

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, JULY 18, 2011 AT 7:30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, BRANDON, MANITOBA**

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**PRESENT:** Mayor S. Decter Hirst in the Chair, Councillor S. Berry, Councillor M. Blight, Councillor J. Chaboyer, Councillor J. Fawcett, Councillor J. Harwood, Councillor L. Isleifson, Councillor J. McCrae, Councillor S. Montague, Councillor G. Rice, Councillor C. Roberts

**ABSENT:** Nil

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

Harwood-Isleifson  
277 That the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of City Council to be held Monday, July 18, 2011 be adopted as presented. CARRIED.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:**

Rice-Chaboyer  
278 That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council held Monday, June 27, 2011 be taken as read, all statutory requirements having been fulfilled. CARRIED.

**HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:**

(A) WAYNE HILDEBRAND, MANITOBA WATER STEWARDSHIP - OVERVIEW OF CONSERVATION DISTRICT PROGRAM IN MANITOBA

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Wayne Hildebrand of Manitoba Water Stewardship, provided a power point presentation on the Conservation District Program. He advised that there were eighteen conservation districts in Manitoba that included 154 rural and urban municipal members. Mr. Hildebrand noted that the program was based on the watershed approach to managing land and water, and explained how the City of Brandon could fit in a district.

McCrae-Fawcett  
279 That the presentation by Wayne Hildebrand of Manitoba Water Stewardship with respect to the Conservation District Program in Manitoba be received. CARRIED.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

Nil

**COMMUNITY QUESTION PERIOD:**

STEVE BAKER, JMS INVESTMENTS - ROSSER WARD DOWNTOWN INITIATIVES

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Mr. Steve Baker of JMS Investments appeared before City Council to speak on the Rosser Ward Downtown Initiatives, specifically angle parking and the closure of Rosser Avenue between 9th and 10th Streets. Mr. Baker suggested that to avoid accessibility problems, the closure of Rosser Avenue should only be considered once 10th Street was re-opened. He advised that as a downtown business owner for over 25 years, he was in favour of the proposed angle parking whereby same had been researched in the past and had received positive feedback from other cities. In conclusion he noted that the closure of Rosser Avenue would eliminate 8 parking spots in the downtown core and suggested that an increase in the number of angled parking spots could be considered to alleviate that problem.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

(A) UPDATE - TASK FORCE ON ACCOMMODATION TAX  
VERBAL

JULY 18, 2011

July 18, 2011  
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors  
City of Brandon

Councillor Berry reported that the Task Force on the Accommodation Tax had met four times over the past couple of months where in a lot of questions had been raised. He advised that Courtney Sliva had been hired to assist with research on this matter inclusive of what other jurisdictions were doing, in order to come back with a report that would be informative and well researched. Councillor Berry stated that the Task Force was still in the process of researching information and wouldn't be meeting again until mid-August. He noted that the Task Force was still a long way from bringing back a recommendation to Council at this point.

(B) ROSSER WARD DOWNTOWN INITIATIVES  
VERBAL

JULY 18, 2011

July 18, 2011  
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors  
City of Brandon

Councillor Roberts reported that a plan was being developed to revitalize the downtown. He advised that he had met with 99% of the people that would be affected in the immediate area with this plan, and consensus was it was time to try something new using best practices from a number of different cities in North America. He advised that the plan would include street buskers, ample night lighting, with restaurants and shops spilling out onto Rosser Avenue, making it a family friendly venue.

Councillor Roberts explained the plan in detail noting that 10th Street would be converted into a single lane of traffic north bound to Pacific Avenue, offering angle parking on each side of the street, then one-way southbound on 9th Street from Pacific Avenue to Princess Avenue, creating a loop. Rosser Avenue would be closed on a seasonally basis between the May long weekend until mid- September following the Rock the Block event. There would be a definite need to educate the public on all of the events/changes downtown to make this a seamless project

Councillor Roberts noted that the changes culminated with other initiatives by Renaissance Brandon which included new park benches, a new cluster of garbage and recycling units, and bike racks to encourage use of the Greenway corridors to get to the downtown area. He concluded by stated that the initiatives would be introduced as a pilot project for the remainder of the summer/early fall and evaluated at that time. It was also noted that funding for the initiative would be coming from the City of Brandon and not Renaissance Brandon.

