

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 21, 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 J. McCrae, Councillor D. Paterson, Councillor G. Rice

ABSENT: Youth Member

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Blight-Paterson
602 That the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of City Council to be held on Monday, April 21, 2008 be adopted as presented. CARRIED.

PRESENTATIONS AND RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:

(A) MANITOBA GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION AWARD - BEST HOME GROUNDS

His Worship the Mayor presented Gwen and Rick Beam with the Burgess Shield Award for Best Home Grounds in 2007 for their property at 555 - 6th Street.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Fitzpatrick-Harwood
603 That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council held on Monday, April 7, 2008 be taken as read and so adopted, all statutory requirements having been fulfilled. CARRIED.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:

Nil

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Nil

COMMUNICATION & PETITIONS:

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

(A) POVERTY COMMITTEE
VERBAL REPORT APRIL 21, 2008

April 7, 2008
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

Councillor Rice provided a verbal report on the Poverty Committee whereby he noted the committee had met with the Minister of Finance and Members of the Legislative Committee for Brandon East and West in an effort to have shelter allowances increased. He advised the viewing public that meetings

were held on the first Tuesday of every month at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber and that they were open to the public.

(B) CITIZENS ON PATROL PROGRAM
VERBAL REPORT

APRIL 21, 2008

April 7, 2008
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

Councillor Blight provided a verbal report on the Citizens on Patrol Program whereby he noted a copy of the minutes from the meeting held April 16, 2008 had been circulated to members of Council.

Blight-Rice

604 That the verbal reports by Councillors Rice and Blight with respect to the Poverty Committee and Citizens on Patrol Program be received. CARRIED.

ENQUIRIES:

(350) CONDITION OF TENNIS COURTS NORTH OF WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Councillor McCrae advised that he had received a complaint with respect to the condition of the tennis courts located north of the Water Treatment Plant. He enquired if any repairs were being contemplated in conjunction with spring clean up and surface repairs.

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

(351) CITY INVOLVEMENT IN WIND FARMS

Councillor Paterson enquired if information could be provided on the creation of a policy with respect to the City's involvement in wind farms, given that some were being constructed just outside city limits. He further noted that other cities were involved in utilities, particularly in Alberta.

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

(352) TAX DEDUCTION FOR DONATIONS TO ICONIC SIGNS, SCULPTURES AND STATUES

Councillor Paterson enquired if the Administration could provide information on the merits of creating a tax deductible fund for the creation of civic iconic signs, sculptures or statues. He cited an example could be a statue in support of our fighting forces.

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

(353) NAMING RIGHTS POLICY

Councillor Paterson enquired if an update could be provided on the status of the City's naming rights policy.

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

(354) TRAFFIC AT 26TH STREET AND MARYLAND AVENUE

Councillor Campbell referred to previous enquiries with respect to the traffic situation at 26th Street and Maryland Avenue, at which point two lane traffic is reduced to single lane traffic. She indicated residents believed there had been an increase in traffic volumes in the area and she enquired if a traffic count could be conducted to see if changes were warranted.

His Worship the Mayor advised that traffic counts in the past had not warranted any change in the situation, however, the current situation could be reviewed.

(355) DUST CONTROL BY PRIVATE DEVELOPERS

Councillor Campbell raised a concern with respect to the amount of dust being created in the area south of 9th Street and Maryland Avenue where residential construction was currently under way. She enquired if the City was responsible for dust control, or if the developer could be approached with respect to same.

His Worship the Mayor advised that it was not the City's responsibility to provide dust control measures for private development and suggested Councillor Campbell could approach the developer, as there were no policies in place governing same. His Worship the Mayor further advised that some municipalities had policies legislating dust control and stated the City could look at same.

In conjunction with the above, Councillor Campbell also reported that a citizen had complained as a result of the trucks hauling fill to the area repeatedly used the same route whereby His Worship the Mayor advised that there was no way to control same, as that was the choice of the developer.

(356) ADDITIONAL BACK LANE LIGHTING

Councillor Jessiman enquired if information could be provided on the policy with respect to the installation of additional lighting in back lanes.

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

(357) UPDATE - 2008 FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES (FCM) BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

Councillor Jessiman requested an update, inclusive of number of out of town guests, sponsorship and economic impact on the City, on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Board of Directors Meetings held in early March 2008.

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

(358) DESTINATION TAX

Councillor Jessiman requested a report on the financial benefits to the City if a 2% destination tax on hotel/motel rooms was implemented.

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

Further to this issue Councillor Black noted that recent news reports had indicated that a destination tax was currently being considered by the City of Thompson. He stated that he understood that the proposed tax in Thompson was not restricted to hotels/motels only and further, that reports indicated that the Thompson City Council had already approved same and forwarded it to the Province for their consideration.

His Worship the Mayor advised that the above had not yet been voted on in Thompson but it was expected to come before their City Council in the near future and further that if approved by Council, approval by the Province would still be required.

(359) TRAFFIC STUDY - 13TH STREET AND PARK AVENUE INTERSECTION

Councillor Rice enquired if a traffic study could be conducted at the intersection of 13th Street and Park Avenue during the upcoming Summer Fair and then repeated, for comparison, in a slower period such as mid-summer.

His Worship the Mayor advised that traffic counts at that intersection had been conducted in the past, however, he agreed to take this matter under advisement.

(360) DOWNTOWN PARKING ISSUES

Councillor Black noted that the lack of parking in the downtown area continued to be a problem. He enquired if same could be reviewed again and an update provided.

His Worship the Mayor advised that downtown merchants had been consulted in the past on this issue but no response had been received from them as to how many parking spots they would like to see and/or whether or not they would like to have the meters removed. He agreed to take this matter under advisement.

(361) RECREATION PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

Councillor Black referred to recent crimes in the City whereby the accused were young teens and children. He noted that the Crime Prevention Committee had been established in part to come up with programs which would keep young people entertained and busy, thus reducing incidents such as those mentioned. He requested an update on the activities of the committee.

His Worship the Mayor advised that the committee met on a regular basis, noting the next meeting was to be held on Friday, April 25, 2008. He agreed to provide an update on this issue after that meeting. He further advised that adults and older teens had also been charged in conjunction with the above.

Further to this issue Councillor Black noted that the City of Winnipeg had recently increased recreation programs for youth. He added that a program had been implemented whereby inner-city youth were to be trained to provide leadership in recreational activities which would lead to a certificate and potential employment with the City upon completion. He enquired if same could be researched and considered for Brandon.

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

(362) CRIME STATISTICS

Councillor McCrae referred to recent crime statistics provided by the Brandon Police Service which indicated that overall crime was down in the City. He noted that while this was a positive turn for the City, residents, particularly seniors, should remain diligent and unnecessary risks should not be taken.

His Worship the Mayor advised that statistics showed that the City of Brandon had the lowest level of crime in 30 years in 2006 and further that the 2007 statistics showed a further reduction of 15% in crime across the board and the first quarter of 2008 had indicated a further reduction.

He added that, in spite of recent incidents, Brandon was a safe city and the Brandon Police Service worked diligently to ensure it remained that way.

Further to this issue Councillor Black advised that crime statistics were down all across North America, however, drugs and gangs continued to be a problem. He noted that criminal activities where drugs and gangs were involved were more violent and often reported in the media, thus, even though crime was down, the public only saw the negative reports. He commended the Brandon Police Service, the citizens of Brandon and City Council for their continued diligence which ensured Brandon was kept a safe city. He noted that a continued effort was required by all to give young people other options than being on the streets.

His Worship the Mayor cautioned that this issue should not be sensationalized. He noted that a media blitz in 2005/2006 which included story after story about crime in Brandon had deterred people and even businesses from coming to the City and it was not good to have that repeated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING

Councillor Rice announced that the National Day of Mourning for workers killed or injured on the job was April 28, 2008 and that the event was to be marked by a ceremony to be held outside City Hall at 5:30 p.m. on that day.

MAY DAY PARADE

Councillor Rice announced that the May Day Parade, where the various local unions paraded through the City carrying their banners, was to be held May 1, 2008.

STRATEGIC PLAN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Councillor Paterson announced that he had been pleased to sign two certificates on behalf of the Strategic Plan Environmental Committee which were presented at Earth Day celebrations on April 20, 2008. The Green Building Award, sponsored by Green Manitoba and the City of Brandon Strategic Plan Environmental Committee, was awarded to Kelleher Ford Sales for their new building. The Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation received honourable mention for their Brandon Energy Efficiency Program (BEEP), a program in which low income houses were upgraded for energy efficiency.

CITIZENS ON PATROL PROGRAM ANNUAL MEETING

Councillor Blight announced that the annual meeting of the City of Brandon Citizens on Patrol Program was to be held Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Foyer of the Civic Administration Building.

2008 SENIOR B WESTERN CANADIAN FAST PITCH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Councillor Blight announced that the 2008 Senior B Western Canadian Fast Pitch Championships were to be held August 7 to 10, 2008 at the Brandon Simplot Millenium Park.

WESTRIDGE COMMUNITY CENTRE - VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

Councillor Blight announced that he and Councillor Fitzpatrick attended a meeting at the Westridge Community Centre on April 20, 2008 whereby they had been advised that the community centre was in dire need of volunteers to remain operational. He noted that as of June 30, 2008 they were to be down to two board members and without new members/volunteers the centre was at risk of closure. He encouraged area residents from all wards to come forward and volunteer their time. He advised that interested parties were to contact Margaret Richards at 726-1845.

26TH FIELD REGIMENT FREEDOM OF THE CITY PARADE

His Worship the Mayor announced that the 26th Field Regiment Freedom of the City Parade had been held Saturday, April 19, 2008. He stated that he had been honoured to be a part of this tradition which had been ongoing for 100 years. He thanked the members of the Regiment who had served the City and the Armed Forces well over the past 100 years and noted that there were currently 11 members of the group serving in Afghanistan.

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION - ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS' DAY

WHEREAS administrative professionals including administrative assistants, executive assistants, office supervisors, clerks, and secretaries comprise the largest segment of the office workforce;

AND WHEREAS administrative professionals serve as vital information hubs in the modern office, managing information, organizing the office, mastering office technology;

AND WHEREAS Administrative Professionals Day highlights the major contributions of administrative professionals to business and government;

AND WHEREAS the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP), the Brandon Chapter as well as various chapters across Canada, provide administrative professionals with education, networking opportunities, certification and other career enhancing programs while also advancing the image of the profession.

NOW THEREFORE, I, DAVE BURGESS, Mayor of the City of Brandon in the Province of Manitoba, DO HEREBY proclaim April 23rd, 2008, as "Administrative Professionals' Day" in the City of Brandon.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

(A) SUPPORT FOR THE 2010 WORLD JUNIOR HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Considered was a report from the Economic Development Officer dated April 14, 2008 with respect to the above.

Jessiman-Harwood

605 That \$100,000 be expended in 2010 as the City of Brandon's contribution to the 2010 World Junior Hockey Championships with funds to be budgeted in the Economic Development Office's 2010 budget. CARRIED.

(B) THE BRANDON EMERGENCY PLAN

City Council considered a report from the Emergency Coordinator dated April 21, 2008 with respect to the above.

Rice-Blight

606 That The Brandon Emergency Plan dated March 2008 be adopted. CARRIED.

(C) HOME BASED BUSINESS LICENSE APPLICATION - WAYNE FREEMAN - 21 KASIURAK BAY

Submitted for consideration was a report from the General Manager of Corporate Services dated April 7, 2008 with respect to the above.

Paterson-Jessiman

607 That the home based business application of Wayne Freeman for a car stereo/remote starter installation business at 21 Kasiurak Bay be approved. CARRIED.

(D) PROPOSAL TO SUBDIVIDE 243 - 12TH STREET EAST (URSEL MANAGEMENT LTD.)

Considered was a report from the Planning Department dated April 8, 2008 with respect to the above.

Black-Fitzpatrick

608 That the application of Ursel Management Ltd., to subdivide 243 - 12th Street East (Lots 28/30, Block 20, Plan 332 BLTO) be approved subject to the applicant receiving a variation order to reduce the minimum required site width of a single family lot from 12.1 m (39.37') to 11.43 m (37.5') in the RSF Residential Single Family Zone for the creation of two single family lots. CARRIED.

(E) PROPOSAL FOR FIRE HALL ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

City Council considered a report from the General Manager of Development Services dated April 9, 2008 with respect to the above.

McCrae-Paterson

609 That the proposal submitted by Corbett Cibinel Architects for Architectural Services for the Fire Hall to be located on 19th Street North in the amount of \$67,810.00 be accepted. CARRIED.

BY-LAWS:

NO. 6901 - 2008 TAX LEVY BY-LAW
2ND AND 3RD READINGS

It was noted that this by-law received first reading at the April 7, 2008 meeting of City Council.

Fitzpatrick-Blight

610 That By-law No. 6901, being the 2008 Tax Levy By-law, be read a second time. CARRIED.

Fitzpatrick-Black

611 That this by-law be read a third and final time. CARRIED.

In accordance with Section 137 of The Municipal Act, a recorded vote was taken on the motion to give By-law No. 6901 third reading.

FOR

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

AGAINST

Councillor Rice

NO. 6902 - TO RENAME A PORTION OF MARYLAND AVENUE
1ST READING

Submitted for consideration was a report from the Manager of Property and Traffic dated April 4, 2008 with respect to the above.

Campbell-Paterson

612 That By-law No. 6902 to rename "Maryland Avenue" located west of 9th Street north of Maryland Avenue (Plan 276, Plan 1608, Plan 32649, Plan 33962, and Plan 47178 BLTO) to "Magnolia Drive" be read a first time. CARRIED.

GIVING OF NOTICE:

(A) CREATION OF A DESTINATION TAX

In accordance with Rule 60 of City Council Procedure By-law No. 6634, Councillor Jessiman gave notice of his intent to introduce at the May 5, 2008 meeting of City Council, the following motion:

"That a by-law be prepared to impose a 2% destination tax on hotel accommodations whereby monies generated from such a tax shall be targeted to promote economic development, culture and recreation within the City of Brandon"

ADJOURN:

Paterson-McCrae

That the meeting do now adjourn. (8:45 p.m.) CARRIED.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK