Agenda - Council - March 22, 2006

Report - Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services - March 10, 2006

Item No. 1 Council Referral - Winnipeg Police Service - Staff Complement
File GP-1.19

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 15, 2006, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and submits the following to Council:

1. That the Council Motion of October 26, 2005, be filed, inasmuch as the matter has been addressed in the 2006 Operating Budget.

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 March 15, 2006, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 10, 2006, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services recommended that the Council Motion of October 26, 2005, be filed, inasmuch as the matter has been addressed in the 2006 Operating Budget, and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

On November 7, 2005, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services referred the Council motion dated October 26, 2005 for consideration during deliberations on the 2006 Operating Budget.

COUNCIL:

On October 26, 2005, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services:

Moved by Councillor Lazarenko,
Seconded by Councillor Wyatt,

WHEREAS during the 1995 re-organization, the Winnipeg Police Service acknowledged a shortage of 91 front-line officers;

AND WHEREAS currently the Winnipeg Police Service remains short 85 front-line officers;

AND WHEREAS personnel shortages are continually affecting the specialized plain-clothes units;

AND WHEREAS the vacancy management program is affecting the Winnipeg Police Service staff sector;

AND WHEREAS gang activity and an overall increase in crime rates have increased both police and staff workloads immensely;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

AND WHEREAS the overall shortage of police and staff resources is compromising public safety in Winnipeg;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council move aggressively against gang activity and continued high crime rates by authorizing the hiring of 16 additional police officers, thereby increasing the authorized police complement to 1,245;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council direct that the 84 officers currently funded by the federal and provincial governments be listed above the newly authorized police compliment;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City Council direct the cancellation of the vacancy management program for the staff sector and increase the staff complement by 50 additional members, thereby increasing the authorized staff compliment to 398.