(C) GRANTS REVIEW COMMITTEE  
VERBAL

JULY 18, 2011

July 18, 2011  
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors  
City of Brandon

Councillor Chaboyer reported that the Grants Review Committee had met on July 14, 2011 to review the process and criteria for applications and to discuss requests for tax relief. She noted that an important part of applying for a grant was to explain the importance of the organization to the community. The Committee wanted to know who the organization was and what it was doing. A non-profit number was to be included as well.

Councillor Chaboyer stated that letters have been sent out to the various organizations explaining the changes to the process and noted that applications along with financial statements must be submitted by September 30, 2011.

(D) BRANDON GENERAL MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES INC.  
VERBAL

JULY 19, 2011

July 18, 2011  
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors  
City of Brandon

Councillor Harwood reported that the Brandon General Museum and Archives had opened its new premises at 19 – 9<sup>th</sup> Street on Friday, July 15, 2011 and had welcomed over 135 visitors through the weekend. He noted that the museum would be open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and that the exhibits would be changed every 3-4 months.

(E) BRANDON MUNICIPAL HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
VERBAL

JULY 18, 2011

July 18, 2011  
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors  
City of Brandon

Councillor Harwood reported that the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Doors Open event had been held in Brandon on July 16 and 17, 2011. He noted that 16 properties were open to viewing by the general public at no charge and while the final numbers had not be compiled, the venues were very well attended. Councillor Harwood extended his thanks to the hosts and sponsors and to Katy Singleton and Holly Bartko for their part in making this another successful event.

Roberts-Berry

280 That the verbal reports of the Task Force on Accommodation Tax, Rosser Ward Downtown Initiatives, the Grants Review Committee, Brandon General Museum and Archives Inc., and the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee be received. CARRIED.

ENQUIRIES:

(116) UNSIGHTLY PREMISES - 600 BLOCK OF 12TH STREET

Councillor Rice referred to a letter he had received from an area resident with respect to unsightly premises at a property located in the 600 Block of 12th Street and advised that the issue had been addressed and the complainant notified of same by the City Manager.

(117) CURB REPAIRS - 600 BLOCK OF 13TH STREET

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Councillor Rice advised that he had received an email from an area resident who had raised concerns with respect to a curb in the 600 Block of 13th Street in need of repairs. He advised that he had forwarded the email to the Operations Department who had agreed to have the repairs completed as soon as possible.

(118) SPEED LIMIT SIGNS ON RICHMOND AVENUE - LINDEN BOULEVARD TO TRAFFIC CIRCLE AT 34TH STREET

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Councillor Berry advised that the location of the speed limit signs on Richmond Avenue from Linden Boulevard to the traffic circle at 34th Street caused drivers to increase their speed from 50 km/hr to 60 km/hr before it was safe to do so. He enquired if the sign heading west on Richmond Avenue just past Linden Boulevard could be changed from 60 km/hr to 50 km/hr and the 50 km/hr sign heading east from 34th Street could be moved closer to the east side of the traffic circle. He noted that if the 50 km/hr sign was closer to the traffic circle, drivers would be made aware of the reduced speed limit as they exited the traffic circle.

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

(119) INSTALLATION OF CROSSWALK - INTERSECTION OF WANKLING BOULEVARD AND RICHMOND AVENUE

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Councillor Berry enquired if the installation of a crosswalk at the intersection of Wankling Boulevard and Richmond Avenue could be considered.

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

(120) STREET REPAIRS - 3000 BLOCK OF MCDONALD AVENUE

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Councillor Harwood advised that a watermain break had caused damage to the street in the 3000 Block of McDonald Avenue and enquired as to when repairs to same were expected to be completed.

At the request of Her Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that a crew was on-site with repairs expected to be completed by the end of the week.

(121) SPEED OF TRAFFIC ON MCDONALD AVENUE

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Councillor Harwood advised that he had received complaints from area residents with respect to the speed of traffic on McDonald Avenue, specifically in the 2200 Block, and enquired if same could be monitored.

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

(122) REQUIREMENTS FOR OPEN FIRE PITS IN THE CITY OF BRANDON

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Councillor Roberts advised that he had enquired as to the requirements for open fire pits in the City of Brandon and thanked the City Manager for providing that information. Councillor Roberts also advised that the required permits could be obtained from the Brandon Fire Department and agreed to pass the information on to the resident who had requested same.

Her Worship the Mayor noted that the information was also available on the City of Brandon website.

(123) STOP SIGN AT 1ST STREET AND ABERDEEN AVENUE

Councillor Chaboyer noted that previous traffic counts conducted along Aberdeen Avenue had shown that additional stop signs along that street were not warranted. She enquired if traffic counts along 1st Street between Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School and Richmond Avenue could be conducted with consideration being given to a stop sign at the intersection of 1st Street and Aberdeen Avenue.

At the request of Her Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that this issue was currently being investigated by the Brandon Police Service with a report on same expected in the near future.

(124) SHORTCUT BETWEEN PROPERTIES - 6TH STREET AND ABERDEEN AVENUE

Councillor Chaboyer referred to a previous enquiry with respect to a shortcut between properties located at 6th Street and Aberdeen Avenue at which pedestrians accessing same were trespassing on private property. She enquired as to when this shortcut was expected to be blocked off.

At the request of Her Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the shortcut was to be blocked off by the end of the week.

(125) UPDATE ON RE-OPENING OF KIRKCALDY DRIVE

Councillor Fawcett requested an update on the status of the re-opening of Kirkcaldy Drive.

At the request of Her Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the re-opening of all streets was a high priority and every effort was being made to rectify the situation as soon as possible.

(126) WARD TOURS BY CITY MANAGER WITH WARD COUNCILLORS

Councillor McCrae thanked the City Manager for taking the time to tour all wards with the respective Councillors and discuss ward-specific issues. He advised that during his tour, he and the City Manager had discussed the condition of back lanes, parking availability and traffic concerns along with many other issues.

At the request of Her Worship the Mayor, the City Manager advised that he had been tracking and prioritizing all issues by ward to ensure that same were addressed in a timely manner.

(127) NO PARKING SIGNS ON WILLOWDALE CRESCENT NEXT TO SUPER MAILBOX AT WHITESHELL WAY

Councillor Berry advised that residents parking in front of the super mail boxes located on Willowdale Crescent at Whiteshell Way continued to be a problem and enquired if no parking signs could be installed at same.

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

(128) UPDATE ON GOLF COURSE

Councillor Harwood requested an update on the status of the Wheat City Golf Course.

At the request of Her Worship the Mayor, Bryce Wilson of the Community Services Department responded that a modified 9 hole course was in operation with the greens being in very good shape in spite of the fact that they were being watered by hand. He also advised that the water levels on the lower portion of the course had receded to below the dike, with very few holes still under water.

In conclusion he noted that there was a crew of fifteen youth currently working to clean up the areas along the Assiniboine River Corridor, inclusive of the Riverbank Discovery Centre, with work expected to continue until September 2, 2011.

(129) CAMPING FACILITIES FOR VISITORS TO THE CITY OF BRANDON

Councillor Chaboyer requested an update on the availability of camping facilities for visitors to the City of Brandon.

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

(130) CONSTRUCTION ON 18TH STREET SOUTH

Councillor Montague referred to the construction on 18th Street South and enquired as to how the issue of pedestrian safety was to be addressed both during and following completion of the construction.

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

(131) SEEPAGE - CLAIMS UNDER DISTASTER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Councillor Harwood enquired if residents who had experienced basement seepage from the high water table in the area were eligible to file claims for disaster financial assistance.

At the request of Her Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that while seepage due to overland flooding was covered under the program, general seepage was not. He agreed to review the issue further with the Province of Manitoba.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CLEAN-UP PARTY - JULY 24 AT SMALL PARK IN GREEN ACRES

Councillor Chaboyer announced that a clean-up party was to be held at the small park located on Garwood Drive in the Green Acres Ward on July 24, 2011 commencing at 11:00 a.m. She added that hotdogs and refreshments would be available following the clean-up and encouraged everyone to attend.

BRANDON GENERAL MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES GRAND OPENING

On behalf of Councillor Montague and himself, Councillor Berry issued congratulations to Councillor Harwood, Chair of Brandon General Museum and Archives Inc., on the grand opening of the museum Friday, July 15, 2011. He added that many of the board members, including Councillor Harwood, had been there since day one and put a lot of hard work into this project and he was pleased to see that work had paid off.

COMMONWEALTH AIR TRAINING PLAN MUSEUM - YELLOW WINGS EVENT

Councillor Harwood announced that a Yellow Wings Event was to be held July 21, 2011 at the Commonwealth Air Training Plan Museum commencing at 4:30 p.m. where WWII vintage planes were to be on display from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. with flight demonstrations scheduled to start at 7:00 p.m. He added that admission was \$10 per adult with children and students admitted free when accompanied by an adult and invited everyone to attend.

CLOSURE OF NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING GOVERNANCE

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Councillor McCrae announced that he had been pleased to represent Her Worship the Mayor and City Council at Sioux Valley Dakota Nation where they held an event to commemorate the closure of negotiations between the Government of Canada, the Province of Manitoba and Sioux Valley Dakota Nation with respect to the governance of Sioux Valley Dakota Nation.

He advised that the negotiations had been ongoing for over 20 years with the process now entering the community consultation and ratification stages. In conclusion, he extended congratulations to Sioux Valley and wished them the best of luck as they moved forward with this process.

PATIENCE WITH TRAFFIC CONGESTION IN ASSINIBOINE WARD

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Councillor Fawcett thanked ward residents and others for their patience during the traffic congestion problems in the Assiniboine Ward and encouraged everyone to hang in there as things slowly returned to normal.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

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Councillor Montague congratulated all the high school graduates in the City of Brandon and wished them well as they move forward to the next stages of their lives.

INCREASED BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC

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Councillor Montague announced that the nice weather had caused an increase in bicycle and pedestrian traffic throughout the City of Brandon and encouraged everyone to pay close attention to the rules of the road and stay safe.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEIGHBOURS TO THE SOUTH

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Councillor Fawcett extended his congratulations to the neighbouring communities to the south of the City of Brandon for their success in fighting the flood waters. He added that it had been his pleasure to work alongside the residents of those communities in that battle.

NEW LOOK TO BE UNVEILED TOMORROW

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Her Worship the Mayor announced that another new look was coming to the City of Brandon with same to be unveiled at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 19, 2011 and encouraged everyone to check their computers at that time.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

(A) DISCHARGE OF DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT - 1712 ROSSER AVENUE

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City Council considered a report from the Planning Department dated July 7, 2011 with respect to the above.

Roberts-McCrae

281 That the development agreement made between the City of Brandon and 73411 Manitoba Limited on December 22, 1988 with respect to 1712 Rosser Avenue (Lots 14/20, Block 52, Plan 2 BLTO) be discharged from the title to the property upon the issuance of Conditional Use Order C-04-11-B relating to said property. CARRIED.

(B) WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY

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Submitted for consideration was a report from the General Manager of Corporate Services dated July 15, 2011 with respect to the above.

282 McCrae-Isleifson  
That the interim report of the General Manager of Corporate Services dated July 15, 2011 on the proposed Whistleblower Policy be received as information and said policy be submitted to City Council by no later than its meeting to be held August 15, 2011. CARRIED.

(C) PROPERTY TAX FLOOD RELIEF PROGRAM

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Considered was a report from the General Manager of Corporate Services dated July 15, 2011 with respect to the above.

283 Harwood-Isleifson  
That the following list of significantly damaged properties in the City of Brandon be submitted to Manitoba Local Government for relief to be provided to the owners of these properties under the Provincial Property Tax Relief Program:

<u>Roll No.</u>	<u>Property Address</u>	<u>Date Damage Occurred</u>
#974006	33 - 17th Street East	May 8, 2011
#333203 #525857	4100 Grand Valley Road	April 15, 2011

CARRIED.

(D) FLOOD UPDATE

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The General Manager of Development Services and the Emergency Coordinator provided a verbal update on the flood in the City of Brandon.

The General Manager of Development Services noted that clean-up efforts had begun whereby Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation (MIT) closed 1<sup>st</sup> Street earlier today to remove the repair made during the flood to the southbound lane. With the completion of that improvement, it was intended to increase speed on 1st Street back up to 50 km/hr. He noted that the Grand Valley intersection has been opened at 18th Street. A tender for the removal of the sandbag diking on 1st and 18<sup>th</sup> Streets was issued and would close July 21. It was anticipated that the work would begin the first week of August and would take about 20 working days to complete. It was intended to maintain traffic moving on both 1st and 18th Streets during this process.

With respect to the City's diking work, he noted that the aqua dams had been deflated and a tender issued for the removal of the diking material. The aqua dams would be cleaned and packaged for return to the Province of Manitoba. A dike condition assessment had been complete, with a report expected from the consultant by the end of the month containing a list of proposals for improvements, both to prepare for next spring, and long term plans.

