

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2010 AT 7:30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, BRANDON, MANITOBA

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

ABSENT: Councillor V. Barletta, Councillor M. Campbell, Councillor D. Jessiman

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Blight-Fitzpatrick
1400 That the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of City Council to be held on Tuesday, May 25, 2010 be adopted as presented. CARRIED.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Harwood-Rice
1401 That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council held on Monday, May 10, 2010 be taken as read, all statutory requirements having been fulfilled. CARRIED.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:

Nil

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Nil

COMMUNICATION & PETITIONS:

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

(A) WESTERN MANITOBA CENTENNIAL AUDITORIUM
VERBAL REPORT MAY 25, 2010

May 25, 2010
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

Councillor Blight provided a verbal report of the recent meeting of the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium Board. He advised that the tender for the work on the entry canopy had been issued, the website for the Auditorium had a new look, and that online ticket purchases were now available through Ticketturtle.com.

Harwood-McCrae
1402 That the verbal report by Councillor Blight with respect to the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium Board be received. CARRIED.

ENQUIRIES:

(829) REACTION BY CITIZENS TO RECENT TAX BILLS

Councillor Paterson noted that he had received calls from his ward residents regarding the recent tax bills and enquired if His Worship the Mayor had received any such calls to his office.

His Worship the Mayor responded that he had received some calls, most of which were from citizens who were alarmed at the significant increase in their taxes. He noted that property assessments within the City of Brandon had increased an average of 39 per cent. He added, however, that the actual property tax increase by the City of Brandon was 2.3 per cent. His Worship concluded by advising citizens who had concerns with regards to the assessment of their property to contact the Provincial Assessment Office.

Further to this issue, Councillor McCrae enquired as to the time frame for citizens to appeal their property assessments.

His Worship the Mayor advised that assessment appeal hearings were held annually in the Fall for the following tax year, with the next session to be held in October 2010 where citizens would have the opportunity to appeal their 2011 Property Tax Assessment.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Clerk encouraged citizens with questions regarding their property assessments to contact the Provincial Assessment Office located in the Provincial Building at 340 - 9th Street..

(830) CONTROL OF DANDELIONS IN THE CITY OF BRANDON

Councillor Paterson requested an update on the efforts to control the spread of dandelions within the City of Brandon.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager advised that most Canadian cities, including the City of Brandon, were no longer using pesticides, but had chosen more environmentally friendly ways to control dandelions and other weeds.

(831) MEMORIAL CUP IN THE CITY OF BRANDON

Councillor McCrae requested an update on the Memorial Cup held at the Keystone Centre in Brandon from May 14 to May 23, 2010.

His Worship the Mayor advised that the 2010 MasterCard Memorial Cup had been a huge success and that everyone was extremely proud of how the Brandon Wheat Kings had represented the City of Brandon as the host team.

His Worship noted that Mr. Ron Robison, Commissioner of the Western Hockey League, had advised him that this was the best organized Memorial Cup that he had ever been to and that the venue was also the best he had seen. His Worship concluded by issuing accolades to the over 850 volunteers who had made this event the success that it was.

(832) COUNCIL UPDATES ON THE CITY OF BRANDON WEBSITE

Councillor Fitzpatrick noted that the Council Updates were now available on the City of Brandon website. He advised that when he posted his ward updates to his website he notified residents via email, inclusive of highlights of the issues posted, and enquired if same could be considered for the Council updates.

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

(833) EXPLANATION OF TAX STATEMENTS ON THE CITY PAGE

Councillor Fitzpatrick referred to the previous enquiry regarding the confusion surrounding the recent City of Brandon tax statements and enquired if an explanation of same could be provided to citizens on the Brandon Sun City Page.

His Worship the Mayor noted that same would be beneficial to residents and agreed to take this matter under advisement.

(834) POTENTIAL FOR ADVERTISING ON GARBAGE TRUCKS

Councillor Fitzpatrick referred to the advertising on the zamboni at the Keystone Centre and enquired as to the revenue potential for selling advertising on the City of Brandon garbage trucks.

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

(835) CITY INFORMATION AVAILABLE FOR PERSONS WHO DO NOT HAVE INTERNET ACCESS

Councillor Black enquired as to the availability of City information for persons who do not have internet access. He added that the Government of Canada was currently working on various programs intended to provide internet access to all Canadians and enquired as to the potential for the City of Brandon to work with the Federal Government on this issue.

Councillor Paterson advised that free internet access was available at the Western Manitoba Regional Library and other sites throughout the City of Brandon. He enquired as to the possibility of compiling a list of those locations and making same available to citizens.

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

(836) CONVERSION OF RENTAL PROPERTIES TO CONDOMINIUMS

Councillor Black enquired whether there was any relevant City of Brandon by-law or Provincial Legislation regarding the conversion of either existing or new rental properties to condominiums.

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

(837) LEGAL ISSUES - DRAINAGE PROBLEMS ON RUSSELL STREET

Councillor Black referred to previous presentations regarding drainage problems on Russell Street. He noted that the affected resident had been advised that the City of Brandon was not responsible and that the best recourse was to file a claim with the responsible contractors. He advised that the resident had done so and that claim had been denied. He enquired if any other suggestions for a solution to this problem could be provided.

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

(838) UPDATE - STREET CLEANING AND POTHOLE REPAIRS

Councillor Blight requested an update on the City of Brandon street cleaning and pothole repair operations.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the General Manager of Operational Services advised that street cleaning was expected to be completed by May 31, 2010, after which pothole repairs would be underway.

(839) CLEAN-UP OF ABANDONED GAS TANKS AT 34TH STREET AND VICTORIA AVENUE

Councillor Rice requested an update on the status of the efforts to force the clean-up of the abandoned gas tanks at the 34th Street and Victoria Avenue.

His Worship the Mayor advised that City Council, at the May 10, 2010 meeting, had given first reading to a by-law which, if passed, would force property owners to clean-up abandoned gas tanks within one year of abandonment. He noted that a public hearing would be scheduled with the Planning Commission, following which the by-law would be brought back to City Council for second and third readings in the near future.

(840) UPDATE ON CITY-WIDE CLEAN-UP

Councillor Harwood requested an update on the city-wide clean-up held May 17 to 21, 2010 in the City of Brandon.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the General Manager of Operational Services advised that the event had been a huge success. He noted that most front-street pick-ups were complete with back-lane pick-ups expected to be finished by May 31, 2010. He concluded stating that a full report on the clean-sweep event would be provided to City Council at a future meeting.

Further to this issue, Councillor Rice enquired as to how the pick-up process had worked with the larger apartment complexes which, for sanitation pick-up purposes, were considered commercial.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the General Manager of Operational Services advised that residential refuse, such as furniture and appliances were picked up, however, refuse considered to be commercial, such as used toilets, sinks, etc. from renovations was not.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ATTENDANCE AT FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES (FCM) CONFERENCE

Councillor Blight announced that he would be out of the city attending the FCM Annual Conference from May 26 to May 31, 2010 inclusive and that Councillor Paterson would be available to handle any ward issues during that time.

BAN ON HANDHELD ELECTRONIC DEVICES - JUNE 1, 2010

Councillor Fitzpatrick announced that as of June 1, 2010 it would be illegal in the Province of Manitoba to use hand held electronic devices when driving.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

(A) CONDITIONAL USE APPLICATION – 717- 3RD STREET (CANCADE)

City Council considered a report from Planning Services dated May 12, 2010 with respect to the above.

Rice-Paterson

1403 That the conditional use application of Ray and Wanda Cancade for a dwelling unit at 717 - 3rd Street (Lots 22/25, Block 63, Plan 8 BLTO) be approved whereby:

- a) this order shall expire immediately upon this property no longer being used as a storage facility;
- b) said dwelling unit shall not receive the City's solid waste disposal service; and
- c) the applicants shall enter into the development agreement attached to the report of the General Manager of Development Services dated May 12, 2010 and conditions a) and b) above shall be included in said development agreement. CARRIED.

(B) DISBANDMENT OF CRIME PREVENTION COMMITTEE

Submitted for consideration was a report from Councillor E. Black dated May 14, 2010 with respect to the above submitted in accordance with his notice of motion given at the regular meeting of City Council held May 10, 2010.

Black-Paterson

1404 That the Crime Prevention Committee of City Council be disbanded. CARRIED.

(C) RENAMING OF 18TH STREET BRIDGES

Considered was a report from the General Manager of Development Services dated May 18, 2010 with respect to the above.

Paterson-Harwood

1405 WHEREAS David Thompson, explorer and surveyor, mapped the Brandon and Assiniboine area in 1797;

AND WHEREAS the Assiniboine River served as a significant waterway for travel to and from Brandon in its early settlement;

AND WHEREAS 18th Street in the City of Brandon now forms part of Provincial Trunk Highway No. 10, an important north/south route in Manitoba;

AND WHEREAS a new and impressive bridge has been constructed along 18th Street to span the Assiniboine River;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the new bridge on 18th Street across the Assiniboine River in the City of Brandon be hereby named The Thompson Bridge. CARRIED AS AMENDED.

AMENDMENT

Harwood-Black

1406 That the above motion be amended by adding the word: "David" prior to the words: "Thompson Bridge". CARRIED.

(D) PROPOSAL - WESTRIDGE WATER SPRAY PARK

City Council considered a report from the Director of Community Services dated May 14, 2010 with respect to the above.

1407 Fitzpatrick-Blight
That the proposal of Ben Wiebe Construction (1985) Ltd. for the construction of the Westridge Water Spray Park as per proposal and specifications at a cost of \$312,678.00 excluding GST be accepted. CARRIED.

(E) PROPOSAL - ENGINEERING SERVICES PHASE III CENTRAL WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY

Submitted for consideration was a report from the Director of Engineering Services and Water Resources dated May 12, 2010 with respect to the above.

1408 Blight-McCrae
That the proposal of AECOM Canada Ltd to provide engineering services for Phase III of the Central Waste Water Treatment Facility as per proposal and specifications at a cost of \$4,786,578 (exclusive of GST) be accepted. CARRIED.

(F) APPLICATION TO SUBDIVIDE – 1430- 7TH STREET (PETERS)

Considered was a report from Planning Services dated May 13, 2010 with respect to the above.

1409 Rice-Fitzpatrick
That the application of Richard and Brenda Peters, to subdivide 1430 - 7th Street (Lots 1/4, Sly 10ft Lot 5, Block 2, Plan 7 BLTO) be approved subject to the applicant/owner:

- 1) executing a development agreement with the City of Brandon;
- 2) providing written confirmation that arrangements have been made for easements to the satisfaction of Manitoba Hydro;
- 3) obtaining all necessary building permits for alterations to the shop/garage so that it conforms with the Manitoba Building Code as it pertains to fire separations; and
- 4) obtaining all necessary building permits for demolition/relocation/removal of any accessory buildings or structures. CARRIED.

BY-LAWS:

NO. 6979 - TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENDITURE AND BORROWING FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINALIZING THE CONVERSION OF THE INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY TO A COMBINED WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY

City Council considered a report from the City Treasurer dated May 12, 2010 with respect to the above.

1410 Paterson-Black
That By-Law No. 6979 to provide for the expenditure and borrowing of funds for the purpose of finalizing the conversion of the Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility to a Combined Wastewater Treatment Facility be read a first time. CARRIED.

GIVING OF NOTICE:

Nil

ADJOURN:

Black-McCrae

That the meeting do now adjourn. (8:39 p.m.) CARRIED.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK