COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG
Wednesday, February 21, 2007

The Council met at 9:32 a.m.

The Clerk advised the Speaker that a quorum was present.

The Speaker called the meeting to order.

The opening prayer was read by Councillor Leipsic.

ROLL CALL

Clerk: Mr. Speaker Councillor Lazarenko, His Worship Mayor Katz, Councillors Browaty, Clement, Fielding, Gerbasi, Leipsic, Nordman, O'Shaughnessy, Smith, Steeves, Swandel, Thomas, Vandal, Wyatt.

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME OF GUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Speaker: Welcome guests and announcements and condolences motion, oh pardon me pages. We have the pages here before us; Bryce Brousseau of Vincent Massey Collegiate resides in St. Norbert Ward. Simone Jaman of Miles MacDonnell Collegiate resides in the Elmwood - East Kildonan Ward. Thank you. Welcome of guests and announcement none. Condolence motion for Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service Captains, Harold Lessard and Thomas Nichols, Mr. Mayor, excuse me I'll get the Clerk to read out that motion first and then you'll.

Clerk: Moved by His Worship Mayor Katz, seconded by Councillor Steeves that Council place on record its profound sorrow at the deaths of Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service Captains, Harold Lessard and Thomas Nichols which occurred on February 4, 2007. Mr. Lessard, Captain of Platoon Three at Station One served the citizens of Winnipeg for thirty-one years. Mr. Nichols, Captain of Platoon Three at Station Two served the citizens of Winnipeg for thirty-two years. This Council extends to the Lessard and Nichols families its deepest sympathy and condolences in their bereavement.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would on behalf of Council; we all know the events that took place last month. I know many of the Councillors here attended the private funeral services as well as the memorial service. We know what a loss this has been to the families of Captain Nichols and Captain Lessard, as well as family of the men and women of the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service. The outpouring of love and affection that came not only from the citizens of Winnipeg, Manitoba but right across North America and I very much would like to put that on the record, and I think all citizens now have a much greater appreciation of the risks that many of our members of the Winnipeg Fire and Paramedic Service take as well as the Winnipeg Police Service and I just want to thank you for the opportunity Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, would the Members of Council and the gallery please rise for a moment of silence. Thank you Councillors. We have before us also now, a motion presented by Councillor O'Shaughnessy, seconded by Councillor Swandel, that Councillor Pagtakhan be granted leave of absence from today's meeting due to being away, representing the city of Winnipeg with the Filipino Youth Initiative building houses in the Philippines, all in favour, contrary? Carried.

MINUTES

Councillor Swandel moves the Minutes of the meeting held on January 24 and January 25, 2007 be taken as read and confirmed.

DELEGATIONS

Mr. Speaker: Delegations, Kent Paterson, General Manager South YM-YWCA. Is the delegation present? You have someone else with you?

Kent Paterson: I do Mr. Speaker, with me is Diane Redsky who is the Board Chair of the North End Community Renewal Corporation and the Director of program for Ma Mawi Wi and with your indulgence I'd ask that the rules be

suspended and she also be allowed to address Council.

Mr. Speaker: You have ten minutes.

Kent Paterson: Alright, we'll share ten minutes.

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Kent Paterson: Yes, okay, thank you. Thank you Mr. Speaker, Mr. Mayor, Councillors; I'm here today to speak in relation to the North End Wellness Centre which is a collaborative initiative to redevelop the site of the former North End Y at 365 McGregor. It's a project that involves government, the not for profit sector and the private sector, and what we're attempting to do is to build a community facility to serve an area of the city which will surely appreciate and well utilize the centre.

The Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre/Child Care, the YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg and the North End Community Renewal Corporation have come together to put forward this initiative. We've been working for a number of years and we're close to commencing construction on a 25,000 square foot multi-service centre that's going to include recreation facilities such as a gym, basketball courts, a youth recreation facility with a climbing tower, a skateboard park, indoor skateboard park, play structure, youth workout area, state of the art child care including infant child care, community kitchen, community meeting spaces, specific provision for seniors in the area and 3,000 square feet of space that will be leased and programmed by the W.R.H.A.

We're at a point where we've secured two million dollars in infrastructure funding under the Canada Manitoba Infrastructure Program. We've, with the help and support of John Levin who's headed up a private sector fundraising campaign, we've received commitments for over a million dollars and we expect there is more in the works. We've got significant support from the Winnipeg Foundation, among others the Richardson Foundation, Great West Life, Investors Group, to name some of the contributors.

The project proponents including the W.R.H.A. have committed to over a million dollars in leasehold improvements, all of this toward a project budget in excess of five million dollars. The project goals are many, encouraging physical activity for children and youth, promoting recreation for all persons of all ages, significantly to eliminate financial barriers for participation in recreational activities. I should say the YMCA, part of this project will involve a youth recreation centre which will have no fee and which will be underwritten by the operations of the Y elsewhere in the city providing increased child care in the north end. We're facilitating co-operation among community organizations and we're creating increased opportunities for volunteerism.

We are coming before you, asking for your consideration and asking that the city make a one time capital contribution of 250,000 dollars in addition to the value of the land that's already agreed to be transferred to this initiative. I can tell you that this project will not duplicate services. It will be a very unique facility and will add greatly to the fabric of the north end community. As I said, we're close to commencing construction. We hope to commence construction in May. We're getting there. We have a couple of or a few very significant asks that are looking favourable so we've instructed our architects to proceed with the preparation of contract documents and as I say, we hoping to move forward this spring.

So, with me is Diane Redsky who is with Ma Mawi Wi and the North End Community Renewal Corporation, she'll just speak briefly about the need for the project in the community. Thank you for your consideration.

Diane Redsky: Good morning. My name is Diane Redsky and I work for the Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre which is an aboriginal organization located in the inner city of Winnipeg that works with aboriginal families living in the city of Winnipeg. So, as you are aware, the north end is, since the Y closed especially since the Y closed, has really seen the impact of not having a lot of opportunities

for families, for young people, for seniors, and just overall in terms of wellness.

So for the Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre, being located in the north end we've seen that on the ground. We've seen how the impact of not having these resource supports available in the community, has affected our children, our youth, our families and the North End Wellness Centre is a real opportunity for our families in the north end.

So, what this will mean for our families is a natural gathering place for all community members with dedicated space for our elders and our seniors. Ma Mawi Wi will operate a community care centre which we view as the living-room of the north end, a very welcoming place for everyone to be and to gather. Our young people will have a place to call their own, to build their cultural and leadership development and taking care of our children and the daycare based on our community values. The W.R.H.A. will provide much needed health services and the community will have the opportunity to have additional space, some common space, to book for various healing, learning and celebrating opportunities. So we humbly request that you support the dreams and visions of the north end and its residents. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Councillors any questions? If not to the delegation, thank you. Executive Policy Committee report of January 31, 2007 Mr. Mayor.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED JANUARY 31, 2007**

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce the report and move adoption of consent Agenda Items 1 to 4 please.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. The report of February 7, 2007 Mr. Mayor.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED FEBRUARY 7, 2007**

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce the report and move adoption of consent Agenda Items 1 and 2.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. The report of February 14, 2007 Mr. Mayor.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED FEBRUARY 14, 2007**

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to introduce the report and move adoption of consent Agenda Items 1 to 8.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Gerbasi, your number 1. Number 1 is stood down and the rest of the agenda, all in favour, contrary? Carried.

Item 1 - Rapid Transit Task Force Recommendation - Establishment of Reserve Fund for building a Rapid Transit System File TT-8

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I would very much like to hear what Councillor Gerbasi has to say and then if I can reply I would be happy to.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Gerbasi.

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Time is short today to explain fully why I believe rapid transit is such an important issue for Winnipeg and for those of you who are interested, particularly the new Members of Council, I would be pleased to meet with any of you to discuss this issue further and to share more of what I've learned as a member of two separate task forces since I've been a member of Council.

And for your information, I also represent the city on a national committee of the Canadian Urban Transit Association, which is made up of Councillors and

urban transit associations and representatives of transit authorities from across Canada, from cities all across Canada who actively work to lobby higher levels of government for improved transit funding and policies.

In the meantime I would like to put a few comments on the record regarding the recommendation to create a rapid transit reserve fund to build the busways as recommended by the Rapid Transit Task Force. The Rapid Transit Task Force chaired by Councillor Wyatt was put together by the Mayor. The appointees to this committee started out with very diverse views and were certainly not geared towards rubber-stamping the city's bus rapid transit plans. Yet, by the end of the process just as in previous task forces, the conclusion was clear that the bus rapid transit option makes a lot of sense and is an affordable and practical choice for Winnipeg as a place to start building a true rapid transit system.

The Rapid Transit Task Force recommendation was unanimous that bus rapid transit including the busways should be built in Winnipeg as soon as possible. The Rapid Transit Task Force plan also included a range of transit improvements such as diamond lanes and other system improvements but the aspect of the busways, separate roadways for buses and emergency vehicles and bike lanes was key and is essential in order to take Winnipeg to a new level as a city that truly has rapid transit.

While there's clear support for some of the other aspects of the Rapid Transit Task Force plan such as the on street improvements which I applaud, it is odd that there is this reluctance to proceed with the most important part of the plan. Transportation plans should be looked at as a whole and not cherry picked in certain aspects. It just isn't how transportation planning should be done.

I'd also like to point out that it's very interesting to compare how we spend money on road infrastructure verses transit infrastructure. In this year's capital budget, the Chief Peguis Trail extension was fully funded at a cost of 34 million dollars. There was no requirement to save up funds. In fact the city will borrow 107 million dollars through P3's to free up funds to fast track road extensions and expansions. Yet, the Chief Peguis Trail is not consistent with Plan Winnipeg and has become a priority only very recently as political priorities have shifted.

In contrast, the recommended rapid transit proposal has been in our plans for decades and fits with Plan Winnipeg's goal of sustainability, compact urban forum and transit oriented development. Yet, for this project to proceed, there are incredibly strict financial requirements. The project cannot proceed unless a third of the total project cost is raised years ahead of the build. After that, one-third partnerships with other levels of government must still be sought. Yet the decision to start setting aside money in a reserve fund has been delayed and will only be discussed in the 2008 budget process. There is clearly no clear commitment and I'm disappointed with this lack of action.

In this year's budget Council decided to borrow 107 million dollars through P3's by the way, the first time in a decade that the city has borrowed externally aside from our utility budgets. The justification for this was that inflationary costs are a big problem and infrastructure projects must be built immediately to avoid cost overruns, yet the decision to delay building rapid transit by this strict financial protocol that is only, that does not apply to car oriented projects, only transit projects, this decision will be very costly.

The administrative report before us shows that the cost of building all four phases of the eastern and southwest transit busways will rise from 209 million in 2007 dollars to 300 million in 2022 dollars. It is puzzling to me that transit infrastructure projects are treated so differently than road infrastructure projects. For transit projects it appears that the city's portion of the money for all of the proposed busways is supposed to be in place before anything can happen. Imagine if we had to have financing in place for the complete roadway system before we could start building a single road. It simply

isn't done that way. The reality is we build one road at a time according to a plan.

Transit has clearly stated that busways can easily be built in stages and each phase brings benefit in and of itself. There is no reason we can not start the first project as soon as possible and not wait until we have all the funding finalized just as we do with our other infrastructure projects. Roadway systems and transit systems are always in the process of being renewed and expanded. They are never complete. With what these overly stringent and unfair financial requirements really mean is that these transit projects will either never be built or will be delayed for years to come.

The world is changing. The environment is now the number one issue for Canadians. We are so far behind other cities who are investing huge amounts in transit infrastructure as opposed to expanding car oriented infrastructure. There is a huge opportunity right now on the federal level; all political parties are ready to give cities new monies for transit infrastructure. All political parties are desperate to see better transit systems built and they mean rapid transit. But as a city we have to act like we want it and we have to go out and get it or else it simply won't happen.

Dr. David Suzuki was here in Winnipeg last night on his crusade to get some action on the climate change crisis. I would like to share with Council an email that I received back in September of 2004 from Dr. David Suzuki. He wrote it in the midst of the decision that City Council made to not proceed with the previous rapid transit plan.

Dear Councillor Gerbasi, although I do not know the specifics of your situation in Winnipeg, I certainly agree that a good rapid transit system is a vital part of any modern, livable city. Continued reliance on personal vehicles is an unsustainable option that only leads to climate change, greater urban sprawl and air pollution and the associated health care and infrastructure costs which are ultimately shouldered by all citizens. For a city to be healthy and vibrant, to require citizens to have transportation options, to enable them to quickly and safely move from one part of the city to the next. Excessive reliance on personal vehicles takes away those options and ultimately makes a city less productive and a less desirable place to live. Every city needs a strong transit plan that encourages walking, biking and public transportation. Making sure the public transportation is convenient, fast and efficient is an essential component of that program. Getting around in the 21st century should not have to cost us the earth, Dr. David Suzuki.

And last night, the Burton Cummings Theatre was packed to the rafters with citizens, with continuing standing ovation after standing ovation, things are changing. People care about this and we as a City Council better start caring because we haven't enough.

So in closing, I must express my disappointment at the decision to wait until next year to even discuss whether to begin setting aside funds for a transit plan that the Mayor and Council claim to support. I urge E.P.C. to set up this reserve fund and begin to put money in as soon as possible. And I urge you to begin the first of the transit projects as soon as possible. And I urge you to actively seek support from other levels of government as soon as possible. And I urge you to move forward with the detailed design studies for the busways that were in fact approved in our capital budget. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Councillor Gerbasi. Councillor Smith.

Councillor Smith: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I'm supportive of this clause but you know I want to echo much of what Councillor Gerbasi has said. You know, 2022 will be the year that we reach 100 million. You know, it's too long to wait. And I want to also tell you in this report I don't like the suggestion that a significant increase in transit fares is a possibility. If that comes about I'll be against that, because quite truthfully, transit fares are high enough and will go higher with wage increases and so forth. I don't want the existing users paying for it. We don't have the, I'm helping to pay for the roads. I don't have a

car. You know, it seems to me that we should think of this city as a whole and we should speed up this whole thing to get a bus rapid transit system especially with the environmental concerns. Everyone should support this unanimously but we should be telling the Mayor and the Executive Policy Committee that this is not good enough. We must do more and do it soon.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Clement.

Councillor Clement: Yes, thank you Mr. Speaker. This clause of course Mr. Speaker is a referral to the 2008 current budget. That's actually what it says and I support that. Why I rise is that I want to touch on a couple of issues that were raised here this morning, that one of them is just a general comment. Whether something is in or out of Plan Winnipeg is absolutely, well just plain doesn't matter.

Plan Winnipeg is a planning document, Mr. Speaker. If we weren't supposed to change it from time to time, then the people that created the policy around it wouldn't have allowed amendments. If they didn't want any amendments then why did they give us the ability to have amendments. So, for people to stand up and say it wasn't in Plan Winnipeg, I just find that unacceptable rhetoric.

The other thing though, the one point that really got me was I heard here this morning that we borrowed 107 million dollars in the capital budget, first time we borrowed since 1998 or something like that. That's absolutely not accurate, Mr. Speaker. We didn't borrow one cent on the tax supported budget. The entire amount of the P3's in the capital budget are being paid for out of the cash to capital section of the capital budget and there's no borrowing involved whatsoever, not one penny and I'm sorry that some people can't understand that, or don't understand it, or don't want to. I can't help that. But the facts are that we're not borrowing and I wanted to make sure that we corrected that inaccurate statement Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Councillor Clement. Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to thank, this is an interesting debate as always on rapid transit at Council, thank you to Councillor Smith and Councillor Gerbasi for some of their thoughts. I want to put some things on the record. I may have been the Chair of Rapid Transit and clearly Councillor Gerbasi is becoming the conscience of the Rapid Transit Task Force.

So just to, you know to make it known, and I've said it before on the floor Mr. Speaker, but I'll say it again, there are positive steps being taken with regards to implementing the recommendations of the Rapid Transit Task Force. I'll site the fact that 6,868,000 dollars is in this year's capital budget that we approved last month for the, for diamond lanes and cue jump lanes throughout the city, those are lanes that were before very limited in our city, we don't have any cue jump lanes that I know of, but diamond lanes we have a limited experience, this will expand diamond lanes throughout the city and when you think about it, what diamond lanes actually do Mr. Speaker is they actually displace automobiles.

If there is nothing anything more positive or more environmentally progressive than that, I don't know what is. It actually takes a lane way away from an automobile to use, usually during the rush hours when they're most in demand and hands them over to our public transit system to use, therefore ensuring that it's more efficient, more convenient, and more capable of transporting those who opt to use public transit.

That's very progressive and that was something that we recommended throughout the city. It's in the capital budget for this year and it's in the capital budget again for 2008 and it's been projected again in 2009, another 4 million dollars, over 4 million dollars in 2009. So, over, in three years Mr. Speaker, well over 11, well from what I can see here, 11 million dollars in cue jump lanes and diamond lanes being established throughout our city. Not one part of the city benefiting from rapid transit but throughout the city. And that's another crucial part for the Rapid Transit Task

Force argued Mr. Speaker, was that, that we should be looking at seeing benefits brought across the city with regards to improving our transit system not just one section or quadrant of the city and this will do that.

This will build diamond lanes throughout the city, cue jump lanes throughout the city and see real tangible benefits, not just to folks out there who want to use transit in the future, but those who are using it now, the riders who are using it now who are existing clientele, anybody in business will tell you the first job you have is to keep the customers you've got because if you lose your existing customers it's twice as hard to get them back. We have to keep the customers we have on the transit system and then look at expanding it further. That will do that, Mr. Speaker, a crucial step.

As well on the record, Mr. Speaker, 3.9 million has been set aside in a transit investment fund for strategic investments with transit and I agree, I think we, there's no doubt, it's a matter of time before this city, we make a significant investment in rapid transit. We know that. I don't think we're debating that at all. We know that has to happen. We know the debate taking place in the country today, Mr. Speaker with regards to Kyoto and the environment and the concerns that Canadians have and indeed Winnipeggers have are significant.

And any Council that ignores that does it at its own peril. We know we have to address that. We know we're going to have to address that in the near future instead of the long term to make some significant investment but we also know Mr. Speaker, that we can't do that alone as a city. We know that other cities have involved other levels of government, the provincial government and the federal government to bring dollars to the table to make sure that these projects are feasible and affordable. We cannot start investing in major rapid transit improvements in the city without the province and the federal government involved, especially when we know the challenges we have with our existing infrastructure roads and bridges. It's just impossible.

So, until that happens and until we know we have that support, we can't go forward. So it is a chicken and egg situation, Mr. Speaker, but nevertheless, we as a Council have committed to that. I would hope that the province would come forward and show some more commitment to that. They have made positive steps this year with regards to the funding of our transit system and bringing forward the policy to live up to the 50% funding of transit operations. That was a significant step by the provincial government that was recommended in the Rapid Transit Task Force and has been picked up by the provincial government.

But now we need to see some capital commitments by the provincial government in bringing that to the table. Until that happens, Mr. Speaker, the feasibility, it will be very difficult for us to go out and start building, impossible as far as I'm concerned, on our own. We need to have commitments from the other levels of government.

On the issue, it was touched on by a previous speaker, I'm just going to touch on this with my northeast Winnipeg hat on, Mr. Speaker, Chief Peguis Trail is desperately needed in that quadrant of the city. The pressure on roads, Springfield Road and other roads running east and west in North Kildonan and indeed impact the entire northeast Winnipeg is huge, and the fact of the matter is, we can split hairs on this issue Mr. Speaker, but and I just want to speak to this because I've heard the Chief Peguis raised over and over and I haven't responded, so this is the first time that I have, I am responding, is that it was in the previous Plan Winnipeg, a priority. And then the Councillor of the day changed that and put it post 2020 until I think there was some regrets that that happened, to be honest Mr. Speaker, and I can't you know confirm that, but that's my hunch and which probably should have stayed in the pre 2020.

But the fact of the matter in a previous Plan Winnipeg, Council had seen this as a priority. If you spoke, speak to our administration, which I encourage every

Councillor to do if you're really interested in the Chief Peguis issue, it was the highest priority in their professional opinion when it came to new capital infrastructure in the city. And I can quote one administrator who's now since retired from the city but was in charge of the department that handled these issues. It was, in his opinion, professional opinion, actually a higher priority than the Kenaston underpass/overpass and I'm sure there might be some disagreements on this Council about that, but that is what was told to me by this individual before he retired. This was the highest priority, Chief Peguis Trail based on need, based on the requirement to build it.

So to say this is coming out of the blue and not needed is completely false. This was a, is a crucial project that should have happened ten years ago. We as a Council have made it a priority to build it now and thank goodness we have. We have seen huge amounts of housing development take place in northeast Winnipeg, I'm proud to say that northeast Winnipeg is leading the city with regards to housing starts. We have more housing supply available now in northeast Winnipeg than any other quadrant of the city and yet the infrastructure that needs to support that has not been there and it shows with regards to traffic volumes and with regards to the strains and stresses on our road system.

So that is a worthy project. It shouldn't be if we're going to build this debate, Mr. Speaker and make it an issue of rapid transit versus that project, Chief Peguis Trail or rapid transit versus this project, or rapid transit verses that one, that's going to go nowhere. We will never build rapid transit because that will just create division, Mr. Speaker. It should be rapid transit should be able to stand on its own accord, not one project against another and I believe it can. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Vandal.

Councillor Vandal: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I'm here to rise in support of the clause that we have before us. I think that given the speeches from other politicians before me, I agree whole heartedly with Councillor Gerbasi. Given the context, the environmental context that we're all living with in this country and in this world essentially, getting, providing alternatives, providing a greater range of alternatives to single, to automobiles is incredibly important for a large urban centres and we need to do more and I voted for the capital budget in large part because of the initiatives that Councillor Wyatt has identified.

But let me be clear, we need to do more relative to rapid transit, be it bus rapid transit or be it other forms. I think, I agree with Councillor Gerbasi if we're going to set up a double standard where absolutely everything has to be in a reserve account before it actually gets constructed, it'll likely never get constructed.

And all we have to do is look around us in North America. Last time I was in Minneapolis, there was a huge expansion of rapid transit from St. Paul to Minneapolis. Go to Calgary, go to Edmonton, go to Vancouver, go to Ottawa, you name it and most cities, if not all cities are embarking on some form of rapid transit to go alongside with other infrastructure improvements and I think that's absolutely essential for any modern urban metropolis in this context to do it and I support that.

The other comment I wanted to make relative to Plan Winnipeg, no it is not a foundation, yes, it can be amended but I would hope that when we undertake the review of the next Plan Winnipeg that we can try to be as cast the net as wide as possible so that we have less amendments, less amendments the better to Plan Winnipeg over the course of the four years but of course I agree, you always have to make provision for amendments and I have to make a comment relative to Councillor Clements's comment on not borrowing.

He is accurate in the strictest sense of the term. But when you incur a liability over twenty years, when you pay interest on that liability over twenty years, that is the same thing as borrowing in my books and I think you'll see when we go to New York

to talk with the big bond raters, they will come to the same conclusion. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: No further speakers. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I must say, Mr. Speaker, I've had that essay read to me several times now, so I'll respond to it the best that I can. It's rather interesting about the discussion today on transit and rapid transit. For years, our existing transit was left to rot and no one seemed to care about doing anything for our existing transit. And there are many Councillors who have been here for four, eight or twelve years, no one cared about transit. There were no improvements, even longer, Mr. Speaker as you so eloquently pointed out.

The facts of life are Mr. Speaker, in 2005 for the very first time we were able to negotiate a small increase in transit funding from the provincial government. In 2006 we got a greater increase and in 2007 after several conversations, Mr. Speaker, the province is coming to the table with 50/50 funding which is the way it should have been a long, long time ago.

In the last budget, Mr. Speaker, there is a commitment of 142 million dollars pledged towards transit to improve our existing transit over the next five years. Councillor Wyatt has already referred to some of the upgrades. He didn't mention heated bus shelters, can you imagine Mr. Speaker in a city such as ours we hardly have any heated bus shelters; we made a commitment to that. We've talked about purchasing new articulated buses. We've also talked about purchasing buses with air conditioning. We've talked about making basic fundamental changes that no one cared about. Diamond lanes were mentioned before, priority signalization. We are making our existing transit better for the very first time.

As a result of that, Mr. Speaker, transit ridership is on the rise. There's an increase in transit ridership. We are doing the right things. We are still very much committed to a bus rapid transit. There has not been a trip to Ottawa where not discussed funding for rapid transit. It happens all the time. I've been doing that for the last two years, at least Mr. Speaker, if not before that and programs will come forward. But I think we should be addressing the basics right now and as Councillor Clement basically stated, this was referred to the 2008 budget.

I do want to make one very important clarification, is that when Chief Peguis came up, just for the record Mr. Speaker; this was number one, one of the number one priorities of our administration. It was also one of the number one priorities of the Premier who just happened to provide 50 million dollars in funding for our infrastructure. End of story, that's the answer to a very, very simple question and sometimes, I'm not going to point out any of the other inaccuracies that have been stated here today. We are moving in the right direction for the very first time. Would it be nice to move at a faster pace, yes, but considering nothing's been done for so many years, we're doing very well Mr. Speaker and I know we'll cross the finish line. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Mr. Mayor. On the clause, all in favour, contrary? It's carried. E.P.C. motions.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Mayor Katz: If I might, I would like to suspend the rules to introduce.

Mr. Speaker: Oh, pardon me I'm sorry, yes, dated February 21 of 2007, today's Executive Policy Committee here this morning.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED FEBRUARY 21, 2007**

Mayor Katz: I would like to suspend the rules to introduce the motion of Executive Policy Committee of February 21, 2007 Mr. Speaker and I believe I would have to move it clause by clause.

Mr. Speaker: Yes there's four of them here. Okay clause 1, suspend the rules,

all in favour, contrary? Carried. On clause 1, all in favour, contrary? Carried. On clause 2, all in favour, contrary? Carried. Clause 3, all in favour, contrary? Carried. Clause 4, all in favour, contrary? Carried. On the whole clause, all in favour, contrary? Carried. Now we get into motions, thank you Mr. Mayor for that due diligent report.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE MOTIONS

Mr. Speaker: Motion number 1; I will rule that it's out of order pertaining to the rules of procedures of 38.2. Councillor Wyatt you have the floor.

Motion No. 1
Moved by Councillor Wyatt
Seconded by Councillor Gerbasi

WHEREAS on February 10, 2007, the members of the United Transportation Union (UTU), went on strike across Canada, including 209 employed in the City of Winnipeg by CN North America;

AND WHEREAS the workers are striking for quality of life issues and dignity in the workplace;

AND WHEREAS the role performed by the workers of CN North America is crucial to both the Canadian and our local economy in Winnipeg, directly impacting the flow of commerce to and from the City of Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS the members of the UTU are requesting that management bargain in good faith in order to seek a fair and just settlement;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Winnipeg City Council call on CN North America to immediately return to the negotiating table, bargain in good faith throughout the collective bargaining process and arrive at a fair and just settlement on the outstanding contract issues with the UTU.

Councillor Wyatt: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I move this motion. I hear your ruling. I disagree with it. I feel it is in order. I spoken with many businesses in my area who employ local residents who pay taxes to the city who are being directly impacted by this strike. So I'm going to move, challenge, I'm going to move the motion, I'm going to move a motion to challenge the Chair on this decision.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Councillors?

Councillor Wyatt: A recorded vote.

Mr. Speaker: A recorded vote, all in favour of the Chair, Chair being challenged, all in favour? The chair being sustained, all in favour of the Chair being sustained, recorded vote has been called for, please rise.

A RECORDED VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

Yeas

His Worship Mayor Katz, Councillors Browaty, Clement, Fielding, Leipsic, Nordman, O'Shaughnessy, Steeves, Swandel, Mr. Speaker Councillor Lazarenko.

Nays

Councillors Gerbasi, Smith, Thomas, Vandal and Wyatt.

City Clerk: The vote Mr. Speaker, Yeas 10, Nays 5.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. On motion number 4, Thomas, Browaty, its automatic referral.

Motion No. 4
Moved by Councillor Thomas
Seconded by Councillor Browaty

WHEREAS Kelvin Community Centre (KCC) is in the middle of its winter programming cycle that is offered to youth, teens, adults and seniors such as after school programs, wrestling training, chess, ESL Development and a garden club as well as drop in programs;

AND WHEREAS the GCWCC has not found alternative location(s) for KCC to run its programming;

AND WHEREAS The Bronx Park Community Club is not available, at this point, to house the programming being offered at KCC;

AND WHEREAS the field house at KCC is not prepared for occupancy at this time;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the KCC Clubhouse remain open until the end of April of this year to allow all groups to finish their winter programming schedule.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Thomas. Just briefly, very briefly.

Councillor Thomas: Yes, very briefly, I would request that we deal with it at this time because the closures anticipated to happen next week, so I believe it's an emergency situation and so I would like to move that we deal with it now.

Mr. Speaker: Okay, thank you Councillor Thomas. Councillors, all in favour, contrary? Carried. In favour of suspension of the rules to hear the motion that is presented by Councillor Thomas and Browaty. Our rules are automatic referral, she's challenged, she wants to deal with it right now, so proceed Councillor Thomas.

Councillor Thomas: Thank you. We had a delegation at our community committee this Monday from the concerned citizen in Kelvin and there had been a notice of closure put up on the building for February the 26th and they need some time to complete their winter programming. They're in the midst of negotiating with Bronx Park Community Club now to accommodate some of their programming but they've got twelve programs, I've given you a list of some of them that are there. And they are in the process of seeking out other venues for some of the other programming that are geared to young children for whom the long distance walk would be a problem. Spring break is coming up and this isn't a good time to be removing some of those facilities.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Thomas, Councillor Thomas please, what is it you want Council to do? You want, what is it, we don't want to give you too much time.

Councillor Thomas: Well I'm asking that the closure not occur until the end of April to allow people time to finish their programming. The other thing that needs to happen is the fieldhouse needs to be prepared, because it's not habitable right now. The washrooms need to be upgraded and there's some vermin that need to be removed before we can have the fieldhouse open so that the skating park and the other things can occur and so.

Mr. Speaker: Okay, Councillor, I think, I think the other Members.

Councillor Thomas: So, it's just I'm asking for a couple of months so that people can negotiate.

Mr. Speaker: Okay, well Councillor Thomas what you're saying, what you want us do is to remain open until the end of April of this year.

Councillor Thomas: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: Okay, I think that's clear. Councillors you heard that, all in favour, contrary? Carried. What a relief. That motion number 5, Vandal, Councillor Vandal and Mayor Katz is automatic referral.

Motion No. 5
Moved by Councillor Vandal
Seconded by His Worship Mayor Katz

WHEREAS the United Way of Winnipeg's Eagle's Eye View: an Environmental Scan of the Aboriginal Community in Winnipeg identified the following from 2001 Census data:

• *That in 2001 55,755 Aboriginal people lived in Winnipeg, comprising 8% of the city's population.*

• *That as of 2001, the Aboriginal population was the fastest growing segment of Winnipeg's population, projected to comprise 13% of the population over the next decade.*

• *That in 2001, the median age of the Aboriginal population was 24.7 years*

compared to 37.3 years for the non-Aboriginal population.

• That in 2001, more than 30% of Winnipeg's Aboriginal population were children between the ages of 0-14 years.

• That in 2001, almost 5,000 Aboriginal youths aged 15-19 resided in the City of Winnipeg;

• That in 2001 the unemployment rate for Aboriginal youth between the ages of 15-24 in Winnipeg was almost 21%.

AND WHEREAS it is recognized that Aboriginal youth continue to encounter difficult social and economic circumstances that are barriers to fully realizing employment and educational opportunities in Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS Council first addressed these important trends in adopting an urban Aboriginal agenda - First Steps: Municipal Aboriginal Pathways (MAP) - on September 24, 2003;

AND WHEREAS the Administration was directed to prepare action plans to develop the strategic initiatives associated with each Aboriginal Policy Pathway (recognizing the MAP stated timelines spanning the term of Council of 2002 to 2006) and report back to the Executive Policy Committee and Council, as required; AND WHEREAS after 2006 the Administration was to report back to MAP as well as to identify appropriate next steps in the development of an Urban Aboriginal Strategy for the term of Council 2006 to 2010;

AND WHEREAS Council recognizes the importance of ensuring that Aboriginal youth in Winnipeg are provided with education, training, recreational and employment opportunities so that they can be full participants in, and contribute to, the economic and cultural life of the City.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Administration report back to the Executive Policy Committee with a "Next Steps" report to review the success of the "First Steps" initiatives;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Administration be directed to develop an Aboriginal Youth Strategy that identifies specific programming for Aboriginal youth and to guide the City's urban Aboriginal agenda during the current term of Council, 2006 to 2010, and that as a part of this proposal existing programs and services be identified and evaluated for their effectiveness.

Mr. Speaker: Motion number 6, Councillor Vandal and Gerbasi is automatic referral.

Motion No. 6
Moved by Councillor Vandal
Seconded by Councillor Gerbasi

WHEREAS on May 19 2004, Council adopted the following Item:

1) That the City of Winnipeg complete negotiations with other orders of government to finalize a new urban development agreement for Winnipeg, based on the terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated January 26, 2003, providing for a commitment by each order of government of $25 million over five years for a total of $75 million.

2) That additional program funding of up to $1.4 million be included in the 2005 budget process and, subject to annual budget approval, future year's budget process.

AND WHEREAS since the date of approval, the City of Winnipeg have not approved any of the $1.4 million for the new urban development agreement, now known as the Winnipeg Partnership Agreement (WPA).

AND WHEREAS the $1.4 million is earmarked for the Aboriginal Component of the WPA, and will be invested in partnership with Federal and Provincial government funds to improve educational and employment opportunities for Aboriginal youth in the City of Winnipeg.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Winnipeg include $1.4 million in the 2007 Operating budget for the WPA's

Aboriginal Component, which will focus on improving educational and employment opportunities for Winnipeg Aboriginal youth.

Mr. Speaker: Okay that is it, now, Consideration of By-laws Mr. Mayor.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would move that the following By-laws be read a first time, By-laws No. 37/2007, 39/2007, 51/2007, 52/2007 and 53/2007.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Madam clerk.

Clerk: By-laws No. 37/2007, 39/2007, 51/2007, 52/2007, 53/2007, 54/2007, 55/2007, 56/2007, 58/2007, 59/2007, 60/2007, 61/2007, 62/2007, 63/2007, 64/2007 and 65/2007.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Clerk for reading the entire list which I neglected to do. Thank you very much.

Mr. Speaker: Councillors, all in favour, contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 37/2007, 39/2007, 51/2007, 52/2007, 53/2007, 54/2007, 55/2007, 56/2007, 57/2007, 58/2007, 59/2007, 60/2007, 61/2007, 62/2007, 63/2007, 64/2007 and 65/2007.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour oh pardon me, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to move that By-laws No. 37/2007, 39/2007, 51/2007, 52/2007, 53/2007, 54/2007, 55/2007, 56/2007, 57/2007, 58/2007, 59/2007, 60/2007, 61/2007, 62/2007, 63/2007, 64/2007 and 65/2007 be read a second time.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Addendum of E.P.C., Consideration of By-laws second and third reading. It's the addendum of E.P.C., Consideration of By-laws. Second time, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: I believe I've already done the second time, may I proceed to the third time Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Okay.

Mayor Katz: Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contary? Carried.

Mayor Katz: Can I just read them.

Mr. Speaker: Read them.

Mayor Katz: I'm quick, but I'm not that quick. I'd like to move that the rule be suspended and By-laws No. 37/2007, 39/2007, 51/2007, 52/2007, 53/2007, 54/2007, 55/2007, 56/2007, 57/2007, 58/2007, 59/2007, 60/2007, 61/2007, 62/2007, 63/2007, 64/2007 and 65/2007 be read a third time and the same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk, addendum, addendum.

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I'd like to move that the rules be suspended and By-law No. 32/2007 be read a second time.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 32/2007.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: My computer just went, bear with me Mr. Speaker

Mr. Speaker: So did mine.

Mayor Katz: By-law No. 32/2007, Mr. Speaker be read a third time and that same be passed in order to be signed and sealed.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. These computers, once you

loose them, you loose everything. E.P.C. question period, there's more, where do you find them.

Mayor Katz: Bottom of By-laws.

Mr. Speaker: My computer is acting all over.

Mayor Katz: I will continue

Mr. Speaker: Yes, continue.

Mayor Katz: I will move that the rules be suspended and the following By-laws be read a first time, By-Laws No. 66/2007, 67/2007, 68/2007 and 69/2007 and all the way I'll continue it, whoops it went again until 70/2007, 71/2007 Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 66/2007, 67/2007, 68/2007, 69/2007, 70/2007 and 71/2007.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker I'll move that the By-laws No. 66/2007, 67/2077, 68/2007, 69/2007, 70/2007 and 71/2007 be read a second time.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 66/2007, 67/2077, 68/2007, 69/2007, 70/2007 and 71/2007.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker I'll move that the rules be suspended and By-laws No. 66/2007, 67/2077, 68/2007, 69/2007, 70/2007 and 71/2007 be read a third time and that same be passed in order to be signed and sealed.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Now I finally found myself in the computer here. Question period, Councillor Gerbasi.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you Mr. Speaker. At the last Council meeting I asked a question about the issue of the rail line that the city owns to Shoal Lake and that currently it's being looked at, alternative service options for that and last time I requested a Council seminar to give us an update and that was basically, I was told that we're to wait until the report was ready. So my question today is who is involved in the administration in writing that report? Is it simply a report from the Water and Waste Department or is the report written by the E.P.C. Secretariat or Mayor, the Mayor's office? I'd like to know who's writing that, who's involved in writing that report?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker I thank Councillor Gerbasi for that question. This report like all other reports are written by the administration. This falls into Water and Waste. They are under the auspices of the CAO and we are waiting for that to come forward, hopefully that would answer that question.

Mr. Speaker: Your second supplementary question.

Councillor Gerbasi: Well I, it's just that because there were comments in the media from staff from the Mayor's office and Councillor Swandel, I guess I'm curious if there is political staff involved in this process, if there's any kind of consultation going on and who's involved in that?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, the answer is no.

Mr. Speaker: Is that it Councillor Gerbasi? Councillor Smith.

Councillor Smith: Yes. Mr. Mayor, months ago you appointed Councillor Pagtakhan to head the housing committee and you haven't appointed any members as yet. You know I wonder why. And I wonder when you're going to do this or do you really want Councillor Pagtakhan to be a committee of one?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker I will, my understanding is that members have

been appointed but I will get back to Councillor Smith and verify that. I don't, I think you may be making an honest mistake but we will get back to you on that.

Councillor Steeves: Point or order, I can't imagine that.

Councillor Swandel: It's a point of order. I can imagine that.

Mr. Speaker: You're both out of order. Councillor Vandal.

Councillor Vandal: Thank you Mr. Chair. Mr. Mayor in previous budget years, there's been a benefit to both the ratepayers and the government departments who work for us in multi-year budgeting; I believe at one time it was three year budgets. Can you tell me that when, if, when the budget will be unveiled tomorrow, will it be a single year budget or a multi-year budget?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: The budget right now we're obviously looking at a one year budget but I believe the administration does look at projections for the following two years. But we will be looking at one but they usually do look at projections.

Mr. Speaker: Your second supplementary Councillor Wyatt, I mean Councillor Vandal.

Councillor Vandal: Will those projections be part of the public discourse in the budget deliberations?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Councillor Vandal I can assure you I would have no problem having discourse with you or any other Councillor on them.

Mr. Speaker: Is that it Councillor? Councillor Vandal, Councillor Vandal is that it or do you have a third and final?

Councillor Vandal: Final question. Relative to the hiring of the Police Chief I'm wondering if you can give us an update on the process time lines and will there be public consultations on the eventual hiring of our new Police Chief.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Thank you Councillor Vandal. The process as you know, the Police Chief is still here and the process would be exactly what would be taking place under normal circumstances. It would come under the auspices of the Chief Administrative Officer. They certainly would have public consultation. They would take all that public consultation into consideration Mr. Speaker and then they would go out and find the best individual for that job.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Mr. Mayor. Councillor Fielding.

Councillor Fielding: Yes, as a small business owner and someone that campaigned quite extensively on red tape I'm encouraged to see Councillor Wyatt be appointed to the implementation of the red tape. So I'd just like to further that, I would just like to ask the Mayor, in terms of the progress here today the key next steps for the implementation of the all red tape recommendations.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: The next steps Mr. Speaker are to get the job done. Yesterday, Councillor Wyatt was asked to take on this challenge, there were thirty recommendations that our Red Tape Commission came forward with. Nine of them have been implemented to date. This has been heralded right across the country and actually we've received an award for what we've done on red tape. Unfortunately in my opinion and others we've been slow to implement it. What we've actually done, we've set a target to have them all complete and Councillor Wyatt will be working very hard and very diligently to achieve that goal. I know he's already had several meetings with the administration and hopefully we can get the balance of the twenty one implemented on time and we can go forward from there and I think what'll happen at that point in time, we will find it

a much better place to not only do business Mr. Speaker, but also for all of our citizens to be able to interact with City Hall. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Second supplementary, that's it? No further questions? Standing Policy Committee on Finance, there's no report, no motions and also, no By-laws. Question period on the Committee on Finance, there is none. Thank you Councillor O'Shaughnessy. Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, report of February 12, 2007, Councillor Wyatt would you introduce your report and adoption of consent agenda.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DATED FEBRUARY 12, 2007

Councillor Wyatt: I'll introduce Item 1, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Any motions, none. Consideration of By-laws, none. Question period, none, oh, sorry, Councillor Vandal you have a question.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Vandal: Thank you Mr. Chairperson. I'm wondering if Councillor Wyatt can give us an update on the initiative to open up Portage and Main to pedestrians.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: Thank you Mr. Speaker. At our meeting in February, a report came forward, it was the beginning of February, end of January, January thank you, January 29th the Clerk informs me, there was a report the administration had written on Portage and Main. It, the recommendation by the administration was simply to receive it as information and that would have been the end of it. The report detailed work that the administration had undertaken over the last year primarily, to meet with the various property owners. There is a seven in total with regards to acquiring their support in principle to the opening of Portage and Main and it was not going to be a complete opening but rather a compromise opening of, a limited opening after hours, 5:30 on in the evening and on the weekends on Saturday to be open. They to date have received in writing in principle, supporting again not discussing the issue of costs related to this but supporting in principle the idea of a limited opening from six out of the seven. The historic property owner who is historically expressed concerns has not submitted a letter. So the decision by the Standing Committee, the administration recommended as I mentioned receive it as information. The decision by the Standing Committee and thanked the administration for the work that they did on, at that Standing Committee meeting but made a recommendation actually rather than receive it as information which would end the process there for all intensive purposes, forwarded it on rather to CentreVenture, as you recall in our CentreVenture's strategic plan that this Council endorsed last month they referred to one of the outstanding issues that they would like to work on and deal with Mr. Speaker was the issue of Portage and Main. And so in some discussions with CentreVenture they were eager to take up the cause and to see what they could do with regards to that. So a request was made of CentreVenture to consider this and to provide a report back to the Standing Committee of Downtown Development on the status of that matter. So, that's where it stands right now.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Councillor, Councillor Vandal that's it? Thank you. Now, we are on to the Committee of Property and Development report of January 30, 2007 Councillor Swandel.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT DATED JANUARY 30, 2007

Councillor Swandel: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to introduce the report and move adoption of consent agenda Items 1 to 8.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Property and Development motions, there is one, motion number 2. Councillor Swandel do you want to introduce it.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT MOTIONS

Motion No. 2
Moved by Councillor Swandel
Seconded by Councillor Vandal

WHEREAS on January 24, 2007, Council adopted Item 22 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development dated January 9, 2007, with respect to the subdivision and rezoning of property located north of Warde Avenue, west of St. Mary's Road under File DASZ 16/2006 rezoning the property from an "A.5" Agricultural District and a "C1" Commercial District to a "PR-1" Parks and Recreation District, an "R1-4" Residential District, an "R1-5" Residential District and an "RM-5" Residential District; AND WHEREAS Clauses 1 and 3 of Item 22 provide for approval of the plan of subdivision and rezoning of the subject property under File DASZ 16/2006 to be approved in accordance with Schedule "A" dated December 5, 2006;

AND WHEREAS Schedule "A" dated December 5, 2006, does not accurately reflect the changes to the plan of subdivision and rezoning recommended by the Community Committee;

AND WHEREAS Schedule "C" dated February 9, 2007, attached hereto, accurately reflects the recommendations of the Community Committee;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council reconsider its decision of January 24, 2007, as follows:

1. That Clauses 1 and 3 of Item 22 be amended by deleting the words "Schedule 'A' for File DASZ 16/2006 dated December 5, 2006" and substituting therefore the words "Schedule 'C' for File DASZ 16/2006 dated February 7, 2007".

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

Councillor Swandel: Motion number 2 is a motion just to clean up; it's a house cleaning matter with regard to a rezoning subdivision that the Riel Committee had moved forward. We dealt with it in February here at Council. This is just too clean up to ensure that the intent put forward by Community Committee is what in fact was adopted by Council.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. All in favour, contrary? Carried. Consideration of By-laws Councillor Swandel.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Councillor Swandel: I would like to move that the following By-laws be read a first time, By-laws No. 33/2007, 38/2007 and 43/2007.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 33/2007, 38/2007 and 43/2007.

Councillor Swandel: I would like to move that By-laws No. 33/2007, 38/2007 and 43/2007 be read a second time.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 33/2007, 38/2007 and 43/2007.

Councillor Swandel: I would move that the rules be suspended and that By-laws No. 33/2007, 38/2007 and 43/2007 be read a third time and the same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Question period, there's none. Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services report of February 5, 2007, Councillor Steeves.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DATED FEBRUARY 5, 2007

Councillor Steeves: Thank you Mr. Speaker regarding the February 5, 2007 I'll introduce the report and move adoption of consent Items.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Motions?

Councillor Steeves: I don't think there's any motion.

Mr. Speaker: There isn't any. By-laws, Councillor Steeves.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Councillor Steeves: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to move By-law No. 41/2007 be read a first time.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 41/2007.

Councillor Steeves: I would move that By-law No. 41/2007 be read a second time.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? That's carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 41/2007.

Councillor Steeves: I would move that the rule be suspended and By-law No. 41/2007 be read a third time and that the same be passed in order to be signed and sealed.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Question, Councillor Gerbasi

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is regarding the Mayor announced that there will be some form of civilian police commission announced sometime over the next year and I'm wondering if you could explain to Council how you see this process going forward? Do you see public consultation being involved in developing this and what do you see as the role of the Standing Policy Committee once the supposed role we're supposed to have now of overseeing police policy which we don't really do anyway right now, what do you see happening to the role of the Standing Committee with this new commission thing put in place?

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Steeves.

Councillor Steeves: Thank you Mr. Speaker and I thank the Councillor for her question. I might take issue with the idea that we don't do anything right now but I'll leave that for another day. I'll leave that for another day. I guess the information will be coming to committee obviously, at that time I anticipate that there would be fairly robust public representations and people coming to committee making their representations as to how they feel. In fact we've already had that to a fairly large extent. If it would go beyond that I guess, would be, it would have to be the subject of discussion. I don't currently have any plans for that although I don't specifically rule it out Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Gerbasi second supplementary.

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you Mr. Speaker and my comment really referred to the issue of CrimeStat which basically was dealt with at the Executive Policy Committee level and the report didn't even come to our Standing Committee and yet we're the Standing Committee that oversees that and I guess I'm wondering as the Chair of the committee will you endeavor to ensure that in the meantime while the Standing Committee

is still responsible for police policy, that the Standing Committee is kept up to date and briefed and receives reports that have to do with police policy as that's their role. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Steeves.

Councillor Steeves: Yes, happy to do that Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Gerbasi that's it? Councillor Fielding, your first.

Councillor Fielding: Yes, Councillor Steeves just with the implementation of CrimeStat or the launch of it in the past little while, we obviously received some praise locally as well as nationally, it's been something popular to the residents in my ward. I'd like you to update the chamber here in terms of progress so far and next steps to full implementation.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Steeves.

Councillor Steeves: Okay, I want to thank the, my friend from St. James Brooklyn's for the question. I do have something of an update; I anticipate this question might be asked. My understanding is the web page was launched on February 2nd that was after a press conference I think received quite a bit of attention. I'm pleased to report the following, this is I think Council will find this interesting. In three weeks we've had about 19,000 visitors to the web site and they viewed I guess split up about 95,000 separate pages on the web site. So it seems clear to me Mr. Speaker, there's been some significant uptake in this web site. I'm told that the addition, the addition of maps will occur on March 16th of 2007, so we anticipate that happening in just under a month. Our internal processes are in final planning stages for the weekly commander meetings, you'll recall that's the basis of CrimeStat, the accountability meetings and the biweekly follow-up meetings will be then as well. The accountability meetings will begin upon the availability of the map feature and therefore will commence probably around the beginning of 2007, so that has always been our time line Mr. Speaker. I spoke to the Chief this morning about it. He has given me every impression that we're perfectly on track with our time line. So, I thank the member for his question.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. No further questions. Councillor Smith.

Councillor Smith: Yes through you Mr. Speaker to the Chair. There's been a fairly sensational report about child prostitution in this city involving hundreds of children. What are your committee's plans to deal with this problem?

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Steeves.

Councillor Steeves: Thank you for the question. I saw the same newspaper report and obviously when we see those types of things we're concerned on a lot of different fronts, not the least of which is the impression it leaves with people about our community, obviously these are challenges that are being faced in Winnipeg as well as other communities right across Canada. Our service acts to the best of their ability with respect to enforcement of the laws as they exist. I don't stand here before Council with an immediate plan that's set in place to address this. I have asked our administration, police-wise to provide us with some thoughts on the matter. A couple of provisos always Mr. Speaker, while I appreciate the good intentions of reporters and people who write for various publications, we always have to be a little bit careful not to blanket accept newspaper articles as fact. I mean we want to be very, very careful about that. That's the first thing that I would say and the other thing I would say is often a response to I guess invoke police departments to deal with this as a crisis, now obviously the police department has a role when it comes to enforcement of prostitution, particularly child prostitution and the laws that are designed to prevent it, but I would also leave the door wide open to suggest that to a very large extent, this is also a social services issue from a provincial perspective. Obviously we want to deal in the most strictest and robust fashion of people who are, I guess, trying to obtain the services of any prostitute under age or otherwise. But the question has to be asked what is

happening in the homes and the residences of these young people such that they're winding up out on the street in the first place and that is probably less of a police matter. It's probably more of a social services matter so it's not just a single pronged approach Mr. Speaker. It requires the support and I think the outright action of social services at a provincial level. My comments.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. No further questions. Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works report of November 21, 2006 Councillor Clement.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS DATED NOVEMBER 21, 2006

Councillor Clement: Thank you Mr. Speaker and I'll move clause 2 from November the 21st.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Report of February the 6th.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS DATED FEBRUARY 6, 2007

Councillor Clement: I'll move clause 1.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Motions, none. Consideration of By-laws, Councillor Clement.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Councillor Clement: I would like to move that the following By-laws be read a first time, By-laws No. 34/2007, 35/2007, 36/2007, 40/2007 and 44/2007.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 34/2007, 35/2007, 36/2007, 40/2007 and 44/2007.

Councillor Clement: I would move that By-laws No. 34/2007, 35/2007, 36/2007, 40/2007 and 44/2007 be read a second time.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 34/2007, 35/2007, 36/2007, 40/2007 and 44/2007.

Councillor Clement: I would move that the rule be suspended and By-laws No. 34/2007, 35/2007, 36/2007, 40/2007 and 44/2007 be read a third time and that the same be passed in order to be signed and sealed.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Question period, no questions. Secretariat Committee, I will ask Councillor Swandel to put that report on my behalf. Councillor Swandel.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT COMMITTEE DATED JANUARY 22, 2007

Councillor Swandel: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I'd like to introduce the report and move adoption of Item 1.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, opposed? No, okay, Councillor, and you've got an amendment, Councillor Swandel. You have an amendment. You have an amendment, too.

Councillor Swandel: Pardon me.

Mr. Speaker: There's an amendment.

Amendment
Moved by Councillor Swandel
Seconded by Councillor Smith

WHEREAS the current and proposed Procedure By-law provides for the mover of a motion, including an amendment to the main question, to speak for ten minutes and any other member of Council to speak for eight minutes, with an extension of two minutes, and for the mover to speak for eight minutes upon closing;

AND WHEREAS these speaking limits are meant to provide fair and equitable opportunity for Members of Council to address issues;

AND WHEREAS the current and proposed Procedure By-law stipulates that no member shall speak more than once to the same question;

AND WHEREAS it is preferred that the Procedure By-law be amended to ensure that a mover of an amendment speak to both the item and the amendment when introducing their motion;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Recommendation No. 1 of Item 1 of the Report of the Secretariat Committee dated January 22, 2007 be amended by adding the following words at the end of the recommendation: "and that the proposed Rule No. 42 of the Procedure By-law be amended by inserting the following between the first and last sentences: 'In the case of an amendment to the main question, the time allocated to the mover and all other members of Council for speaking shall be utilized to speak to both the amendment and the main question' ".

Councillor Swandel: The motion to amend, the amendment is basically at the Secretariat Committee moving this forward there was some discussion around having a clarification on the amount of time people were to speak when amendments were brought forth with a clause. The amendment just sort of cleans the language up so it's very clear.

The clause will end up reading on any motion, the mover shall be entitled to speak for ten minutes and any other Member of Council shall be entitled to speak for eight minutes provided that Council may on motion without debate permit a member to speak for a further period not exceeding two minutes in addition to the regular time allowed. In the case of an amendment to the question, the time allocated to the mover and all other Members of Council for speaking shall be utilized to speak to both the amendment and the main question. On closing debate the mover of a motion shall be given eight minutes to close.

So basically just speeding up the language so we know when we have an amendment and a clause at the same time that we're speaking to both at the same time.

Mr. Speaker: Who wanted to speak to the, Councillor Thomas, Wyatt. Councillor Thomas.

Councillor Thomas: First, I don't know any other municipality that has you speak to as the mover of the amendment that would have you speak to the amendment and the main clause at the same time. It doesn't give you enough opportunity to speak to your amendment. And, I also think that it short shrifts the mover of the clause because the amendment is introduced after the mover has opened on the clause. It gives the mover of the clause no opportunity to speak to the amendment, except upon closing debate, and the, the amender would therefore not get to hear concerns that the mover might have with regard to the amendment that's being proposed, if they are to wait until after the debate is closed and then the amender of the motion would not get to hear the mover's concerns, because the mover would speak after the amender closes debate on their amendment, which can be not very helpful because you might very well want to hear the concerns of the mover, in addressing or in closing debate.

So I would suggest that rather than speeding up by ten minutes that we really not go forward with this, because any mover to the motion will be denied their opportunity to speak until it's too late for the amender to deal with, with the concerns that the mover of the motion might have in bringing the motion forward.

So, I don't see this as a helpful amendment and this is what we're all here for people, is to debate. Everything else that we do comes down to here when we make the rules. So I don't think we should be stifling the debate by having this on there. I don't think it's very helpful to either the mover or the seconder. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you.

Councillor Wyatt: Point or order Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: I'm rising on a point of order not to speak, Mr. Speaker. According to, I'm assuming what we have in our drawers is the most update, up to dated, updated procedure By-law. According to what I'm seeing here, the motion refers to amending rule number 42 of the procedure By-law, but I believe it shouldn't be 42, I think it should be 44, the way I read this. Well is this, so there's a whole new, so we're not talking about these, the By-law here, we're talking about this file. Can I get clarification on this.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Wyatt just hold it a second, I'll ask the Clerk to, okay, thank you. So you were speaking to the By-law.

Councillor Wyatt: Can I get clarification. I rose on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Okay.

Councillor Thomas: I don't understand what was said.

Mr. Speaker: Well I want the Clerk, Mr. Clerk can you address the chambers, please?

Clerk: The numerical reference provided is referring to the new By-law that's being proposed and that's attached in the agenda.

Councillor Thomas: Point of order Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: What's your point of order?

Councillor Thomas: Point of order is that just proves my point. Because he opened on the amendment at the same time that he opened on the clause and he moved an amendment to the clause at the same time he was speaking to the clause and it became very confusing. So I think, I think the way it happened actually confused the debate rather than added to it.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Clerk.

Clerk: I think that Mr. Swandel in including the new reference was trying to make it clearer for the Members of Council. It really isn't part of the motion. I'm sure that he can explain it better than I.

Mr. Speaker: Okay, no further speakers before, Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: Mr. Speaker, I'd like.

Mr. Speaker: Oh, pardon me, just a minute, Councillor Wyatt

Councillor Wyatt: I was on the list.

Mr. Speaker: No, no he's on the list Councillor Wyatt and then you're next.

Councillor Wyatt: I'm speaking on a point of order, not on my.

Mr. Speaker: Okay, go ahead.

Councillor Wyatt: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I'm going to move a motion to refer with instructions. We do not have and the instructions are these, we do not have, we have a motion before us or a clause before us saying referring to housekeeping matters, clearly now as has been pointed out, we have a renumbering of the document. When I look at it and it may be housekeeping matters but this is a living and breathing document that governs how we do business here so it's crucial all Council Members know what's.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Wyatt, Councillor Wyatt please, write it out, write that motion out with instructions. Write it out.

Councillor Wyatt: That's in the procedure By-laws.

Mr. Speaker: Write it out and while you're doing that I'll get Councillor Clement is next to speak.

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker, just for clarification perhaps, what people, what our colleagues here need to be reminded of is that this was a matter that when it came before Secretariat Committee it was on the agenda of the Secretariat Committee and repeated

times representation from each one of the Community Communities was there.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Clement. He's just clarifying his.

Councillor Clement: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I'm going to move a referral with period, back to Secretariat so that, because I'm not aware of anything being broke in this chamber in terms of the amount of time we're allowed to speak and how this has been operating for the last number of years and if this is something that's deemed necessary, I'd like somebody from the Clerks Department come and meet with me and explain it to me before I have to go forward with a motion I don't understand.

Mr. Speaker: Okay Councillor Clement you're moving referral. You're moving referral.

Councillor Clement: The referral of the clause, the whole clause.

Mr. Speaker: The referral of the, there's only one, referral. Okay, Councillor Clement.

Councillor Clement: Absolutely, You're trying to alter it Justin.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Clement has moved a motion to refer this back to the Secretariat Committee. Councillor Swandel you introduced that motion, would you want to speak to it.

Councillor Swandel: Certainly Mr. Speaker, the housekeeping matters in the document are pretty straightforward. The amendment I think is what is creating some problems here. The discussion at the Secretariat Committee was pretty straightforward on this matter and if it's creating problems I'm certainly willing to see the amendment moved, referred back to Secretariat. I don't know that we need to be holding up the rest of the work that's been done here in order to deal with that.

The report attached is very specific. It really is housekeeping. Its things like whether or not we're reading minutes as opposed to adopting minutes. They are very much housekeeping matters. Perhaps some of my colleagues haven't been paying much attention to what's been happening in Secretariat Committee but the information is all been there, every Community Committee was represented so, I'm prepared to see the amendment referred back to give colleagues some time to speak to the Secretariat Committee on that, but I don't think we need to hold up the cleanup of the rest of the By-law for that.

Mr. Speaker: Well the motion that's before us here is motion number 3, moved by Councillor Swandel seconded by Councillor Smith, the rest of the, what's on the agenda, the referral, the motion to refer but Councillor Clement had referred the whole report back and Councillor Swandel is arguing a point that we should deal with some of these issues but you know Councillor Clements's motion overrules so the Council will have to make a decision, all in favour of the referral motion, opposed, contrary? One, it's carried.

Well Justin we didn't get too far with that one. Okay. It's time for an adjournment. Councillors I'd just like to say one thing dealing with these computers, sometimes when you get on the wrong side of the screen, you lose, you lose what's before that, so it takes time to come back to it. Okay who moves the motion of adjournment?

Councillor Steeves: Mr. Speaker, before we do.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Steeves.

Councillor Steeves: Just one small issue, I just want.

Mr. Speaker: What is your issue?

Councillor Steeves: No, no, no, I think Council wanted to know, there's nothing, I just want to give Council an update on the.

Councillor Swandel: No, that's.

Mr. Speaker: Okay, who moves adjournment, Councillor Clement. Roll call.

ROLL CALL

Clerk: His Worship Mayor Katz, Councillors Browaty, Clement, Fielding, Gerbasi, Leipsic, Nordman, Smith, Steeves, Swandel, Thomas, Vandal, Wyatt, Mr. Speaker Councillor Lazarenko.

Council Adjourned at 10:53 A.M.