

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 1, 2023
AT 7:00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, BRANDON,
MANITOBA**

PRESENT: Mayor Jeff Fawcett In The Chair, Councillor Shawn Berry, Councillor Shaun Cameron, Councillor Barry Cullen, Councillor Kris Desjarlais, Councillor Greg Hildebrand, Councillor Heather Karrouze, Councillor Bruce Luebke, Councillor Glen Parker, Councillor Jason Splett, Councillor Tyson Tame

ABSENT: Nil

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Cullen-Luebke
307 That the Agenda for the regular meeting of City Council to be held on Monday, May 1, 2023 be adopted as presented. CARRIED.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Splett-Cameron
308 That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of City Council held Monday, April 17, 2023 be taken as read and so adopted, all statutory requirements having been fulfilled. CARRIED.

Cameron-Hildebrand
309 That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council held Monday, April 17, 2023 be taken as read and so adopted, all statutory requirements having been fulfilled. CARRIED.

HEARING OF PRESENTATIONS:

(A) SCOTT HADDOW - NATIONAL COMPOST WEEK

Scott Haddow, Solid Waste Manager, appeared before City Council to provide information on the Green Cart Program carried out by the City of Brandon. Mr. Haddow noted that there were over 9500 current participants in the program and that composting had diverted an estimated 17,297.22 tonnes of waste away from the landfill. The results of this was the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to over 9,900 vehicles over a ten-year period.

Mr. Haddow advised that the week of May 7-13 was International Compost Awareness Week and outlined various activities occurring during same. He reminded residents that during this time free compost would be available for pick-up at the Keystone Centre

grounds during the mornings of May 9 and 13, as well as the evening of May 11. Mr. Haddow concluded by inviting Council and residents to participate in the 'Soil Your Undies' activity to test soil health in their gardens.

Cameron-Splett

310 That the presentation by Scott Haddow, Solid Waste Manager, with respect to National Compost Week be received. CARRIED.

(B) MICHELE LETOURNEAU - BRANDON URBAN ABORIGINAL PEOPLES' COUNCIL UPDATE

Michele LeTourneau, Indigenous Community Coordinator, appeared before Council with respect to a Spring update on the Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council (BUAPC). She outlined the activities that occurred over the previous 3 months that BUAPC facilitated or was a partner organization. She highlighted the participation in the Federal First Nations and Inuit Skills-Link mentorship program, noting that Teryn Mecas would work with BUAPC for a 5-month period.

Ms. Letourneau updated Council on the programming planned for Truth and Reconciliation Week 2024 and the funding target for same. She concluded by noting several initiatives occurring in the near future, including recommendations by the Indigenous Naming Group, Treaty Teachings for City of Brandon staff, and the 2024 Honouring the Good Road Gala.

Luebke-Desjarlais

311 That the presentation by Michele LeTourneau with respect to an update from the Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council be received. CARRIED.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS/FEEDBACK:

(A) JAMES EPP - ACCOMMODATION TAX

James Epp expressed concern with respect to the proposed increase to the Accommodation Tax rate. He suggested a fixed cap of \$15.00 to the amount that could be charged through the percentage-based rate, resulting in a possible trigger for evaluation when rates would exceed the fixed value.

Mr. Epp concluded by requesting that City Council also consider allowing a grace period for business owners before the accommodation tax would be required. He argued that it is difficult for new business owners of smaller hotels to be competitive with larger

hotel chains, and that giving new businesses a grace period would provide a competitive edge when becoming established in the community.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:

(A) MAEENGAN LINKLATER - CANADIAN INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

Maeengan Linklater, on behalf of the Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council, appeared before City Council with respect to Canadian Indian Residential Schools. He advised different recognitions of the schools as a genocide in recent history, including that the Canadian House of Commons had unanimously passed a resolution recognizing it as such. Mr. Linklater provided an overview of how Canadian Indian Residential Schools fulfilled several criteria of the United Nation's convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide.

Mr. Linklater outlined the history of the Brandon Residential School that operated from 1985 to 1972. He noted that this location had conducted experiments with the children without parental consent. Further, that there were as many as 104 potential graves at the site, 75% of which had been identified as of March 5, 2023. He spoke to the ways that recognizing the history of Canadian Indian Residential Schools as a genocide would be a considerable move towards reconciliation and requested that Brandon participate in this effort.

Desjarlais-Karrouze

312 That the presentation by Maeegnan Linklater with respect to Canadian Indian Residential Schools be received.

And further, that in the opinion of Brandon City Council that the Government of Canada must recognize what happened in Canada's Residential Schools as genocide, as acknowledged by Pope Francis and in accordance with Article II of the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, and recognized through unanimous consent by the House of Commons on October 27, 2022. DEFERRED.

Parker-Tame

313 That the above motion with respect to the acknowledgement of treatment at Canadian Indian Residential Schools be tabled until no later than October 16, 2023 regular Council meeting to allow further review of this matter by Administration.