With regard to the Hilton Pumping Station, the General Manager noted that one manhole had collapsed and a bladder plug was used to temporarily control the system. Once the river was back within its banks, an assessment would be made to determine what was required for next spring and long term solution to avoid a similar situation.



Further information was provided by the Emergency Coordinator. He advised that the Youth Soccer Association has requested the soccer fields be pumped out. Information and advice would be sought from the City of Winnipeg in terms of how to block outflows in preparation for future flood events. The sandbag making process had stopped with approximately 10,000 filled sandbags on site. A debriefing session with hotels used as evacuation points had provided useful feedback and suggestions for possible improvements for the future.

Harwood-Berry

284 That the verbal report from the General Manager of Development Services regarding the Flood Update be received. CARRIED.

(E) STATUS OF FORMER BROWN BLOCK/STRAND THEATRE

The General Manager of Development Services provided a verbal report on the status of the former Brown Block/Strand Theatre and the proposed further action to be taken on this matter.

The General Manager noted that a section of the Brown Block had collapsed on March 15, 2011. A demolition permit was issued for the Brown Block. The owners were advised that the work was to commence within 4 working days after a letter was received from the Strand Theatre owners that the building was suitable for personnel to enter. That letter was received July 13, 2011 whereby work should have started no later than July 20, with full completion of the demolition within 60 days. A meeting and tour of the facilities was held earlier today, in which the City reinforced its position that Brown Block needed to be demolished. The owners were advised if there was no progress toward the demolition by Wednesday, July 20, an order to maintain the building would be issued under the Building Safety and Property Standards By-law. This course of action would allow the City the option to step in and complete the work if necessary.

McCrae-Roberts

285 That the verbal report of the General Manager of Development Services on the status of the Brown Block/Strand Theatre be received. CARRIED.

(F) AMENDMENT TO BUILDING SAFETY AND PROPERTY STANDARDS BY-LAW

City Council considered a report from the Deputy City Clerk dated July 15, 2011 with respect to the above.

Roberts-Montague

286 That a by-law be prepared to amend Building Safety and Property Standards By-law No. 6060 to more stringently regulate the condition and maintenance of vacant dwellings and non-residential buildings and to allow for the issuance of derelict building orders and the potential transfer of the property to the City of Brandon if it is not brought into compliance with the amended by-law. CARRIED.

(G) NEW BRANDON AND AREA PLANNING DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Submitted for consideration was a report from Councillor M. Blight dated July 14, 2011 with respect to the above.

Blight-McCrae

287 That the Brandon and Area Planning District be advised that the Council of the City of Brandon is desirous of and would appreciate an opportunity to review the proposed Brandon and Area Planning District Development Plan as soon as possible and prior to the commencement of its formal adoption process. CARRIED.

(H) AFFORDABLE HOUSING GRANT - MASSEY HARRIS PROJECT

Considered was a report from the Economic Development Officer dated July 15, 2011 with respect to the above.

288 Roberts-Isleifson  
That \$100,000 be expended from the Affordable Housing Initiatives Reserve Fund as the City of Brandon's final contribution to the Massey Harris Integrated Housing Complex at 638 Pacific Avenue. CARRIED.

BY-LAWS:

NO. 7001 TO AMEND ANNUAL SCHEDULE OF FEES BY-LAW NO. 6986 - 2011 REDUCED WHEAT CITY GOLF COURSE RATES

It was noted that this by-law received first reading at the June 27, 2011 meeting of City Council.

289 Harwood-Blight  
That By-law No. 7001 to amend Annual Schedule of Fees By-law No. 6986 to include changes to the fees for the Wheat City Golf Course be read a second time. CARRIED.

290 Harwood-Blight  
That the by-law be read a third time. CARRIED.

In accordance with Section 137 of The Municipal Act, a recorded vote was taken on the motion to give By-law No. 7001 third reading.

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Her Worship Mayor Decter Hirst	Nil
Councillor Berry	
Councillor Blight	
Councillor Chaboyer	
Councillor Fawcett	
Councillor Harwood	
Councillor Isleifson	
Councillor McCrae	
Councillor Montague	
Councillor Rice	
Councillor Roberts	

GIVING OF NOTICE:

Nil

ADJOURN:

Berry-Roberts  
That the meeting do now adjourn (10:12 p.m.). CARRIED.

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MAYOR

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CITY CLERK