

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH, 2008 AT 7:30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, BRANDON, MANITOBA

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

ABSENT: Councillor J. McCrae, Youth Council Member

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

538 Harwood-Rice
That the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of City Council to be held on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 be adopted as presented. CARRIED.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

539 Blight-Barletta
That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council held on Monday, February 4, 2008 be taken as read and so adopted, all statutory requirements having been fulfilled. CARRIED.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:

Nil

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Nil

COMMUNICATION & PETITIONS:

(A) PETITION IN OPPOSITION TO BY-LAW NO. 6876

Councillor Paterson presented a petition to the City Clerk from residents in opposition to the proposed rezoning at 1324 and 1330 - 1st Street North.

His Worship the Mayor advised that the Public Hearing with respect to the subject rezoning had been concluded and no further representation could be considered, however the petition would be placed on file.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nil

ENQUIRIES:

(315) CONCERN WITH PUBLIC SAFETY AT THE BUS DEPOT

Councillor Black advised that he had received a call from a resident who had arrived in Brandon on a bus at 3:00 a.m., found the bus depot closed and was unable to locate a pay phone. He noted that in this case a taxi cab had arrived and was able to assist this resident, however, the varying hours of the bus depot created a safety concern. He enquired if a safety audit of the area, inclusive of lighting, pay phone access, etc. could be conducted.

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

(316) COMMUNICATION ACCESS BETWEEN EMERGENCY CREWS AND HOSPITALS

Councillor Paterson referred to a recent article in the Globe and Mail which referred to a medium-sized city in Ontario that provided its emergency responders with monitors which could be hooked up to communicate directly with cardiologists at the local hospital. He noted that this system saved critical time in heart related emergencies and enquired if same could be investigated for the City of Brandon.

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

(317) CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS LIVE ON THE INTERNET

Councillor Paterson referred to a previous enquiry regarding the live broadcast of City Council Meetings on the website and noted that some staff members of the City Clerk's Office had recently attended a webinar on same. He added that he understood this matter was under review and enquired if a time frame could be provided as implementation sooner rather than later would be beneficial.

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

(318) INCREASE IN WATER MAIN FAILURES

Councillor Rice noted that there appeared to be an increase in water main failures over recent winter months. He enquired if a comparison of the winter of 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 could be provided. In conjunction with the above Councillor Jessiman advised that he had received similar concerns.

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

(319) UPDATE ON CASINO ISSUE

Councillor Jessiman referred to the previous meeting whereby he had requested information on the casino issue. He enquired if any new information had been received.

His Worship the Mayor advised that the City Clerk's Office had taken care of all aspects of the plebiscite vote with respect to polling locations, advance polls etc., however, that was where the City's involvement ended. He further advised that any other relevant information was to be provided by the Association of Manitoba Chiefs as the applicant and the Province of Manitoba who issued the license. He noted that he had attended a meeting with both parties several weeks ago whereby he encouraged them to provide more information to the voting public and suggested a public forum as well, however to his knowledge, neither had been followed through on.

Further to this issue Councillor Jessiman advised that he had also received questions from citizens regarding revenue sharing, location etc. whereby he noted that His Worship had previously discussed same with Chief Meeches of the Long Plain First Nation as well as other members of the Association of Manitoba Chiefs. He enquired if any answers to the above questions had been provided.

His Worship the Mayor advised that those questions had arisen from comments made in the media by the applicants, however he had no further information available. He reiterated that Council's only role was to provide the public with a clean, simple plebiscite question. He further advised that he had not had any further conversations with Chief Meeches or other members of the Association, however in previous discussions, it had been indicated that a public forum on the casino would be held after the plebiscite vote.

(320) NEW PROCESS FOR WATER BILLS

Councillor Campbell referred to a new process for the issuance of monthly water bills and enquired when same was to be implemented. She noted that she had received a complaint from an area resident whereby a leak in her basement had only been detected when she had received an extremely high quarterly water bill. She enquired whether or not situations such as this would be rectified under the new system.

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

(321) EXTENSION CORDS OVER SIDEWALKS

Councillor Barletta noted that many area residents were required to park on the street and therefore were required to run their extension cords over the sidewalk. He enquired what the rules and regulations were in that regard.

At the request of the Chair, the City Manager responded that the City of Brandon Traffic By-law allowed for extension cords over sidewalks for short periods of time with a minimum height limit of 8.2 feet (2.5m) above the sidewalk.

(322) UPDATE ON THE BLACK PROPERTY

Councillor Blight requested an update on the City owned property located on First Street North, commonly known as the Black Property.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GREEN ACRES WARD MEETING

Councillor Jessiman announced that a Green Acres Ward Meeting was to be held March 5, 2008 at Harrison Middle School at 7:00 p.m. Items to be discussed in the first half of the meeting would include drainage concerns and the recreation hubs. He advised that representatives from the Brandon Labour Council and the Brandon Ministerial Association as well as Brandon East Member of the Legislature Drew Caldwell and Chief Dennis Meeches from Long Plain First Nation had been invited to attend to discuss the proposed casino in the second half of the meeting.

RIVERVIEW WARD MEETING

Councillor Black announced that a Riverview Ward Meeting was to be held February 26, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the East End Community Centre. He invited everyone to attend.

KEYSTONE CENTRE NAMING RIGHTS

Councillor Fitzpatrick announced that Westoba Credit Union had purchased the naming rights to the Agricultural Centre of Excellence at the Keystone Centre. He thanked the Kinsmen and Optimist Clubs of Brandon who had allowed the sale of the naming rights for their respective arenas which had created the potential for \$450,000 to help out the Keystone Centre.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MAYOR BURGESS AND MICHEAL BURGESS

Councillor Fitzpatrick announced that he wished to congratulate His Worship the Mayor and his son Micheal who had won a raquetball tournament over the past weekend.

ACCOLADES TO SAFEWAY PROVINCIAL MEN'S CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP HOSTS

Councillor Blight gave accolades to the host committee and all the volunteers who made the Safeway Provincial Men's Curling Championships held recently at Westman Place a huge success.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

(A) 4-WAY STOP SIGNS AT 19TH STREET NORTH AND MCDONALD AVENUE AND 17TH STREET NORTH AND STICKNEY AVENUE

Considered was a report from the Manager of Property and Traffic dated January 18, 2008 with respect to the above. It was noted this matter had been referred from the February 4, 2008 meeting of City Council.

Paterson-Black

540 That 4-way stop signs not be installed at the intersection of 19th Street North and McDonald Avenue nor at the intersection of 17th Street North and Stickney Avenue. CARRIED.

BY-LAWS:

NO. 6876 - TO REZONE 1324 AND 1330 - 1ST STREET NORTH FROM CAR COMMERCIAL ARTERIAL ZONE TO CG COMMERCIAL GENERAL ZONE (JIMARCO DEVELOPMENT INC./SWANSON HOLDINGS LTD./SWANSON/STANGER) 3RD READING

Considered was a report from the General Manager of Development Services dated January 22, 2008 with respect to the above. It was noted the required development agreement had been executed.

Blight-Barletta

541 That By-law No. 6876 to rezone 1324 and 1330 - 1st Street North (Lots 6/9, Block 1, Plan 848 BLTO) from CAR Commercial Arterial Zone to CG Commercial General Zone be read a third and final time. CARRIED.

Prior to voting on the above, it was suggested that it would now be an appropriate time to review the Planning Commission process.

In accordance with Section 137 of The Municipal Act, a recorded vote was taken on the motion to give By-law No. 6876 third reading.

FOR

His Worship Mayor Burgess
Councillor Barletta
Councillor Black
Councillor Blight
Councillor Campbell
Councillor Fitzpatrick
Councillor Harwood
Councillor Jessiman

AGAINST

Councillor Paterson
Councillor Rice

NO. 6895 - TO AMEND BY-LAW NO. 6799 TO CLOSE AND CONVEY 12TH STREET SOUTH OF RICHMOND AVENUE TO OTTAWA AVENUE, OTTAWA AVENUE LOCATED BETWEEN 12TH AND 13TH STREETS AND THE NORTH/SOUTH LANE IN BLOCK 9, PLAN 276
1ST READING

Considered was a report from the Manager of Property and Traffic dated February 4, 2008 with respect to the above.

Campbell-Jessiman

542 That By-law No. 6895, to amend By-law No. 6799 to convey Parcel F of the public lane located east of 13th Street, south of Ottawa Avenue, to the registered land owners of Lots 7/9, Block 9, Plan 276 BLTO be read a first time. CARRIED.

GIVING OF NOTICE:

Nil

ADJOURN:

Jessiman-Paterson

That the meeting do now adjourn. (8:06 p.m.) CARRIED.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK