Agenda – Council – September 28, 2005

Report – Executive Policy Committee – September 21, 2005

Item No. 2 The Burton Cummings Theatre for the Performing Arts – Funding for 2006 and 2007
File FG-1.1(B)

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On September 21, 2005, the Executive Policy Committee submitted the following to Council:

1. That a grant of $110,000.00 be approved to The Burton Cummings Theatre for Performing Arts for 2006 as the first year of a two year agreement, with the second year (2007) being contingent on the Theatre:

   A. Having successfully achieved a profitable revenue stream;
   B. Having had the first successful Burton Cummings fundraising gala;
   C. Having successfully negotiated a significant mortgage reduction;
   D. Having raised an additional $200,000.00 from the Province of Manitoba.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On September 21, 2005, the Executive Policy Committee passed the following motion:

WHEREAS The Burton Cummings Theatre for Performing Arts, a significant National Historic Site, has requested funding of $110,000.00 per year for two years in order to restructure debt, sustain theatre operations and initiate a capital campaign to restore the building;

AND WHEREAS the Board and Management of Burton Cummings Theatre has increased marketing efforts in order to increase their operational revenues in order to achieve a sustainable status;

AND WHEREAS the Board of Burton Cummings Theatre has made application to the Province of Manitoba for a one-time grant of $200,000.00 to aid in their efforts to achieve sustainability;

AND WHEREAS the Board of Burton Cummings Theatre has negotiated a significant reduction to their outstanding mortgage balance and continues to work to further reduce this balance through transferring the rights to their parking lot to the debt holder;

AND WHEREAS the Board of Burton Cummings Theatre has made an agreement with the entertainer, Burton Cummings to conduct three fundraising galas to build support for the Theatre;

AND WHEREAS this matter concerns the viability of an important downtown heritage site;

AND WHEREAS Council is being asked to provide a similar amount of $110,000.00 for two years to the Pantages Theatre in the form of a management fee;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City provide a grant of $110,000.00 to The Burton Cummings Theatre for Performing Arts for 2006 as the first year of a two year agreement, with the second year (2007) being contingent on the Theatre:

- having successfully achieved a profitable revenue stream;
- having had the first successful Burton Cummings fundraising gala;
- having successfully negotiated a significant mortgage reduction;
- having raised an additional $200,000 from the Province of Manitoba;

and submitted the matter to Council.