

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 5TH, 2007 AT 7:30 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, BRANDON, MANITOBA

PRESENT: Mayor D. Burgess in the Chair, Councillor D. Jessiman, Councillor D. Paterson, Councillor E. Black, Councillor G. Rice, Councillor J. McCrae, Councillor J. Harwood, Councillor K. Fitzpatrick, Councillor M. Campbell, Councillor M. Blight, Councillor V. Barletta, Youth Councillor Ryan McKim

ABSENT: Nil

PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:

Nil

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

121 Harwood-Paterson
That the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of City Council to be held on Monday, March 5th, 2007 be adopted as presented. CARRIED.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

122 Rice-Fitzpatrick
That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council held on Monday, February 19th, 2007 be taken as read and so adopted, all statutory requirements having been fulfilled. CARRIED.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:

(A) MARTY SNELLING AND MARK FAWCETT - NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL CORPORATION REGARDING BIA FUNDS

Marty Snelling and Mark Fawcett appeared before City Council on behalf of the Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation (BNRC). They provided a power point presentation on the BNRC Storefront Improvement Program and suggested the funds held in reserve after the dissolution of the Downtown Brandon Business Improvement Area could be used to supplement that program.

123 Barletta-Harwood
That the presentation by Marty Snelling and Mark Fawcett on behalf of the Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation with respect to the Downtown Brandon Business Improvement Association funds be referred to the Administration for consideration and subsequent report. CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

(A) 2007 FINANCIAL PLAN

City Council sat to receive representation on the above matter.

The General Manager of Corporate Services provided a power point presentation which outlined the 2007 Financial Plan for the City of Brandon.

Mr. Lee Bass, Vice-President of the Brandon Chamber of Commerce appeared and stated that the business community felt strongly that increases in taxation levels would affect their ability to function in the community. He noted however, that the business community was willing to accept tax increases

if they saw value in the money being spent. Mr. Bass encouraged the Administration to continue to seek ways to engage the public in the budget process and suggested that a budget income statement be prepared for the year.

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

Paterson-Fitzpatrick

124 That the Public Hearing on the City of Brandon's 2007 Financial Plan be concluded. CARRIED.

COMMUNICATION & PETITIONS:

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

(A) JOINT TASK FORCE - BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION AND CITY OF BRANDON
VERBAL REPORT MARCH 5TH, 2007

Brandon, Manitoba
March 5th, 2007

Mayor and Council
City of Brandon

Councillor Blight provided a verbal report on the Joint Task Force Committee meeting with the Brandon School Division and the City of Brandon held February 26th, 2007. He reported that a number of topics had been addressed including the Transportation Pilot Project and crosswalk concerns. He provided a copy of the Minutes from that meeting and advised the next meeting would be held April 16th, 2007.

(B) WESTERN MANITOBA CENTENNIAL AUDITORIUM
VERBAL REPORT MARCH 5TH, 2007

Brandon, Manitoba
March 5th, 2007

Mayor and Council
City of Brandon

Councillor Blight provided a verbal report on the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium whereby he noted that a meeting had not been held in February but would be held Tuesday, March 6th, 2007 at 12:00 Noon. He provided a copy of the draft Minutes from the January 30th, 2007 meeting.

Black-Harwood

125 That the verbal reports by Councillor Blight with respect to the Joint Task Force Committee and the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium be received. CARRIED.

ENQUIRIES:

(84) CLEAN-UP OF SNOW FROM RECENT STORM

Councillor Rice referred to the recent snow fall and enquired if an update could be provided on the City's clean-up efforts.

In conjunction with the above, Councillors also raised questions with respect to snow dumping by private contractors, review of procedures following a snow fall event, sidewalk clearing, blind spots at intersections and budget information.

At the request of the Chair, the General Manager of Operational Services advised that snow removal had begun Wednesday evening with crews working around the clock until Saturday night to complete the clean up. She indicated that vehicles parked on the streets had created some difficulty as had the volume of snow, particularly in the back lanes. She further advised that citizens could call 729-2285 to report hazardous intersections where snow piles had created blind spots that needed to be removed as quickly as possible and that all efforts would be made to alert the public about the dangers of the situation.

In response to the supplementary questions, the General Manager of Operational Services advised that there had been a couple of issues with respect to snow dumping that had been addressed.

She also advised that reviews were conducted following each event to better modify the process with the snow plan being updated every year.

It was reported that sidewalk clearing was always an issue, however a by-law would be presented to Council in the near future to address that issue.

With respect to the snow removal budget, information would be provided to Council once the costs had been determined.

(85) BIO DIESEL EQUIPMENT FOR SNOW REMOVAL

Councillor Paterson enquired if the City had considered using bio-diesel in its snow clearing equipment.

At the request of the Chair, the General Manager of Operational Services advised that as the equipment was parked outside and used during inclement weather, there had been no serious consideration given to utilization of bio-diesel however same could be considered if an appropriate blend of fuel could be found.

(86) PRIORITIES FOR SNOW REMOVAL

Councillor Campbell enquired if a brief update could be provided on the snow removal process.

At the request of the Chair, the General Manager of Operational Services advised that the process entailed the clearing of major arterials first, to keep traffic flowing, followed by collector streets and bus routes to ensure emergency vehicles could operate, and finally the clearing of residential areas.

(87) FINANCIAL STATUS OF WESTERN MANITOBA CENTENNIAL AUDITORIUM

Councillor Fitzpatrick referred to concerns dating back to his first term on Council in 1999 with respect to the financial status of the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium and noted that in the recent financial statements, the Auditorium was again going to lose approximately \$200,000. He enquired if the City had approached the Auditorium with respect to exploring other opportunities and further, if the Board of the Auditorium was doing anything in that regard.

His Worship the Mayor advised that City Council had, in the past, challenged the Auditorium to reduce its deficit, given that responsibility for the deficit was divided equally between the City of Brandon and the Province of Manitoba however the Province had not been interested in addressing the problem at that time. He noted that the current Council members on the Board could raise the matter with the

Board and request an update on its activities, and he would raise the issue again with the Province of Manitoba.

(88) GRAFFITI ISSUE

Councillor Black provided copies of pictures taken at the Rideau Park Personal Care Home and enquired if same could be forwarded to the Crime Prevention Committee for its consideration in addressing the graffiti issue.

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

(89) TRAFFIC CONGESTION AT CORRAL CENTRE

Councillor Black referred to previous discussions with respect to traffic congestion at the Corral Centre and ways to improve bus service to that location. He enquired if an update could be provided on what steps had been taken, if any, to address the bus service situation.

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

(90) POTENTIAL FOR GRANTS RE STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Councillor Black enquired if the City could check with senior levels of government regarding grants for funding student employment.

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

(91) CROSSWALK AT 18TH STREET AND LORNE AVENUE

Councillor Harwood noted that the issue of improved overhead signage for the crosswalk located on 18th Street at Lorne Avenue had been referred to the Province of Manitoba for consideration. He enquired if, in the interim, the Province could be requested to install the bright orange flags on top of the existing signs.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ASSINBOINE WARD MEETING

Councillor Paterson announced that he would hold a special Ward Meeting on Wednesday, March 7th, 2007 at the North End Community Centre at 7:30 p.m. with respect to the Recreation Facilities Master Plan.

ART GALLERY OF SOUTHWESTERN MANITOBA DINNER AND ART AUCTION

Councillor Harwood announced that he had attended the 100th Anniversary Dinner and Auction of the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba on Friday night. He extended his congratulations to the staff and volunteers for an excellent event.

RIVERVIEW WARD MEETING

Councillor Black announced that he would hold a Ward Meeting at the East End Community Centre on Tuesday, March 6th, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the Recreation Facilities Master Plan, the Citizens on Patrol Program and the Crime Prevention Committee.

SOLUTIONS TO OVERCOME POVERTY (S.T.O.P.) FORUM

Councillor Rice announced that the final forum for Solutions To Overcome Poverty (S.T.O.P.) would be held on Tuesday, March 6th, 2007 in the main foyer at City Hall at 7:00 p.m.

RESURFACING AND SHOULDER PAVING ALONG RICHMOND AVENUE EAST

Councillor Jessiman announced that on February 27th, 2007 he had attended a workshop sponsored by the Province of Manitoba with respect to resurfacing and shoulder paving along Richmond Avenue East. He advised the work would commence as soon as the weather allowed.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

(A) 2007 CITIZEN APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Considered was a report from the City Clerk dated February 22nd, 2007 with respect to the above.

Harwood-Blight

126 That the following citizen appointments be and are hereby made to the Planning Commission, with terms of office to expire March 31st, 2010:

Phillip Dorn
William Horne CARRIED.

(B) FUNDING APPLICATION FOR ROOF REPAIRS TO DALY HOUSE MUSEUM AT 122 - 18TH STREET

City Council considered a report from the City Clerk's Department dated February 15th, 2007 with respect to the above.

Harwood-McCrae

127 That the City of Brandon make application to Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism for a grant under the Designated Heritage Building Grants Program for an amount up to \$22,073.00 for the purpose of re-shingling the roof of Daly House Museum;

and that the Council of the City of Brandon recognize the full financial implications of the subject development and acknowledge that the provincial government will not be responsible for any further assistance other than the grant applied for;

and that the Council of the City of Brandon guarantee that there are adequate funds available to complete the project and the City of Brandon will continue to be responsible for the maintenance of the this facility. CARRIED.

(C) SUPPORTING MANITOBA SPIRITED ENERGY

Submitted for consideration was a report from the General Manager of Operational Services dated February 21st, 2007 with respect to the above.

Barletta-Rice

128 That the City of Brandon agree to the standards set out in the Brand Charter attached to the report of the General Manager of Operational Services dated February 21st, 2007 and become a Spirited Energy Partner. CARRIED.

(D) 2007 FEE SCHEDULE - WHEAT CITY GOLF COURSE

Considered was a report from the General Manager of Operational Services dated February 21st, 2007 with respect to the above.

Paterson-Jessiman

129 That the changes to the 2007 fees charged for the Wheat City Golf Course as outlined in the report of the General Manager of Operational Services dated February 21st, 2007 be approved;

and further, that a by-law be prepared to amend Fee Schedule By-law No. 6852 with respect to the fees charged for the Wheat City Golf Course. CARRIED.

(E) EDUCATION OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ON IMPORTANCE OF CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN CIVIC AND PUBLIC SCHOOL AFFAIRS - COUNCILLOR MCCRAE

City Council considered a report from Councillor J. McCrae dated February 21st, 2007 with respect to the above in accordance with his notice of motion filed at the February 19th, 2007 meeting of City Council.

McCrae-Black

130 That the Council of the City of Brandon invite the Board of Trustees of the Brandon School Division to join in the establishment of a permanent speakers' roster of Councillors and Trustees for the purpose of educating Brandon high school students about the importance of citizen participation in civic and public school affairs. CARRIED AS AMENDED.

AMENDMENT

Black-Fitzpatrick

131 That the above motion be amended by adding the words:" and other groups" directly following the phrase: "high school students". CARRIED.

(F) PROPOSAL TO SUBDIVIDE PROPERTY NORTH OF BRAECREST DRIVE IN THE VICINITY OF LARK STREET AND CLARE AVENUE (CITY OF BRANDON O/B/O RICHARD BULL OF TAURUS GOLF)

Submitted for consideration was a report from the Planning Department of Development Services dated February 22nd, 2007 with respect to the above.

Paterson-Fitzpatrick

132 That the application of the City of Brandon on behalf of Richard Bull of Taurus Golf to subdivide property north of Braecrest Drive in the vicinity of Lark Street and Clare Avenue (Wly 1440' of Block 5, Plan 925 BLTO) be approved. CARRIED.

BY-LAWS:

NO. 6857 - TO AMEND BY-LAW NO. 6852 (SCHEDULE OF FEES) WITH RESPECT TO FEES CHARGED FOR THE WHEAT CITY GOLF COURSE

Considered was a report from Operational Services dated February 21st, 2007 with respect to the above.

Paterson-Jessiman

133 That By-law No. 6857, to amend Schedule of Fees By-law No. 6852 with respect to changes to the fees charged for the Wheat City Golf Course, be read a first time. CARRIED.

GIVING OF NOTICE:

(A) COMMITTEE TO PREPARE A PLAN REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF A GENERAL MUSEUM

In accordance with Rule 60 of City Council Procedure By-law No. 6634, Councillor Black gave notice of his intent to introduce at the March 19th, 2007 meeting of City Council, the following motion:

“That a City Council committee be established to prepare a plan for the formation of a general museum that would include an evaluation of potential sites, estimate of capital costs, identification of funding sources and a detailed plan for the ongoing operation of the museum, as well as an assessment of the possibility of including within the museum, a community archives;

and further, that the Committee include a Councillor from the Brandon Municipal Heritage Committee and two other Councillors and at least three citizens representatives;

and further that the Committee submit a report on its progress to City Council by October 31st, 2007 and a final report prior to budget deliberations for 2008.”

ADJOURN:

Fitzpatrick-Rice

That the meeting do now adjourn. (10:06 p.m.) CARRIED.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK