

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY,
DECEMBER 1, 2014 AT 7:30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, BRANDON, MANITOBA**

PRESENT: Mayor Rick Chrest, Councillor Shawn Berry, Councillor Ron W. Brown, Councillor Jan Chaboyer, Councillor Kris Desjarlais, Councillor Jeff Fawcett, Councillor Vanessa Hamilton, Councillor Jeff Harwood, Councillor John LoRegio, Councillor Lonnie Patterson

ABSENT: Councillor Barry Cullen

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Hamilton-Chaboyer

19 That the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of City Council to be held on Monday, December 1, 2014 be adopted as presented. CARRIED.

PRESENTATIONS:

(A) OFFICERS/CADETS - NO. 60 SWIFTSURE ROYAL CANADIAN SEA CADET CORP

His Worship the Mayor extended a welcome to the Officers and Cadets of No. 60 Swiftsure Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corp who were in attendance at this evening's meeting.

(B) ROGERS HOMETOWN HOCKEY

Sandy Trudel, Director of Economic Development, presented a framed hockey jersey, Rodgers Hometown Event banner, and a hockey bench made entirely from hockey sticks to City Council on behalf of the Rodgers Hometown Hockey event held on November 29 – 30, 2014 at the Keystone Centre. His Worship the Mayor thanked all of the volunteers and staff that put on the event and committed to finding a suitable home for these commemorative items.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Harwood-Desjarlais

20 That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council held on Monday, November 17, 2014 be taken as read and so adopted, all statutory requirements having been fulfilled. CARRIED.

Patterson-Chaboyer

21 That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of City Council held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 be taken as read and so adopted, all statutory requirements having been fulfilled. CARRIED.

HEARING OF DELEGATIONS:

(A) NANCY MCPHERSON - ASHLEY NEUFELD SOFTBALL COMPLEX

Nancy McPherson appeared before City Council to provide an update on the Ashley Neufeld Softball Complex Fundraising Campaign. She advised that the campaign has raised \$53,000 in confirmed support and commitments of another \$60,000 in 2016 and beyond.

Ms. McPherson noted that rough grading of the site had been completed with plans to build two adult diamonds and four learn-to-play diamonds in 2015. Mrs. McPherson reported that the campaign was actively competing in an online contest sponsored by Aviva Canada whereby anyone could vote online to support their project between December 1 and December 10, 2014 at: <http://www.ashleyneufeldsoftballcomplex.com>.

LoRegio-Desjarlais

- 22 That the presentation by Nancy McPherson with respect to an update on the Ashley Neufeld Softball Complex project be received. CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Nil

COMMUNITY QUESTION PERIOD:

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- (A) BOARD OF REVISION NOVEMBER 14, 2014

City Council considered a report from the Chairman of the Board of Revision dated November 14, 2013 with respect to the proceedings of the 2014 sittings of the Board of Revision

Harwood-Hamilton

- 23 That the report of the Board of Revision dated November 14, 2014 on the proceedings of the assessment appeal hearings by the Board with respect to the 2014 Supplementary Tax Statements and the 2015 Real Property Assessment Roll be received. CARRIED.

- (B) ACCOMMODATION TAX REVIEW COMMITTEE
VERBAL DECEMBER 1, 2014

December 1, 2014
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

Councillor Fawcett provided a verbal report on the recent meeting of the Accommodation Tax Review Committee, noting that after meeting with the Westman Accommodations Group, the Committee had decided not to change the current format of the by-law. Councillor Fawcett stated that the Committee would review the Accommodation Tax By-law again in July, 2015.

Berry-Desjarlais

- 24 That the report of the Accommodation Tax Review Committee be received. CARRIED.

(C) BRANDON URBAN ABORIGINAL PEOPLES' COUNCIL
VERBAL

DECEMBER 1, 2014

December 1, 2014
Brandon, Manitoba

Mayor and Councillors
City of Brandon

Councillor Fawcett reported on the meeting of the Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council (BUAPC) held November 27, 2014. He noted that BUAPC had set a date for a strategic planning session in February of 2015 to determine the direction for the next year. Councillor Fawcett also noted that the citizen appointments would be in place for the next meeting to be held in January 2015.

Patterson-Brown

25 That the report of the Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council be received. CARRIED.

ENQUIRIES:

(10) DRAINAGE MASTER PLAN

Councillor LoRegio noted that drainage continued to be an issue in the 1800-2000 Blocks of Richmond Avenue and requested an update on the status of the Drainage Master Plan.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that, due to the summer flood and insufficient resources, completion of the plan had been delayed until Fall of 2015. He advised that the drainage issues following heavy rains at this location had been addressed and the best course of action would be dictated by the completion of the Master Plan.

(11) OUTDOOR STAGE AT RIDEAU PARK

Councillor Hamilton requested an update on the proposed outdoor stage to be located in Rideau Park.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the preliminary pricing for the stage had come in much higher than anticipated, hence the project had been put on hold. He confirmed that this project remained on the Community Services Department's list of future community needs.

(12) LAW ENFORCEMENT REVIEW AGENCY ANNUAL REPORT

Councillor Patterson enquired as to the process by which complaints against the Brandon Police Service could be filed with the Law Enforcement Review Agency.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that issues could be reported to the On Duty Supervisor at (204) 729-2345, the Chief of Police at (204) 729-2305 or by contacting the Commissioner of the Law Enforcement Review Agency at 1-800-282-8069 or lera@gov.mb.ca

(13) STATUS OF FORMER WEI-NA PROPERTY

Councillor Desjarlais requested an update on the status of the clean-up of the former Wei-Na Restaurant property in the 400 Block of 10th Street.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that the majority of the structure had been removed immediately following the fire, a settlement had been reached between the property owner and the insurance company, and the excavation was expected to be filled in within two weeks.

(14) STREETLIGHT REPLACEMENT BY MANITOBA HYDRO

Councillor Desjarlais requested a further update on the replacement of streetlights by Manitoba Hydro.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager responded that Manitoba Hydro continued to work on the remaining reported outages. He encouraged everyone to continue to report outages to Manitoba Hydro at www.hydro.mb.ca, 1-888-624-9376, or on the city's website at www.brandon.ca.

(15) COMMUNITY MAILBOXES - RESIDENTS OF MARYLAND AVENUE

Councillor Chaboyer advised that she had received complaints from residents of Maryland Avenue with respect to the location of the new community mailboxes. She noted that the residents had contacted Canada Post to raise their concerns with respect to the location, insufficient lighting and various other safety concerns but had not received a response. She enquired if anything could be done by the City of Brandon to assist these residents.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the City Manager confirmed that Canada Post advised the Engineering Department of the location and the boxes were located on city property however, the City's input was not sought and the decision rested totally with Canada Post. He agreed to enquire if a location change could be considered but noted that the other issues would have to be discussed directly with Canada Post directly by the residents.

His Worship the Mayor suggested that a checklist be developed by the Engineering Department as a guideline for Canada Post with respect to location, lighting etc. as the move to community mailboxes in all areas of the City progressed over the next few years. The City Manager agreed to follow-up with the Engineering Department on this issue and would keep City Council updated on this issue so that they were able to keep residents informed.

(16) SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLE AUCTION

Councillor Berry enquired if the vehicles not sold in the recent surplus equipment and vehicle auction were to be put back into service or auctioned off elsewhere.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Director of Transportation Services responded that the turnout for the auction had been poor and many of the bids received did not meet the reserve bids.

He advised that vehicles that were not sold would be shipped to auction in Winnipeg where the prices had proven to be better in the past. He noted that the vehicles had already been replaced in the fleet and therefore would not be put back into service.

(17) BACKFLOW VALVE PROGRAM FOR 2015

Councillor LoRegio enquired if the Backflow Valve Program was expected to come back in 2015 and, if so, the potential dates for same.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Director of Engineering Services and Water Resources responded that the program was cost shared between the City of Brandon and the Province of Manitoba with City funds already allocated and an announcement regarding the Provincial contribution expected early in 2015.

(18) SNOW CLEARING POLICY

His Worship the Mayor requested an update on the City of Brandon Snow Clearing Policy.

Mr. Ian Broome, Director of Public Works, explained that snow removal was conducted by a priority system: Priority 1 (P1) arterial and collector routes such as Victoria Avenue East and Rosser Avenue; Priority 2 (P2) residential streets, with the emphasis being on bus routes and in the vicinity of schools; and Priority 3 (P3) backlanes which were cleared prior to refuse collection days following a heavy snowfall. He advised that there were selected routes for sanding, with the remainder being complaint driven. Mr. Broome encouraged residents along snow routes to watch for notifications when the parking bans were in effect and advised that they could be notified via email if they registered for same on the website.

Councillor LoRegio requested an update on the process for clearing driveways.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Director responded that every effort was made to clear driveways immediately after the snow plough had gone through however, crews sometimes fell behind and it could be up to two hours before driveways were cleared. Mr. Broome also confirmed that snow piles were removed from meridians and boulevards on a regular basis, with those posing a safety hazard being removed first.

Councillor Desjarlais noted that many homes in the core area did not have driveways and the snow was piled along the side of the road, making it difficult to access the sidewalk. He enquired if snow removal similar to that conducted for driveways could be considered for those areas as well.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, Mr. Broome responded that, if possible, crews cleared the snow from areas where it was evident that a walkway had been shoveled out to the street prior to the ploughing, however, there were times when crews were unable to access the area due to vehicles being parked on the street.

Councillor Harwood enquired if snow route signs were installed on Rosser and Princess Avenues. Mr. Broome confirmed that they were and residents were notified via email, the website and local media when the overnight parking bans were in effect.

Councillor Chaboyer enquired as to the process for snow removal around the parking meters in the downtown area.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Director of Public Works responded that businesses were required to clear the sidewalks in front of their businesses, inclusive of clearing a path to the street. He advised that occasionally city staff, if time permitted, cleared the windrows in the downtown area.

Councillor Berry enquired how often the residential streets were cleared, and further, whether or not there was a baseline number whereby contractors were called in and all streets in the City of Brandon were cleared within 24 - 48 hrs.

The Director responded that residential streets were cleared when the snowfall accumulation reached 13 centimetres (5 inches) with rutted streets cleared when the ruts reached 3 to 5 inches. He responded that the call to plough the entire City was made by the General Manager of Operational Services, dependent on the amount of snowfall but confirmed that a list of contractors was kept up to date should the need for assistance arise.

Councillor Hamilton noted that concerns had been raised with regards to snow piles in front of the schools in the Riverview Ward and requested information on this issue.

Mr. Broome agreed to follow-up on this issue throughout the winter months.

Councillor LoRegio noted that many residential streets were only cleared once or twice a year and enquired what residents should do if their streets were rutted or an ice build-up had occurred.

At the request of His Worship the Mayor, the Director responded that such issues should be reported to the Streets and Roads Chargehand and the situation would be evaluated and addressed accordingly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ROGERS HOMETOWN HOCKEY EVENT

Councillor Harwood congratulated the Brandon Blizzards Blue Ringette Team on having won the "Cheer Like Never Before" competition at the Rogers Hometown Hockey Event held this past weekend on the Keystone Centre Grounds. He wished the group good luck as they competed in the National Competition with the winners of that competition being provided with "The Ultimate Hockey Experience", inclusive of a trip to Toronto or Vancouver to take in a National Hockey League Game.

BRANDON NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL CORPORATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Councillor Chaboyer announced that she had been pleased to bring greetings on behalf of City Council at the Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation Annual General Meeting held November 26, 2014 in the City Hall Main Foyer.

She advised that she had invited the group to provide an update at a future City Council meeting on all the great projects they had undertaken in the community to benefit those less fortunate.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHRIS BAUMAN AND LANDON RICE - 2014 GREY CUP

Councillor Fawcett congratulated former Brandon residents Chris Bauman and Landon Rice who had participated in the 2014 Grey Cup game held November 30, 2014.

ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA MUNICIPALITIES CONVENTION

His Worship the Mayor announced that the City of Brandon had been well represented at the recent Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) Annual Convention with 9 Council members, including himself, and 3 Administrative Staff in attendance. His Worship advised that many informative sessions had taken place along with networking with other Manitoba Councils and Administrators.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

(A) ASHLEY NEUFLED SOFTBALL COMPLEX

City Council considered a report from the General Manager of Operational Services dated November 4, 2014 with respect to the above.

Desjarlais-Harwood

26 That a \$50,000 contribution to the cost of fencing at the Ashley Neufeld Softball Complex be made, subject to receipt of payment from Ashley Neufeld Softball Complex Incorporated, with said funds to be transferred from the Parks Reserve to the Parks operating account. CARRIED.

BY-LAWS:

NO. 7105 2015 FEE SCHEDULE

It was noted that this by-law had received first reading at the November 17, 2014 meeting of City Council.

Harwood-Fawcett

27 That By-law No. 7105 to adopt the Annual Schedule of Fees for services, activities or things provided by the City of Brandon for the year 2015, be read a second time. CARRIED.

Harwood-Fawcett

28 That the 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. 7105 third reading.

FOR

Mayor Rick Chrest
Councillor Shawn Berry
Councillor Ron W. Brown
Councillor Jan Chaboyer
Councillor Kris Desjarlais
Councillor Jeff Fawcett
Councillor Vanessa Hamilton
Councillor Jeff Harwood
Councillor John LoRegio
Councillor Lonnie Patterson

AGAINST

Nil

NO. 7106

TO AMEND PROCEDURE BY-LAW NO. 6634 RE: START TIME OF MEETINGS,
GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS, REFERENCE SOURCE

Submitted was a report from the City Clerk dated November 24, 2014 with respect to the above.

Harwood-Chaboyer

29 That By-law No. 7106, to amend Procedure By-law No. 6634 with respect to start time of meetings, the general order of business, the reference source used, and other housekeeping amendments, be read a first time. CARRIED.

GIVING OF NOTICE:

Nil

ADJOURN:

Chaboyer-Desjarlais

That the meeting do now adjourn (9:22 p.m.). CARRIED.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK