY OF BRANDON

Councillor Fawcett requested information on the process and timelines for the completion of clean-up and restoration work on residential properties following underground repair work by the City of Brandon.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that dependent upon the nature of the repair work, a site could take 6-8 weeks to be fully restored. Mr. Sage confirmed that projects were prioritized based on whether private property was being impacted by the loss of a driveway or sidewalk access, and whether the project was adjacent to educational, institutional or commercial facilities. He advised smaller repairs such as landscaping and sod remediation in residential areas were completed following the larger repairs with a goal of having all restoration work completed by the end of that construction season. The Acting City Manager encouraged residents with questions regarding specific projects to contact the Public Works Department at (204) 729-2285.

September 5, 2017 City Council Meeting

(261) WALKING PATH ON PATRICIA AVENUE TO 1ST STREET AND MARYLAND AVENUE

Councillor Brown enquired if the construction of a walking path along Patricia Avenue to 1st Street and Maryland Avenue in the vicinity of Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School was planned for the near future.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that plans had been approved to extend the existing walking path east along Patricia Avenue to 1st Street and north along 1st Street to Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School. He advised that the pathway was to be part of a housing development being built in this area, with the Developer responsible for construction of the portion adjacent to their development. Mr. Sage noted that the entire construction of the walkways was expected to be completed by the end of 2018.

(262) UPDATE ON DESIGN OPTIONS FOR 8TH STREET BRIDGE

Councillor Desjarlais requested an update on the status of the design options available for the replacement of the 8th Street Bridge.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that several conceptual design options had been submitted with same to be reviewed by the City of Brandon working group in September. He confirmed that upon completion of the internal review, the information would be shared at a public open house following which recommendations would be brought forward to City Council.

(263) OPTIONS FOR PARKING IN 00 BLOCK OF 9TH STREET

Councillor Desjarlais referred to the closure of a portion of the 00 Block of 9th Street and enquired as to the potential options for parking in that area.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the General Manager of Development Services responded that this issue was being addressed by the Engineering Department with every effort being made to open up a larger accessible area for parking in the very near future. She confirmed that directional signs would be erected as soon as the logistics had been worked out.

September 18, 2017 City Council Meeting

(264) UPDATE ON VALUE-DRIVEN ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION EFFORTS

Councillor Desjarlais noted KPMG had been hired in an effort to steer the City of Brandon towards value driven asset management and requested an update on the implementation of the recommendations from the consultant.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that KPMG had completed the City of Brandon Asset Management Plan and Business Improvement Plan and as a result, staff had structured a multi-year road map to build upon the work already underway. He noted that the new asset management policy would be presented to Council in the Fall of 2017 and that an application for funding had been made to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to support implementation of the Business Improvement Plan.

The Acting City Manager stated work continued on developing business case requirements for capital investments and using the asset management business cases for the budget planning process.

(265) UPDATE ON ENGINEERING REPORT FOR MCKENZIE SEEDS BUILDING

Councillor Desjarlais requested an update on the requested engineering report from the owners of the McKenzie Seed building which was to be completed by September 15, 2017.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that due to safety concerns with the façade of the McKenzie Seeds Building, an emergency road closure of 9th Street between Pacific and Rosser Avenues had occurred on August 28, 2017. The closure was to remain in effect until an assessment from the property owner was received and reviewed by the City of Brandon. He stated that the south portion of 9th Street had been reoriented as a two-way street to allow east bound access to the TD Canada Trust parking lot. In addition, free one hour parking was configured on the corner of 9th Street and Rosser Avenue to accommodate individuals and businesses on the east side of 9th Street. He confirmed that the city had set Friday, September 15, 2017 as the deadline for the engineer's assessment of the building and that the report was still outstanding. The Acting City Manager reported

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

that the City had been in contact with Resland Development Corporation and had arranged a meeting for September 20, 2017.

Further to the above enquiry, Councillor LoRegio requested that City Council be advised of the outcome of the September 20, 2017 meeting with Resland Development Corporation. His Worship the Mayor agreed to provide an update to City Council following the meeting.

(266) UPDATE ON DRAINAGE AND SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN SOUTH CENTRAL WARD

Councillor Patterson requested an update on the drainage project in the 1100 Block of 7th Street, and the sidewalk project on Van Horne Avenue between 7th Street and 9th Street.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the drainage channel on the 1100 Block of 7th Street was on the list of projects to be completed by the end of this construction season. It was expected that the contractor would be at the site within the next couple of weeks. He noted that once work started at this site, it was expected the disruption would be minimal and should take less than a week to complete. Mr. Sage further advised that the Van Horne project had started and paving was expected be completed in the following week.

October 2, 2017 City Council Meeting

(267) VACANCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Councillor LoRegio requested an update on the progress of the Vacancy Management Committee. He enquired if a full report, inclusive of the number of positions reviewed and the outcomes of those reviews along with those positions budgeted for, not budgeted for, filled, not filled and deemed unnecessary.

His Worship the Mayor responded that this matter would be referred to the Personnel Committee for a report back to City Council as soon as possible.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

(268) UPDATE ON POTENTIAL CONSTRUCTION OF SOCCER COMPLEX

Councillor LoRegio requested an update on the status of the proposed soccer complex in the City of Brandon.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the consulting firm of HTFC Planning & Design had been hired to complete a master plan for a soccer complex to be located on the city-owned property at 1st Street and Veterans' Way. He noted that a meeting was scheduled with HTFC for October 12, 2017 and agreed to keep City Council apprised of this project.

(269) RE-CONSTRUCTION OF 21ST STREET BETWEEN VICTORIA AND ROSSER AVENUES

Councillor Harwood requested an update on the reconstruction of 21st Street between Victoria and Rosser Avenues, inclusive of the expected completion date for this project.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the concrete curb and gutter, driveways and sidewalk portion were complete; however, schedule conflicts had caused a delay in the completion of the mill and overlay. He advised that the mill work was scheduled to begin October 18 with the paving scheduled for the week of October 23, 2017. Mr. Sage confirmed that the Engineering Department had reviewed the site and re-opened it to traffic until the street resurfacing work resumed.

Further to the issue of construction projects, the Acting City Manager advised that the majority of the capital construction program projects were complete with the remainder to be wrapped up in the next few weeks. He encouraged any City Councillors with specific concerns regarding construction projects to contact the Engineering Department directly for an update.

October 16, 2017 City Council Meeting

(270) COMPARISON OF TRANSIT RIDERSHIP BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 2016 AND SEPTEMBER 2017

Councillor Berry referred to the recent changes to Brandon Transit and enquired as to the ridership numbers in September 2017 compared to September 2016.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that, while previous statistics showed a reduction in ridership following route changes, it was too early to determine specific ridership trends. He confirmed that information would be gathered for the first four to six months following the changes with a report to be presented to City Council in early 2018.

Further to this issue, Councillor Berry requested at least a preliminary report of ridership numbers be provided prior to budget deliberations. His Worship the Mayor echoed Councillor Berry's request and it was agreed that same would be provided.

Councillor LoRegio referred to the new Transcab Service whereby transit riders who travelled to or from either Braecrest Drive (between 18th St and Knowlton Drive) or McDonald Avenue were taxied to the next bus stop in the area. He enquired if statistics on the usage of same could also be provided prior to budget deliberations.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to take this matter under advisement.

(271) UPDATE ON ADDITIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING APPROVED FOR 2017

Councillor Parker noted that \$400,000 in infrastructure funding had been added during the 2017 Budget Deliberations and requested an update on projects completed ahead of schedule due to this extra funding.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that the largest project added due to the additional funding was the rehabilitation of 21st Street between Rosser Avenue and Victoria Avenue. He noted that this project came in at a cost of \$350,000 and would have been pushed to future years had it not been for the extra funding in 2017. Mr. Sage advised that additional concrete work, street resurfacing and other projects had also been tendered for in the 2017 construction program compared to other years.

(272) TIMING FOR RELEASE OF CITY TENDERS

Councillor Berry noted that City of Brandon tenders for construction projects were released in March or April which often delayed the start of projects. He enquired if consideration could be given to releasing same earlier in the year to allow for an earlier start if weather permitted.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Acting City Manager responded that this issue could be investigated and agreed to take this matter under advisement.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

November 6, 2017 City Council Meeting

(273) UPDATE ON VACANCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Councillor LoRegio referred to his previous enquiry with respect to an update from the Vacancy Management Committee and enquired when a response to same was to be expected.

His Worship the Mayor responded that the Personnel Committee had received the report from the Human Resources Department with same to be reviewed in the near future. His Worship confirmed that the information would be shared with City Council well before the 2018 Budget Deliberations.

(274) SERVICES PROVIDED TO CONDOMINIUM DEVELOPMENTS

Councillor LoRegio referred to the recent presentation by a group of condominium owners regarding the services provided to condominium developments. He noted that a meeting was to be set up between City Council and the group of presenters and enquired when that meeting was expected to take place.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that an overview of the various forms of condo ownership and the different services provided to those properties would be presented to City Council at an informal meeting on November 16, 2017. Mr. Sage advised that City Council's direction on the steps to be taken with the condo groups would be sought after that meeting.

(275) INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES IN THE 1500 BLOCK OF 22ND STREET

On behalf of Councillor Brown, Councillor LoRegio noted that there had been numerous infrastructure issues, in the 1500 Block of 22nd Street. He enquired if replacement of the water mains and improvements to the street were planned for that area.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the section of water main along the 1500 Block of 22nd Street had scored poorly on an evaluation conducted by the Engineering Department, and hence, was a high priority for total replacement in the 2019 or 2010 Capital Program. Mr. Sage advised that the roadway would be maintained by the Operations Department until it a complete asphalt overlay could be completed after the replacement of the water main.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

(276) ADDRESSING DRUG ISSUES IN THE COMMUNITY

Councillor Chaboyer referred to a recent presentation by Ms. Kim Longstreet with respect to drug issues in the community. She noted that this issue had also been a major topic of discussion at a recent Green Acres Ward meeting and enquired if the formation of a Community Task Force to address these issues could be considered.

His Worship the Mayor responded that he had recently met with Ms. Longstreet and that she planned to provide a presentation to City Council at the November 20, 2017 meeting. His Worship advised that Ms. Longstreet planned to share the results garnered from the September 20, 2017 Open House and was expected to provide City Council with her suggestions for addressing this issue at that time.

November 20, 2017 City Council Meeting

(277) PUBLIC CONSULTATION - 2018 BUDGET

Councillor Berry enquired if a date had been set for the public consultations with respect to the proposed 2018 City of Brandon Budget.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that, while in prior years two separate sessions had taken place in October and January, City Council and Administration had agreed that one session would be sufficient. Mr. Sage advised that the proposed budget would be released to everyone prior to Christmas and an Information and Public Consultation Session had been scheduled for Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Foyer. He confirmed that the 2018 City of Brandon Budget Deliberations would take place on January 20, 2018 giving time for members of the public to share their concerns with City Council.

(278) ALTERNATE DESIGNS FOR 8TH STREET BRIDGE

Councillor Desjarlais enquired when Dillon Consulting was expected to provide the alternative designs for the replacement of the 8th Street Bridge.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that two additional conceptual alternatives had been received and were to be reviewed by the Project Team and the original brainstorming group by the end of November. Mr. Sage advised that an update and feedback session with City Council was expected to take place by the end of the year.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

(279) PROVINCIAL FUNDING CUTS TO PUBLIC TRANSIT GRANTS

Councillor Desjarlais referred to the recent cuts by the provincial government to public transit grants and enquired as to the impact of same on Brandon Transit operations, inclusive of options to maintain adequate and affordable service. He further enquired if this information could be provided prior to the 2018 Budget Deliberations in January.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that, although all details on the changes had not been received, the Provincial Government had confirmed that the amount the City of Brandon received in 2016 would remain the same for 2017 and 2018. He noted that due to many of the transit costs being direct operating and capital costs, there was an expected \$227,000 shortfall not covered by the grant. Mr. Sage advised that the 2018 Budget had been prepared without proposed cuts to routes or staff and should the grant shortfall not be covered by the City of Brandon, service reductions may be necessary. He confirmed that a detailed report on the new route structure was being compiled and would be presented to City Council at an informal session prior to year-end.

(280) DETAILED REPORT ON BRANDON TRANSIT

Further to Councillor Desjarlais' enquiry, Councillor LoRegio requested a detailed report on Brandon Transit, including the number of employees in the various roles, be provided so as to ensure City Council could make an informed decision during budget deliberations.

His Worship the Mayor agreed to have this information presented to City Council at the informal meeting scheduled prior to year-end.

December 4, 2017 City Council Meeting

(281) UPDATE ON TRANSFER OF PROPERTY AT REC CENTRE

Councillor LoRegio requested an update on the status of the transfer of the property at the Rec Centre.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the possession date for the transfer of 3500 McDonald Avenue to Horizon Builders Ltd. had been extended to August 1, 2018. He advised that the rezoning and subdivision applications for the property were not able to move forward until a second means of access to the property had been approved. Mr. Sage confirmed that a report on the 34th Street at-grade crossing improvements would be presented at the December 18, 2017 City Council meeting and a public hearing would be held following approval of the secondary access and updated site plan.

2017 CITY COUNCIL ENQUIRIES

December 18, 2017 City Council Meeting

(282) VIABILITY AND FINANCIAL IMPACT OF IMPLEMENTING A BI-WEEKLY RESIDENTIAL REFUSE/RECYCLE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Councillor Parker enquired if a report outlining the viability and financial impact of implementing bi-weekly residential refuse/recycling collection schedule could be provided prior to the upcoming budget deliberations.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that, at minimum, a report on the history of this issue with as much detailed information as possible would be provided prior to the 2018 budget deliberations.

To: Mayor & Councillors

From: Mark Yeomans
Director of Public Works

**Subject: Councillor's Enquiry No. 282 – Feasibility of Bi-weekly Refuse Collection
December 18, 2017 City Council Meeting**

In response to the request from Councillor Parker, to address the feasibility of implementing a bi-weekly refuse / recyclable collection schedule. The team from Public Works and Sanitation has reviewed the possibility of implementing a bi-weekly residential collection schedule and has the following concerns;

- The volume of refuse from portions of the city, will create contamination of recycling bins and overflow of the black lidded refuse bins.
- Residential Infill and the numbers of refuse bins per unit are a concern with bi-weekly collection. The current standard is 1 refuse and 1 recycling bin per every 3 units of a multi family unit.
- The contamination of recycling may have a negative impact on the City's recycling Program. There is concern about the impacts on the sale of recyclables with an increased contamination percentage. The second is that recyclable materials may end up in the landfill, either from having recyclable material in the refuse bins that would be dumped in the landfill or having a very high contamination percentage in the recycle material. Both scenarios would result in a reduced landfill life.
- The need for a City wide green bin, organic collection, program. Most Cities that have implemented a bi-weekly collection schedule, have bins for recyclables, organics and refuse. Currently the green bin program is voluntary for the residents of Brandon. This would need to be a mandatory program. Currently Sanitation has approximately 7,000 green bins in the collection route and we would need an additional 7,000 bins.
- Concern from residents of Brandon about a change from the familiar.
- How will Sanitation utilize the collection drivers into the workings of the landfill or other sections and will the union agree?

At this time, Administration does not feel it is feasible to implement a bi-weekly collection schedule for the City of Brandon.

Administration is currently gathering and analyzing data on a modified bi-weekly collection schedule. The business plan for the modified schedule should be ready for early April. Administration would like to meet informally with council at that time to review our plan.

Respectfully Submitted

Mark Yeomans
Director of Public Works