And further, that the matter be referred to the Committee of the Whole and that Administration consult with the Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council for a

thorough review and report back to City Council no later than October 16, 2023.
CARRIED.

(B) U15 GIRLS CANADIAN FASTPITCH CHAMPIONSHIP - COMMUNITY EVENT DESIGNATION

Bev Neufeld appeared before City Council with respect to Community Event Designation for the 2023 Softball Canada U15 Girls' Championship to be held August 9 to 13, 2023.

Councillor Luebke declared a conflict of interest in this matter and left the Council Chamber prior to any discussion.

Berry-Splett

314 That the presentation by Bev Neufeld with respect to 2023 Softball Canada U15 Girls' Championship be received. CARRIED.

Berry-Splett

315 That the 2023 Softball Canada U15 Girls' Championship to be held August 9-13, 2023 at the Ashley Neufeld Softball Complex be designated a Community Event in the City of Brandon.

And further that the City of Brandon Operations Department provide assistance to the event organizers in the form of, but not limited to, additional sanitation pick-up and the loan of bleachers and other city-owned temporary infrastructure. CARRIED.

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

(C) MICHAEL JUCE - MANITOBA HOTEL ASSOCIATION

Michael Juce on behalf of the Manitoba Hotel Association appeared before City Council with respect to the proposed amendments to the Accommodation Tax By-law. He spoke to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the hotel industry and noted that occupancy rates in Brandon had not yet recovered to pre-pandemic averages. He advised that to increase the accommodation tax would impose undue burden on the local hotel industry while recovery was still on-going. Further, he spoke to several ways in which the increase that would negatively affect business competition and local residents.

Mr. Juce requested that City Council reconsider the imposition of a 5% accommodation tax rate. Further, that consideration be given to include short-term rentals in the

Accommodation Tax By-law, as short-term rentals had remained unregulated and were unfairly advantaged by avoiding the tax.

Luebke-Hildebrand

316 That the presentation by Michael Juce on behalf of the Manitoba Hotel Association with respect to Accommodation Tax By-law No. 7014, be received. CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Nil

COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

(A) WESTERN MANITOBA REGIONAL LIBRARY VERBAL MAY 1, 2023

Councillor Cameron provided a verbal report from the meeting of the Western Manitoba Regional Library that was held on April 19, 2023. He noted that topics of discussion focused on the receipt of several Arts, Culture and Sport in Community Fund grants awarded for facility improvements to various library locations. Other discussion focused on Indigenous Diversity training for library staff and the significant usage of the library recorded in March 2023.

(B) POVERTY COMMITTEE VERBAL MAY 1, 2023

Councillor Karrouze provided a verbal report for the Poverty Committee from a meeting held by the Brandon Food Council on April 28, 2023 of which City of Brandon staff and Poverty Committee members attended. She advised that the meeting was an opportunity to meet with counterparts from the City of Winnipeg and discuss the importance of food security initiatives in the community.

Hildebrand-Splett

317 That the verbal reports from the Western Manitoba Regional Library and Poverty Committee be received. CARRIED.

ENQUIRIES:

(51) CEMETERY ROAD REPAIRS

Councillor Hildebrand noted that many of the paved roads in the cemetery were crumbling on the sides which caused a safety hazard for the walkers and joggers who frequently used the roads. He enquired if the roads could be patched up.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager confirmed that the Streets and Roads Crews would be sent to do the repairs in the very near future.

(52) ROADSIDE SIGNAGE RESTRICTIONS

Councillor Splett enquired if a City of Brandon By-law existed with respect to restriction of the size and placement of roadside signs.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that By-law No. 6854 restricted the size and placement of temporary and movable signs on property other than the public right-of-way within the corporate limits of the City of Brandon. He explained that the City of Brandon Traffic By-law No. 5463 restricted the placement of signs on the public right-of-way with only temporary signs being permitted under certain conditions. The City Manager noted that the restrictions were explained in the by-law which could be found on the City of Brandon website.

(53) REINSTALLATION OF POSTS ON 9TH STREET BETWEEN ABERDEEN AND RICHMOND AVENUES

Councillor Splett noted that the white posts located on 9th Street between Aberdeen and Richmond Avenues placed to divide the roadway from the pedestrian walkway had been removed in the Fall and enquired when same were expected to be reinstalled.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the posts had been removed before the snowfall to ensure easy access for the plows and would be reinstalled as soon as the street sweeping was completed. He estimated the posts to be back in place within the next two weeks.

(54) GARWOOD DRIVE DRAINAGE

Councillor Tame advised that a dip in the road on Garwood Drive caused water to pool and not drain to the north as it was intended to do. Councillor Tame noted that this section of the road had been a problem for many years and enquired if this problem could be addressed sooner rather than later.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the Engineering Department was aware of this problem as it was an annual issue during the spring thaw as the heaving of the concrete swale caused a small pond on the north side of the road. He explained that the optimal solution was to install a catch basin and drainage pipe that would direct the flow of water to a future land drainage system along Park Avenue. Mr. Bowles confirmed that, in the interim, a potential repair that would stabilize the soil to ensure movement does not occur during the spring thaw period was being looked into.

(55) PATRICIA AND MARYLAND AVENUES MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

Councillor Berry advised that both Patricia and Maryland Avenues were in poor condition with Maryland Avenue west of 18th Street being in the worst shape. He requested that, given the amount of traffic on Maryland Avenue, a regular bi-weekly maintenance schedule be considered.

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

(56) POTHoles - MARYLAND AVENUE WEST OF 26TH STREET

Councillor Berry advised that Maryland Avenue west of 26th Street was in a state of disrepair between potholes and spring break-up with some areas being down to a single lane to go around the potholes. He enquired if same could be fixed as soon as possible.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WARD 9 MEETING - MAY 9, 2023

Councillor Parker announced that a Ward 9 meeting was to take place on May 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the East End Community Centre. He noted that members of Administration were to be in attendance to assist in answering any questions and invited residents to attend.

WARD 1 MEETING - MAY 25, 2023

Councillor Karrouze announced that a Ward 1 meeting was to take place at the Riverbank Discovery Centre at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 25, 2023.

NATIONAL DAY OF AWARENESS FOR MISSING & MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS

Councillor Desjarlais reminded everyone that Friday, May 5, 2023 was the National Day of Awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, also known as Red Dress Day. He provided a history of the day and the significance of the red dress symbol as it related to missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.

MOOSE HIDE CAMPAIGN COMMUNITY WALK

Councillor Desjarlais announced that the Assiniboine Community College had partnered with the Brandon Aboriginal Peoples' Council to host a community walk to end violence in Brandon as part of the Moose Hide Campaign. The walk was to take place on Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at Princess Park and everyone was encouraged to attend. He noted that individuals interested in more information on the campaign could go to moosehidecampaign.ca.

POTHOLE FIXES & REPORTING HOTLINE

Mayor Fawcett announced that street repairs of potholes was to commence shortly by the City of Brandon Streets and Roads section. He advised that fixes to potholes would remain temporary until permanent repairs could be carried out in warmer weather. Motorists were encouraged to notify staff of problematic potholes by calling the 24-hour pothole hotline at (204)729-2200 or through the website at brandon.ca/report-an-issue.

Mayor Fawcett also reminded residents that Victoria Avenue West of 1st Street, Richmond Avenue East of 18th Street, all of 1st Street and all of 18th street including the bridges are under the jurisdiction of the Province of Manitoba. Any reports regarding those streets were directed to call 1(866)626-4862.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

(A) FUNDS FROM AFFORDABLE HOUSING RESERVE

Considered was a report from the Planning and Buildings Departments dated April 24, 2023 with respect to the above.

Desjarlais-Parker

318 That up to \$20,000.00 be authorized to be expended from the Affordable Housing Reserve for land assembly costs at 353 16th Street North. CARRIED.

BY-LAWS:

NO. 7355 ACCOMMODATION TAX AMENDING BY-LAW
2ND & 3RD READING

Submitted for consideration was a report from the Director of Legislative Services dated April 24, 2023 with respect to the above.

Luebke-Hildebrand

319 That By-law No. 7355 to amend Accommodation Tax By-law No. 7014 to increase and change to a percentage-based Accommodation Tax rate, and general housekeeping amendments be read a second time. CARRIED.

Luebke-Berry

320 That By-law No. 7355 be read a third and final time. CARRIED.

FOR

AGAINST

Mayor Jeff Fawcett
Councillor Shawn Berry
Councillor Shaun Cameron
Councillor Barry Cullen
Councillor Kris Desjarlais
Councillor Greg Hildebrand
Councillor Heather Karrouze
Councillor Bruce Luebke
Councillor Glen Parker
Councillor Jason Splett
Councillor Tyson Tame

NO. 7354 TO AMEND TARIFF OF FARES FOR METERED TAXIS
1ST READING

Considered was a report from the Legislative Services Department dated April 5, 2023 with respect to the above.

Cameron-Cullen

321 That By-law No. 7354 to amend By-law No. 6924 to establish a tariff of fares for metered taxicabs in the City of Brandon be read a first time. CARRIED.

NO. 7358 TO AMEND TAXI MODEL AGE YEAR RESTRICTION
1ST READING

City Council considered a report from the Director of Legislative Services dated April 21, 2023 with respect to the above.

Tame-Parker

322 That By-law No. 7358 to amend By-law No. 6884 to increase the taxicab model age year restriction be read a first time. CARRIED.

GIVING OF NOTICE:

(A) SHORT-TERM RENTALS

In accordance with Rule 60 of Procedure By-law No. 6334, Councillor Desjarlais gave notice of his intent to introduce at the May 15, 2023 regular meeting of Council, a motion with respect to the inclusion of short-term rentals in the Accommodation Tax By-law.

ADJOURN:

Berry-Luebke

That the meeting do now adjourn. (9:11 p.m.) CARRIED.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK