COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG
Wednesday July 18, 2007

The Council met at 9:39 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 Swandel.

ROLL CALL

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

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME OF GUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Mr. Clerk. We have pages that's here today, Bryce Brousseau of Vincent Massey Collegiate, resides in the St. Norbert Ward. He's working right now but we can still give him the applause.

First on the agenda, condolence motion, Mr. Clerk.

Clerk: Moved by Councillor O'Shaughnessy, seconded by Councillor Pagtakhan that Council place on record its profound sorrow at the death of Annie Lazarenko Gruszecky, sister of Harry Lazarenko which occurred on June 21, 2007. This Council extends to Harry Lazarenko and his family and to her children, Richard, Billy, Bobby and Stella its deepest sympathy and condolences in their bereavement.

Mr. Speaker: Everyone please rise for a moment of silence.

Thank you. I have two motions, leave of absence and Mr. Clerk would you please read them out.

Clerk: Moved by Councillor Gerbasi, seconded by Councillor Vandal that Councillor Thomas be granted a leave of absence from today's meeting due to a personal family matter.

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

Clerk: Moved by Councillor Browaty, seconded by Councillor Vandal, that Councillor Wyatt be granted a leave of absence from today's meeting due to a personal family matter.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. I'd like to recognize in the gallery former Councillor Donald Benham with students from the University of Winnipeg studying politics and mass media. Welcome.

I'd like to recognize now Bill Larkin, Director of Public Works, Bill Grabowecky, Research and Process Improvement Coordinator, Public Works Department and Larry Frevert, President-elect of the American Public Works Association will present the A.P.W.A. accreditation plaque to his Worship Mayor Katz. Bill, please come forward. Proceed.

Bill Larkin: Thank you Councillor. It's very nice to be here this morning. We've gone through a process under the American Public Works Association Accreditation process and I know you're all familiar with accreditation, how important that is to the Winnipeg Police Service and this is equally important to us because it ensures that we're following processes that respect, best practices and we want to ensure that we have the confidence of both Council and the public in knowing that we provide the most effective and best services that we can. Larry Frevert from the American Public Works Association is here. He's the President-elect of the association and he's going to be giving our Mayor the award or the accreditation plaque.

Larry Frevert: Good morning. Honourable members of the City Council, the beautiful city of Winnipeg, I bring you greetings from the Board of Directors and the 29,000 members of the American Public Works Association. I would invite you to remember the best hockey game, baseball game, football game or basketball game that you have ever seen. Do you remember very much about the officials in that game, probably not

because if they do their job well, they are overlooked and they are not remembered. It's the players on the field that you remember.

And it's very much the same in your community with your Public Works Department. When they do their job right, you don't remember them. But when something goes wrong, or if the street isn't repaired or if a park isn't cleaned up, that's when you call Bill Larkin and have some comments with Mr. Bill.

But I want to, today bring you an award that recognizes the professional accomplishments of your Public Works Department. They have taken upon themselves to evaluate their policies, procedures and actions against nationally and internationally acclaimed standards of what a Public Works Department should do. They've gone through an accreditation process that is a very lengthy process and it involves all of the employees in the department at some point in time. It's an evaluation of their practices and how they put those practices to work in accordance with the department's policies.

They have touched into the department and done a self assessment of 340 different practices that have been established as best management practices for a Public Works Department and they achieve full compliance or substantial compliance with all of those.

Winnipeg is the first large city in Canada to achieve accreditation. A smaller community in British Columbia actually preceded you, but you are the first large community in Canada to do this. You're the 39th community in the North American continent to do this and this is a significant accomplishment. To those of us who've dedicated our career to public works, achieving accreditation is a major accomplishment.

I bring compliments to you, the Councillors and the policy makers and the elected officials of Winnipeg for allowing this to occur with your department. I bring congratulations to Bill, to both Bill's for allow this to occur and for making this happen and I bring congratulations to the members of the Public Works Department who have worked on this to achieve this. It is my distinct pleasure on behalf of the American Public Works Association to present a plaque to the Mayor and the administration and the Councillors of the City of Winnipeg in acknowledgment and recognition of this achievement of your department.

Would someone like to accept this on behalf of the American, I'm sorry.

Mayor Katz: I'm behind you.

Larry Frevert: I'm Larry Frevert.

Mayor Katz: Larry, I'm Sam Katz, the Mayor, thank you.

Larry Frevert: Mr. Mayor nice to meet you. It's a distinct pleasure to give this to you Mr. Mayor in recognition of the accomplishments of your department and the total and the pace that you as the elected officials have set for your department here in Winnipeg.

Mayor Katz: Well thank you so much.

Larry Frevert: Thank you.

Mayor Katz: Thank you. Very briefly, I want to very much thank Mr. Larry Frevert, the President-elect of the American Public Works Association for this great honour. I know he came a long way to be here today from Kansas City, Missouri to make this presentation and it is very much appreciated. I must also thank the members of the City of Winnipeg Public Works Department and management team. It's their hard work and effort, has achieved recognition as the first agency in Manitoba and only the second in Canada to meet and exceed the requirements laid out by the American Public Works Association.

Achieving this accreditation is quite meaningful for our city. Having our departments reviewed by industry, peers internationally and achieving a ninety seven percent full compliance rating upon this evaluation, demonstrates to our citizens just how highly the City of Winnipeg Public Works Department

values and proceeds with professionalism and high standards everyday. So on behalf of the City of Winnipeg Public Works Department, my colleagues on Council and the citizens of Winnipeg, I would like to express my pride for this honour from the American Public Works Association today. Thank you Larry, I appreciate it.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor, I, Mr. Mayor, I know you have an announcement to make. Do you want to do it here or do you want to do it at your table?

Mayor Katz: If it's okay Mr. Speaker, I'll do it from my chair.

Mr. Speaker: And also I'd like to recognize our Chief Administrator of the City of Winnipeg, Annitta Stenning sitting over there. She is the head of all of our civic departments. Thank you. Okay Mr. Mayor, you have an announcement.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I'd like to move that the rule be suspended and Council now consider Item 4 of July the 18, re: C.F.O.

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

Item 4 - Appointment of the Chief Financial Officer File GP-1

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, it's, as everybody's aware of, it's been approximately sixteen months since our previous C.F.O. retired, Mr. Bob Gannon. I know that Councillors will already know Mike Ruta from his work as the Corporate Controller. A job he's held with distinction since 1998, but you may not know that he also brings decades of private sector experience as a consultant and manager in the firm such as Deloitte, Price Waterhouse and the National Bank of Canada. Knowing Mike's professionalism and his quiet sense of humour, I'm looking forward to working with Mike and his team as we tackle Winnipeg's financial challenges in the new century.

For the record, Mike also has an impressive record as director on several city boards, as a basketball coach and as a Sport Manitoba Volunteer of the Year. I'm always pleased to see how many leaders in our public service are also leaders in our community. I hope Council will join me in making this appointment a unanimous one. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I'll call the question. All in favour, contrary? Carried. Congratulations Mr. Ruta. I don't think you're prepared to make a half hour speech, are you? Makeala, Diakuiu.

MINUTES

Councillor Browaty moves the Minutes of the meeting held on June 20, 2007 be taken as read and confirmed.

All in favour, contrary? Carried.

DELEGATIONS

Mr. Speaker: Next delegation, or the first delegation is Gary Swanson; President of CUPE Local 500 in support of Item 12 of the report of the Executive Policy Committee dated July 11, 2007. Is Mr. Swanson present? Gary, you have ten minutes.

Gary Swanson: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Your Worship, Councillors, thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today about the jurisdictional responsibility for the delivery of our environmental health services, and I've brought with me a fellow member of the public health system, brother Lindsay Hoffmeiser who will be here to offer some technical support if you have any questions regarding the services.

In consultation with CUPE Local 500 members working in the city Environmental Health Services Department, our public health inspectors, we feel the best delivery of environmental health services or public health inspection is within the civic workforce. It seems the Mayor may agree, as your Worship is quoted in July 12, 2007 Free Press and I'm paraphrasing, a lot of people will say if you're going out to a restaurant, indeed downtown and the civic delivery of environmental health inspection is done

mostly within the inner part of the city of Winnipeg.

Our service is a leader across Canada, much like the Public Works Department and we congratulate the Public Works Department on their work today but our environmental health services are also a leader across the country and our members tell us that they have produced many manuals in public health inspection and delivery that are being copied by other jurisdictions across the country.

We know there is some inefficiency in the inspection service delivery and it is important that civic government delivers these inspection services to overcome the situation. We know highly qualified personnel in many areas of inspection are doing work that could be done by some other departments and provincial agencies. But we believe it has to be done internally, we believe that the citizens of Winnipeg are best served by the government that works closely with them and that is civic government.

There are obviously administrative duplications between the city and provincial services and there are potential weaknesses in the system due to staff workloads and reductions that often preclude annual facility inspections. The current structural inadequacies can lead to higher situations for residents, businesses and tourists. It's the public health of the city, capacity of the City of Winnipeg is not addressed federally, there is a danger to the public that can then lead to major liabilities and costs.

This point is critical because Winnipeg has a thriving restaurant and food industry and the public must have confidence the prepared food will not make them sick. This is what our public health inspectors do and this benefits both businesses and city, Winnipeg citizens. We believe all of Winnipeg deserves the level of inspection services provided by our civic workforce.

However this means City Council has to commit to amalgamate the city and province services under one City of Winnipeg mandate. We believe this could be done with minimal cost to the city. It would trigger a management review in changes that could improve, benefit, could also lower costs for the city in the long-term and actually improve public health services for the city.

The report of the administration to the Red Tape Commission, recommendation number 21, does not adequately explain the pros and cons of the two different options available to the city. We are concerned there may be a bias against the city taking over all these services. Specifically the report outlines risks that are not adequately defined. Work volumes and the staff capacity with additional staff and improved management mandate, the required service can be provided better and more efficiently in the city of Winnipeg. There may be a need for more By-law enforcement officers, but overall amalgamation would not create a service deficit, especially to the inner city.

Costs to the city of an expanded capacity because the province would benefit from the amalgamation of the city, it would be we believe, the provincial government would be more motivated to provide funds for this service. Information technology, there will be some increased demand on technological resources and therefore potential budget implications. But none that are more than current demand, but none that are more than current demands on two separate and parallel services. Again there's a benefit to the province to amalgamate services and then increase funding to compensate the city administration for the service.

The provincial government position, a great deal of the success in making appropriate changes to the delivery of environmental health services depends on the provincial government. We are confident the province will agree to the logic of amalgamating city and provincial services under the City of Winnipeg mandate. If City Council agrees to amalgamate city and provincial services under one City of Winnipeg mandate, there's a potential to improve service delivery and reduce costs. A change in structure with an adjustment and mandate and improved management could,

management mandate could lower costs for the city and province in the long term.

We strongly encourage the city to direct the administration to review its understanding of the situation, take into consideration the use and advice of its City of Winnipeg employees and build on the history of reviews that have been done since 1997. We are confident the logic of the amalgamation of the city will be obvious and thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Any questions, Councillor Gerbasi.

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you Mr. Swanson for your presentation today. Do you have a preference or are you suggesting that the city should maintain when we negotiate with the province, your preference is that the city take over the entire service and that we still rationalize about that being entirely run by the city, as opposed to the province or are you saying either, what are you saying with that?

Gary Swanson: I think we're strongly in support of sending the administration to the province with the mandate to bring all public health inspections under one roof, the city's roof. We believe that an internal delivery is the best model. We're already proven that we are, we deliver the best service in terms of environmental health inspections and we would like to see it done for the whole city of Winnipeg.

Mr. Speaker: That's it for questions? Thank you Mr. Swanson.

Gary Swanson: Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. The report of the Executive Policy Committee dated June 27, 2007 Mr. Mayor.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED JUNE 27, 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. Mr. Mayor, the report of July 4, 2007.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED JULY 4, 2007

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker I'd like to introduce the report and move adoption of consent Agenda Items 1 to 5.

All in favour, contrary? Carried. The report of July 11, 2007 Mr. Mayor.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED JULY 11, 2007

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker I'd like to introduce the report and move adoption of consent Agenda Items 1 to 12.

Mr. Speaker: Motion on number 12, Councillor Gerbasi.

Councillor Gerbasi: Item 7 please.

Mr. Speaker: Number 7. Anyone else? If not, items 1 to 12, including number 7 and number 12 will be stood down because there is a motion to it. All in favour, contrary? Carried. Motion number 7, Mr. Mayor.

Item 7 - Climate Change Action Plan - Quarterly Status Report
File E

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I would very much like to hear Councillor Gerbasi's comments and then I would certainly try to address them.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Gerbasi.

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you very much Mr. Speaker and I just wanted to put some comments on the records since this is an opportunity to discuss, usually an important issue that faces our planet and our Council's role in that. So I wanted to make some comments.

First of all, I believe our climate change plan overall has a very narrow and limited

focus. The city is making some minor changes in our own operations which is laudable, but the problem is, is that we aren't looking at the big picture.

The major shortcoming is that this Council continues to spend huge amounts of dollars on expanding car capacity by widening roads and building new road extensions. Council continues to be incredibly cautious and reluctant to spend money on transit infrastructure, such as rapid transit. In spite of repeated task forces that have represented, that have recommended rapid transit for Winnipeg that have been adopted by Council, Council has not made a significant commitment to this in capital budgets.

If we don't create real alternatives to the automobile, people will continue to drive more north and yes, Winnipeg isn't as congested as Vancouver and Toronto and London, but congestion will continue to increase unless we are pro-active. Every city is contributing to global climate, the global climate crisis and Winnipeg has an opportunity here to be a leader rather than a follower. If we continue the present course, we will be seen as dinosaurs and out of step with the rest of the country and the world. The more car capacity we build, the more cars we will get. The more transit infrastructure such as busways and rapid transit, we will build, the more people will take transit rather than driving. The best way to get real meaningful commuter cycling options is to take advantage of the synergies of building this infrastructure at the same time as rapid transit infrastructure.

So I wanted to make the point that Council ought to recognize the big picture when it comes to climate change and long-term transportation planning. Instead this Council continues to react to the impatient motorist who wants to arrive three minutes earlier at a cost of eighty million dollars for a new road extension. It's a lot easier to get elected if we make these kinds of promises, however leadership is about leading and taking risks and I'd like to share an example with this Council that I found very inspiring about what can happen when a government is willing to take some risks.

Here is an excerpt from a recent Globe & Mail article about a Mayor in Bogota, Columbia who was elected a few years back and I quote, a city can be friendly to people or it can be friendly to cars, but it can't be both, the new Mayor announced.

He shelves the highway plans and poured billions that was saved into parks, schools, libraries, bike routes and the world's longest pedestrian freeway. He increased gas taxes and prohibited car owners from driving during rush hour more than three times a week. He also handed over prime space on the city's main arteries to Transmarino, a bus rapid transit system based on that of Curitibia, Brazil. Bogotians almost impeached their new Mayor. Business owners were outraged. Yet by the end of his three year term, Mr. Penarosa was immensely popular and his reforms were being lauded for making Bogota remarkably fair, more tolerable and more efficient. And if anyone's interested, I have the full article that I can share with you if you're interested in reading about that.

The next point I wanted to make has to do with the effectiveness of the current Mayor's advisory committee on the environment and I mean no disrespect to Councillor Browaty here or anybody, but unfortunately the structure that the committee has been set up with is a committee that meets behind closed doors and has no teeth to bring forward policy ideas in a transparent fashion. The former committee that this committee replaced, had the power to move motions that came from citizen members directly to an E.P.C. public agenda. They met in public and had agendas that were published so that all Members of Council and the public can be kept in the loop about what they were doing.

This new model of committees that we are seeing more and more may work well for the Mayor to get private advice, however they lack the transparency, accountability and inclusiveness for the rest of us. This model has yet to show to bring a lot of benefit in terms of the public interest and I hope that the progress of this committee will be evaluated at some point and that there will be an opportunity

to consider improvements in its structure and scope. I expect there could be a way to set this up so that we could have a more effective and active environmental committee.

I also hope that Council will keep in mind the long-term outlook that is needed to truly do our part on global climate change. What it takes is political will to really change things and make a difference for the environment and our futures. Thank you for listening to my comments.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Councillor. Councillor Steeves followed by Councillor Browaty.

Councillor Steeves: Thanks very much Mr. Speaker. Not a lot to add and I thank Councillor Gerbasi for her comments. I just wanted to bring to Council's attention to what this report represents today. As you can see in the report, I think on page 1114, this quarterly report is on the status of initiatives representing, this the April quarterly report in essence, it was originally intended the April quarterly reports on CCAP would provide an update of city's overall GHD inventory for the year just prior. The inventory data for 2006 represents the first full year of data collection. However, not all the data required was available in time for this report as such.

The annual inventory will be reported in the July quarterly report which is coming later I suppose, even though it is July and is going to be reported on that. So I guess the essence Mr. Speaker, what I'm trying to say is I think all of us or many of us were hoping for some numbers, because you'll recall Mr. Speaker, in the original program with Departments for Crime and Protection, this really always has been about baseline, benchmarking, targeting and achieving reductions in GHG's as produced by the city and hopefully extended to the greater community at large.

Those numbers are still coming. It may strike some Members of Council this report is a bit thin in the actual information that it provides and I think actually that might be a fair assessment. Just as long as people understand that, in seeing this report for the first time before Executive Policy Committee, communicated with members of E.P.C. Secretariat and Alec Stuart who runs, who is our environmental coordinator, they've assured me that those, that enventory today is going to be forthcoming in the not too distant future, so folks on this Council have I think a more real opportunity Mr. Speaker to get a handle on what Winnipeg, where we are in terms of GHG's, where we're going and how it might look sort of on an ongoing basis.

So, this is not at all the full story on this and again highlights some specific programs, all of which is good. But I think many people on Council are anxious to see the actual inventory numbers so we can achieve some of those goals as suggested by my friend and Councillor from Fort Rouge and East Fort Garry. Good.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Browaty.

Councillor Browaty: I'd like to thank my colleague for bringing up the Corydon Action Plan report and some of her comments regarding the Mayor's Environmental Advisory Committee which I chair.

First of all the city is doing a lot of good things, I mean you look at this years capital budget and you look at things like active transportation, the city's also recently appointed an active transportation coordinator, Kevin Nixon who's recently appointed to that position. So there's definitely things' moving along progressively in that way.

Construction is starting in the northeast quadrant of the city through Councillor Thomas's and my wards with a very straight stretch of asphalt that's going to lead from the suburbs straight to downtown. With the Disraeli construction coming up, it's going to provide a great means to allow people to try other transportation and to take other means downtown, especially.

In terms of transit, there's a lot of things going on that are actually quite beneficial.

There's the articulated buses that are coming up later in the year, something small like adding air conditioning to a transit bus. Today it's, later this week we're talking about thirty five degrees Celsius and humid. People don't like riding the bus in those conditions. As you start to replace the fleet going forward, we're going to have air conditioning. Those are amenities that are going to get people onto buses.

Beyond that, I also believe that market forces are going to be driving people to transit and as more people ride transit, there's going to be more and more incentive to improve the system. In particular, the construction of the new hydro building downtown is going to drive a lot more people into the downtown core. They're certainly not adding enough parking in that facility to allow everyone to park downtown. I think market forces there alone are going to drive people down on there.

We were able to in this year's operating budget as Councillor Smith loves to point out, hold the line on transit fares. I think that sort of thing is important, we got to do what we can to maintain that sort, maintain that sort of thing.

In regards to the committee, Alec Stuart, his name was mentioned in Councillor Steeves comments there, has had immense amounts of information from the expertise on my committee, whether it's the formulation of the second quarterly report, it was changed and tailored based on a lot of the recommendations. The demonstration project that's forthcoming on green rooftops.

The new website, Green Space, which is linked off the main Winnipeg.ca website, is a phenomenal clearing house of both internal and external links to resources the public can use to find out how they can live a more green lifestyle. I mean there's a million and one things that the city is doing and lot of things that the committee has been involved in. As we are coming up to the first anniversary of the committee, we are going to be taking a look, we've already discussed it, come September we will take a look and review how we feel the committee is progressing. That was a request from some of the committee members. So we are certainly going down that path. Thank you again for your comments and I appreciate your time today.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Swandel.

Councillor Swandel: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I just want to rise to thank Councillor Steeves for pointing out the importance of gathering information and getting baseline data. The report speaks to us getting some numbers in front of us as to what we're doing now. What it doesn't speak to is how we use those numbers to go forward and I think we all need to be cognizant of the fact that, that what we're trying to do here is invest in infrastructure that gives us the maximum return on the elimination of greenhouse gases, whether it be in our buildings through lead standards or whether we're building rapid transit or improving an underpass, a good example would be the Kenaston Underpass where when we made our submission for, to the other levels of government, there was an analysis on how many greenhouse gases were actually eliminated and it was hundreds of thousands of tons I believe, but it was a mammoth quantity that was eliminated.

And that will allow us to do some comparative analysis. Once you have a baseline to start with and on a go forward basis you can do some assessment on what greenhouse gases are being eliminated or how much greenhouse gases are being eliminated, we could invest our dollars more wisely.

You know we talk about bus rapid transit corridors, in some cases that might not be the best investment in your infrastructure where you may be able to create expanded grade separations or flyover's at busy intersections. It may allow all vehicles to move more quickly including buses and with what looks like a real change in how, how vehicles are powered, whether it be the current hybrid vehicles or in the future perhaps hydrogen vehicles, greenhouse gases with those vehicles may be eliminated by

the type of systems used and we want to insure that we're not investing too far out in infrastructure that will become obsolete, if our return on investment is greenhouse gases.

So I rise to say that you know I'm happy to see the report come forward but I really look forward to seeing that baseline information and how we're going to use it in the future when we're investing in future capital projects to ensure that we're doing all we can as a city to get that return on investment and the elimination of greenhouse gases.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. No further speakers? Mr. Mayor, do you want to close?

Mayor Katz: Yes, Mr. Speaker thank you very much. I very much appreciate Councillor Gerbasi's comments. I don't agree with them all, but I do agree with one thing. You can never do enough. In any category, you can never do enough. I think that would apply, but to give the impression that we're not doing things I think would be totally wrong. I think you just heard from some of the other speakers, some of the things we're doing, we are doing.

On transit Mr. Speaker, we're investing 145 million dollars. I would say that's a significant investment. Councillor Browaty already pointed out some of the things that that money is going towards and when you talk about the open and transparent, the reason you're seeing a quarterly report that was our request so we wouldn't have to wait for a semi-annual or an annual. We want the information as quickly as possible.

And Mr. Speaker, I'm not going to apologize for investing money in fixing our crumbling infrastructure. Our roads are falling apart in every part of the city. It was the number one priority of our citizens and yes, we are investing money there. It should have been done twenty years ago and we're doing it today. I think we are making progress. Could we do things quicker, it sure would be nice Mr. Speaker. We are headed in the right direction and I believe every Councillor and the Mayor takes this subject very seriously. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Mr. Mayor. On Item 7, all in favour, contrary? Carried. Mr. Mayor, Item 12.

Item 12 - Red Tape Commission, Recommendation 21 - Jurisdictional Responsibility for the Delivery of Environmental Health Services within Winnipeg File EH-1

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I believe everybody knows what we're trying to do. We do have both the provincial government and the City of Winnipeg involved in this. We all know that there are different levels of service. We all know that we want to maintain the highest level of service for our citizens. I have had some preliminary discussions with the Premier on this topic and I believe there is a motion on the floor of Council and if anybody has any comments, I will listen to them and address them later on Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Mr. Mayor, this motion number 1, moved by Councillor Gerbasi, seconded by Mayor Sam Katz. Councillor Gerbasi on motion number 1.

Motion No. 1
Moved by Councillor Jenny Gerbasi
Seconded by Mayor Sam Katz

WHEREAS the area of the City that currently receives Environmental Health Services from the City of Winnipeg receives a higher level of service than those areas under Provincial jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS there are unique and complex needs in the older neighbourhoods of the City that require an extensive level of service;

AND WHEREAS the areas of the city that receive services from the Province of Manitoba may be receiving insufficient service levels;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the negotiations with the Province will

include an understanding that any change to jurisdictional responsibility will not result in a reduction of service in one area of the City to expand service in another area but that increased service may be added to create an equitable and adequate level of service City-wide.

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you. I'll just speak very briefly to this, its quite straight forward and I'm pleased that Mayor Sam Katz has seconded the motion, indicating his support for it and I, it just sort of came up once I, the issue came forward from E.P.C. last week. So I didn't have a chance to talk to everyone about it, specifically but we've all been sent a copy of it yesterday and basically its just a, therefore be it resolved is that negotiations with the province will include an understanding that any change to jurisdictional responsibility will not result in the reduction of service in one area of the city to expand service in another area. But that increased service may be added to create an equitable and adequate level of service city wide.

And I think that reflects the reality that we know the inner city has a fairly high level of need of inspection services, but we also know that the suburban areas are under serviced under the current system. So I think that reflects the concerns of all Members of Council. We want to make our system run more smoothly but we also don't want to interrupt service or make service worse for one area of the city at the expense of another. So hopefully this whole thing should be resulting in an improvement of service and that's really what the motion addressed. So that's what I'm going to speak to today. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. No further speakers on motion number 1. All in favour, contrary? Carried. And on clause or Item 12, all in favour, contrary? Carried. Report of July 18, 2007, I believe there's a walk-on cause, Mr. Mayor.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED JULY 18, 2007

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I'd like to move that the rule be suspended and the report of Executive Policy Committee dated July 18, 2007 be considered.

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

Item 1 - Additional Provincial Funding for the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service File GF-5

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I move that Item 1 be adopted.

Mr. Speaker: Item 1, all in favour, contrary? Carried.

Item 2 - Audit Department: Adjusted 2007 Audit Plan – Budget File FA

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I move that Item 2 be adopted.

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

Item 3 - East Winnipeg Sport Association Inc. Business Plan and Annual Operating Grant File PR-2(33)

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I move that Item 3 be adopted.

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

Item 5 - Amending Agreement to the Asset Purchase Agreement between the City of Winnipeg and The Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board File HG

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I move that Item 5 adopted.

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

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE MOTIONS

Mr. Speaker: Motions, we have motions No. 2, 3, 2, 5 and 3. Motion number 2, notion of motion is automatic referral.

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

WHEREAS Executive Policy Committee at its meeting of June 27th, 2007 received the Economic Opportunity Commission's report as information and referred it directly to the 2008 Operating Budget Process;

AND WHEREAS there has been no opportunity for all members of Council and the public to respond in a public forum to the recommendations of the commission;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council request that the Economic Opportunity Commission's report be referred to all Community Committees to provide an opportunity for public discussion in the fall of 2007.

Mr. Speaker: Motion No. 5, by Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Katz. Pardon?

Councillor Gerbasi: Just a point of order, the notion of motion will appear on the September agenda?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, it will. Yes. Motion No. 5, Councillor Smith.

Councillor Smith: I'd like to, us to deal with this now.

Mr. Speaker: You're moving suspension of the rules to deal with it now?

Councillor Smith: I move the suspension of rules so we can deal with this motion right now.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor you're aware of that motion, number 5. All in favour, contrary? Carried. Councillor Smith.

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

WHEREAS The Canadian Commission for UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) is calling on municipalities to join a Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination and be part of UNESCO's international coalition launched in 2004;

AND WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities endorses the Call for a Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and encourages its members to join;

AND WHEREAS municipal governments in Canada, along with other levels of government, have an important role to play in combating racism and discrimination and fostering equality and respect for all citizens;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT City Council endorse the following:

1. That the City of Winnipeg agrees to join the Coalition of Canadian Municipalities Against Racism and will work towards realizing the Common Commitments (attached);

2. That the City of Winnipeg Citizen Equity Committee be responsible for carrying out the Common Commitments in conjunction with the City's ongoing actions towards the elimination of racism through that Committee;

3. That the Citizen Equity Committee will exchange expertise and share best practices with other municipalities involved in the Coalition and will report publicly on an annual basis on actions undertaken towards the realization of the Common Commitments.

Councillor Smith: You know there is a fair amount of discrimination takes place throughout Canada. And you know it seems to me that we should be joining with the other cities, Toronto, Montréal, Edmonton, Calgary, Saskatoon. They've

all joined together in making a coalition to fight racism, discrimination, to share ideas and I think this is worthwhile. We and by the way the F.C.M. has urged us Councillor Steeves and I don't know why we've taken so long, but I think it's about time we did this and so let's be unanimous and pass this today.

Mr. Speaker: No further discussions? All in favour, contrary? Carried. Motion No. 3, referral, no further motions. Consideration of By-laws, just a minute, is there another motion? Motion number 3; you want to move suspension of the rules Councillor Swandel?

Councillor Swandel: No, no, motion Number 3 that I have in front of me, I have a Protection and Community Services motion. It's not an E.P.C. motion. Number 3 we already dealt with at E.P.C. I believe.

Mr. Speaker: Okay so that's, oh pardon me, I'm sorry. That will go to the Protection Committee. Okay, Councillor Gerbasi.

Councillor Gerbasi: Now its too late, it just occurred to me that we should, Mr. Speaker, I realize we've already dealt with this motion number 3, but I'm just wondering in light of the, wanting to start the thing in September, is there any way that Council would reconsider dealing with it now, to suspend the rules, would they consider that?

Mr. Speaker: It's coming up, Councillor Gerbasi; it's coming up on Protection.

Councillor Gerbasi: Oh, we haven't dealt with it yet, okay, sure.

Mr. Speaker: Oh no. You're not lost on that one. Two, we've dealt with. By-laws Mr. Mayor.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I move that By-law No. 149/2007 be read a first time.

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

Clerk: By-law 149/2007.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker I move the following By-laws be read a first time, By-laws No. 131/2007, 152/2007, 154/2007, 156/2007, 157/2007 and 158/2007.

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

Clerk: By-laws No. 131/2007, 152/2007, 154/2007, 156/2007, 157/2007 and 158/2007.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker I move that By-laws No. 131/2007, 152/2007, 154/2007, 156/2007 to 158/2007 both inclusive be read a second time.

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

Clerk: By-laws No. 131/2007, 152/2007, 154/2007, 156/2007 to 158/2007 both inclusive.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker I move that the rule be suspended and By-laws No. 131/2007, 152/2007, 154/2007, 156/2007 to 158/2007 both inclusive be read a third time and that same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

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

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you Mr. Speaker. My question is regarding the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative, comes to an end in March 31, 2008, it's our agreement with all three levels of government. We heard yesterday at the Housing Committee about the success of our housing programs and the positive impact it had on the inner city. And I guess what I wanted to have clarified, is because

we've been hearing talk about core services verse non-core services, in spite of, I guess I want to ask the Mayor if he considers city housing programs to be non-core services and is it therefore something we may exit from in March of 2008?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, through you to Councillor Gerbasi, I very much appreciate the question. I would have hoped the answer would have been obvious, being the first Mayor to actually make the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative a line item in our budget, I think should be an indication of how serious I think this is and the fact that it has been very positive initiative and has accomplished a great deal. There's very little doubt that we had success working with the other levels of government and that is something I hope to continue. But obviously this will become a discussion in the budget, but that's certainly is my intention, I hope that addresses the issue with Councillor Gerbasi.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Mr. Mayor. Councillor Gerbasi your second supplementary question.

Councillor Gerbasi: Mr. Speaker is there, Mr. Speaker what my question is, is there any update that the Mayor can advise us, I realize negotiations, you can't give us the outcome at this point, but have there been discussions about this already with the federal and provincial governments in terms of renewing the agreement. Are these discussions going to be ongoing and intensive as we are getting, it's less than a year to March of 2008. I appreciate and thank you for your first answer.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, the discussions to date have been very preliminary. I can assure Councillor Gerbasi that we will be getting into the meat and potatoes of this. It's, I believe this should be a priority for all three levels of government. I know that there are many people who are of the opinion that you know housing (in audible) initiative of the city of Winnipeg, the facts are we have a role to play and I have every intention of continuing to play that role.

Mr. Speaker: No further questions? Councillor Vandal.

Councillor Vandal: Thank you Mr. Chairman. Mr. Speaker, through you to the Mayor, in February of 2006, 2007, I moved a motion which you seconded on the development of an Urban Aboriginal Youth Strategy which we would be rolling out as a collective of the City of Winnipeg. That was five months ago, I'm wondering if you could provide any information on when we can expect that report to come forward for discussion and I hope adoption by this Council.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, through you to Councillor Vandal, I thank you for the question. I will take that under advisement and I'll get the answer to Councillor Vandal as quickly as possible. I'm afraid I do not know an exact time at this particular point in time, but I do believe that something should be moving forward with and as quickly as possible.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. No further questions? Your second supplementary Councillor Vandal.

Councillor Vandal: I have a question relative to the Fielding Report which was recently discussed at the Executive Committee, the Economic Opportunity Commission Report. This report was supposed to be a road map on how we were going to eliminate the business tax. Several weeks ago and it was received as information at the Executive Committee and I'm wondering what is the plan relative to the amount of taxes, business taxes that are going to be reduced in the upcoming operating budget, will it be two million, five million or ten million. I'm wondering if you could tell us what the plan is going forward.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker. What I can share with you is that in the, I

guess last three fiscal years we have been able to decrease the business tax by twenty percent across the city number one. We've also been able to freeze property taxes and we've also been able to add to our core services which had been cut back significantly. The purpose of this report and I don't know whether that was a gesture, but it's not the Fielding Report, it is the E.O.C, it may become the Fielding Report, this was actually, these are recommendations that have come forward and we will treat this the exact same way we treated the Red Tape Commission, exact same way we've show consistency. So, there are I think the, the saying is there's a menu of items on that, all of these items will be addressed, it certainly will be part of the budget process and every item will be discussed on the floor of Council.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Vandal, no further questions. Councillor Gerbasi second time around.

Councillor Gerbasi: Yes, I just, thank you the last comments just stimulated one more question, I'm sorry. The, I was surprised that the report, the Economic Opportunity Report was not referred to the administration for a report back and I'm just wondering if we can have an explanation about that, because it effectively puts the report into a less transparent process from the point of view of non E.P.C. Councillors because it'll come directly through the budget. Yes, the final decision comes to Council but that usual step that we had with the Rapid Transit Task Force and I believe the Red Tape Report as well, where there was an implementation report, that was definitely skipped unless I'm missing something and I'm wondering why that was decided.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker it wasn't that long ago that we were being praised for the consultation in the '07 budget and I can share with all Councillors right now that we intend to have more consultation and I would also make the statement that I believe you are seeing a more transparent City Hall that you've probably ever seen before and if there are, and one of the reasons that I haven't made any comments at this particular point in time on the E.O.C. is because I intend to spend more time speaking to Councillors and getting some input and then I will publicly say what I believe and as we all know there will be a very intense process going forward. So I don't think there's any reason to believe that we're not being the opportunity for consultation, that every Councillor here including Councillor Gerbasi will certainly have the opportunity to make comments whether they be positive or negative and ask any questions and it'll all be dealt with. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Gerbasi, your second supplementary.

Councillor Gerbasi: I appreciate that answer very much and I do also just, I do say I appreciate the budget process was improved last year, but I guess my concern is not only Members of Council, but what about the broader public at large in terms of feedback, if there isn't the public meetings for them to come to in response to a report because there isn't an invitation report. That's less opportunity for the public and I'm just wondering if you would be amenable to having some sorts of more, better public meetings for the public as well as for Councillors.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I actually appreciate where Councillor Gerbasi is coming from and I would like to think that the process that took place and I'll just share it with you, when you talk about broad consultation, all unions were part of the process, all business, all Councillors, City Departments, there were over fifty meetings. It appears there has been and will continue to be and if any Councillor believes there should be more, they certainly do have that opportunity, but I don't think anybody can say there hasn't been a great deal of consultation and that will continue Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: That's it for questions? Thank you. Standing Policy Committee on Finance, there's no report. Motions, none.

By-laws, none. Question period. Councillor O'Shaughnessy you're prepared to answer questions?

Councillor O'Shaughnessy: No.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Councillor O'Shaughnessy. That's the way all the committees should be. Okay now we get into the Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, no report. Motions, none. By-laws, none. Question period? Councillor, he's not here. Okay now Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, report of June 26, 2007, Councillor Swandel please introduce your report.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT DATED JUNE 26, 2007

Councillor Swandel: I am pleased to introduce the report of June 26, 2007 and I'm lost here again and move consent agenda Items 1 through 25.

Mr. Speaker: And there's number, I believe number, Item 16, there's a motion, an amendment to number 16.

Councillor Swandel: And I have with me an amendment, you'll have to bear with me a bit. A number of agenda's here, a number of items. Item number 16, we have a motion to amend just some of the development agreement parameters of the, and I will put forward that motion at this time.

Mr. Speaker: Okay that's number, Item 16 amendment, motion number 4.

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

WHEREAS on June 18, 2007, the East Kildonan-Transcona Community Committee recommended that the proposed subdivision and rezoning of lands on the southwest corner of Headmaster Row and DeVries Avenue under DASZ 15/2007 be approved subject to stated conditions, one of which was an amendment to the Report of the Administrative Coordinating Group to provide for the construction of improvements in Headmaster Row no later than December 31, 2008;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Recommendation 1.A of Item 16 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development dated June 26, 2007 be amended to delete the following:

"with the following amendments:

i. That Item e) be added to Clause 6 of Section I of Schedule "C" of AG 20/04 as follows:

"6.e) The Developer shall completely construct the improvements in 6.b) by no later than December 31, 2008."

ii. That Clause 7.b) of Section I of Schedule "C" of AG 20/04 be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

"7. b) The pavement in Headmaster Row may be constructed in two (2) phases with the first phase being the portion from Mitchelson Way to the west limit of the Planned Area and the second phase being the portion from Mitchelson Way to Lagimodiere Boulevard. Building permits will not be issued within Phase 1 other than on Mitchelson Way and on Shadow Hills Cove until Headmaster Row has been connected to Gateway Road by others. Phase 2, being the portion from Mitchelson Way to Lagimodiere Boulevard shall be constructed by no later than December 31, 2008."

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

Councillor Swandel: Okay, anything else stood down?

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Swandel would you introduce Item No. 15. All in favour, contrary? Carried. So we have Councillors 1 to 14, 16 through 25, and also motion No. 4, Item 16, that's an amendment, all in favour, contrary? Carried. Report of July 13, 2007 Councillor Swandel.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT DATED JULY 13, 2007

Councillor Swandel: I will move or introduce the item and wait to hear what's being said on the matter.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Clerk.

Councillor Swandel: We're on Item 15, did somebody stand 15 down?

Mr. Speaker: We dealt with it. We dealt with it. We're now report of July 13, a walk-on Property and Development report. Mr. Clerk.

Item 1 - Closings: public lane adjacent to the westerly terminus of Brandon Avenue and portion of Argue Street adjacent to the Lord Roberts Community Centre File DAC 12/2007

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Swandel.

Councillor Swandel: I believe I move that the rules be suspended and the report of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development dated July 13 be considered.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour?

Councillor Swandel: Richard, can you come here for a second. I just need you to clarify which item I'm on.

Mr. Speaker: Just wait for awhile. Councillor Swandel, this is the walk on, the report of Standing Policy Committee dated July 13. There are 14 Items, 1 to 14 on there. It's a heavy, it's a heavy agenda.

Councillor Swandel: Okay I move adoption of Item No. 1.

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

Item 2 - Rezoning - 587 Clifton Street File DAZ 208/2007

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Swandel.

Councillor Swandel: I move adoption of Item No. 2.

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

Item 3 - Rezoning - 382 Stradbrook Avenue File DAZ 219/2007

Councillor Swandel: I'll move Item No. 3.

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

Item 4 - Subdivision and Rezoning - north side Bishop Grandin Boulevard south of 555 Hervo Street File DASZ 6/2007

Councillor Swandel: I will move Item No. 4.

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

Item 5 - Transcona West Area Structure Plan File SP 1/2006

Councillor Swandel: I'll move Item No. 5.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried

Item 6 - Public - Private Partnership - East District Police Station - RFP Bid Evaluation File GF-2

Councillor Swandel: I'll move Item No. 6.

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

Item 7 - Plan of Survey on land located at 280 Almey Avenue File DAPS 13/2007

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Swandel.

Councillor Swandel: I'll move Item No.7.

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

Item 8 - Closing - part of Forest Cove Drive (Old Kildonan Ward) File DAC 13/2007

Councillor Swandel: I move adoption of Item No. 8.

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

Item 9 - Subdivision and Rezoning - 484 Almey Avenue File DASZ 20/2007

Councillor Swandel: I will move adoption of Item No. 9.

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

Item 10 - Rezoning - 733 Mountain Avenue File DAZ 214/2007

Councillor Swandel: I'll move Item No. 10.

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

Item 11 - Street Name Change - Keewatin Street north of Santa Fe Drive to Doctor Jose Rizal Way File SC-3.14(34)

Councillor Swandel: I'm pleased to move adoption of Item No. 11.

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

Item 12 - Street Name Change - Kildonan Meadow Drive north of Devonshire Drive West to Mahatma Gandhi File SC-3.14(33)

Councillor Swandel: Mahatma Gandhi, I am pleased to move Item No. 12.

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

Item 13 - Zoning Agreement Amendment - 101 Salter Street File ZAA 5/2007 (c/r DAZ 257/85)

Councillor Swandel: I'm pleased to move adoption of Item No.13.

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

Item 14 - Lease Agreement - Manitoba Softball Association Inc. – John Blumberg Softball Complex File FI-2.2

Councillor Swandel: I'm pleased to move adoption of Item No. 14.

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

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT MOTIONS

Mr. Speaker: Okay, there's a motion No. 6 moved by Councillor Pagtakhan, seconded by Councillor Smith.

Motion No. 6
Moved by Councillor Pagtakhan
Seconded by Councillor Smith

WHEREAS vacant buildings are a blight to any neighbourhood;

AND WHEREAS there are known vacant buildings that have become fire traps, especially in the Inner City and in the North End;

AND WHEREAS some vacant buildings continue to stand vacant and derelict for months at a time before the City begins the process of by-law enforcement, and/or taking title without compensation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Administration be directed to evaluate the minimum standards for occupied and unoccupied dwellings, and the process undertaken to take title of a property without compensation to property owner;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the evaluation consider:

-How many buildings are currently registered as vacant buildings in the City

-Of the known vacant buildings, how long have they been registered as vacant and derelict

-Successes and challenges relative to enforcement

-Successes and challenges relative to the City taking title without compensation to property owner

-Recommendations to including a discussion of resource allocation to address the challenges outlined.

Mr. Speaker: You want to deal with it now. It's a referral, referral, its automatic referral. By-laws, Councillor Swandel.

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

Councillor Swandel: I'm lost once again. Just give me a second, please. I will move that By-law No. 140/2007 be read a first time.

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

Clerk: By-law No. 140/2007.

Councillor Swandel: This is wrong again. I will move that By-law No. 140/2007 be read a second time.

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

Councillor Swandel: How about 140? Just first reading only of 140/2007, right?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Councillor Swandel: I will move that the following By-laws be read a first time, By-laws No. 130/2007, 137/2007, 138/2007, 139/2007, 141/2007, 142/2007, 144/2007, 145/2007, 146/2007, 147/2007, 148/2007, 151/2007, 153/2007 and 155/2007.

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

Clerk: By-laws No. 130/2007, 137/2007, 138/2007, 139/2007, 141/2007, 142/2007, 144/2007, 145/2007, 146/2007, 147/2007, 148/2007, 151/2007, 153/2007 and 155/2007.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Swandel.

Councillor Swandel: I would move that By-laws No. 130/2007, 137/2007 to 139/2007 both inclusive, 141/2007, 142/2007, 144/2007 to 148/2007 both inclusive, 151/2007, 153/2007 and 155/2007 be read a second time.

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

Clerk: By-laws No. 130/2007, 137/2007 to 139/2007 both inclusive, 141/2007, 142/2007, 144/2007 to 148/2007 both inclusive, 151/2007, 153/2007 and 155/2007.

Councillor Swandel: I'll move that the rules be suspended and By-laws No. 130/2007, 137/2007 to 139/2007 both inclusive, 141/2007, 142/2007, 144/2007 to 148/2007 both inclusive, 151/2007, 153/2007 and 155/2007 be read a third time and that same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. We have also Councillor, July 18, 2007 a By-law the first reading only.

Councillor Swandel: Okay, I will move that the rule be suspended and By-law No. 215/2006, a By-law of the City of Winnipeg to adopt the secondary plan for the Transcona West Neighbourhood be adopted.

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

Clerk: By-law No. 215/2006.

Councillor Swandel: I will move that By-law No. 215/2006, just once.

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

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker, I will move that the rules be suspended and By-law No. 159/2007, a By-law of the City of Winnipeg to change the names of certain highways in the City of Winnipeg be read a first time.

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

Clerk: By-law 159/2007.

Councillor Swandel: I will move that By-law No. 159/2007 be read a second time.

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

Clerk: By-law No. 159/2007.

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker, I will move that the rule be suspended and By-law No. 159/2007 be read a third time and that same be passed in order to be signed and sealed.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Question period. Oh, boy, we're in business. Councillor Smith, Councillor Vandal.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Smith: I'd like to ask you about building communities, you know in Wolseley they spent thousands of dollars with unique street signs and unique pavement and this has all been taken down and I'm wondering why and what the cost was for this misadventure?

Councillor Swandel: Well I don't know that it was a misadventure. I certainly wouldn't characterize it as having a response until I get the information, but I will take it under advisement and respond shortly.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Vandal, your first.

Councillor Vandal: Thank you. It was reported that the E.O.C. Report or what I call the Scott Fielding Report scares the beejesus out of you. I'm wondering if you can tell us which parts of the report scared the beejesus out of you.

Councillor Swandel: Well usually it's sitting beside Councillor Steeves that kind of scares the beejesus out of me, well you know just because it was a list of options, there wasn't any specific recommendations and some of them were obviously going in the areas, you know that involves some of our civic employees and also can involve some impact on our communities. I want to ensure that the level of service is always maintained, that was actually mentioned in the report. So just in general that there are some serious items to be addressed and there was no specifics other than there are some things in there that scare me a bit and that I need to get more information on.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Vandal, your second supplementary.

Councillor Vandal: One of the more significant recommendations was the proposal to ask the province to increase the portioning on commercial properties as a way to make up the business tax difference. I'm wondering as Chair of Property and Development whether you support this initiative.

Councillor Swandel: I don't support anything without getting a great deal of information on it. I certainly would offer this opinion, that, that seems to me to be a shifting of tax rather than the elimination of a tax and what I would certainly welcome, you know the feedback from the business community and as we go forward with this process to see how that plays out and perhaps it is more of a realistic way and just by eliminating that stigma of the business tax in our city where many other cities don't and by shifting it, that in itself would spur a great deal of activity in our city.

Mr. Speaker: That's it for questions? Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services, there's no report.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES MOTIONS

Mr. Speaker: Motions, there is one. Councillor Steeves, you're introducing the.

Motion No. 3
Moved by Councillor Steeves
Seconded by Councillor Pagtakhan

WHEREAS on March 21, 2007 Council adopted that the City of Winnipeg would consider a proposal jointly initiated by the Winnipeg School Division and the Province of Manitoba for an expansion of the School Resource Officer Program subject to stated provisions, one of which was that such proposal shall contain a minimum ten-year funding commitment by the Winnipeg School Division and the Province of Manitoba;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba / School Divisions cannot provide a ten-year funding commitment, however if that provision was reduced to a minimum three-year funding commitment the program could commence in September 2007;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council Decision of March 21, 2007 be amended to reflect that the School Officer Resource Program contain a provision for a minimum three-year funding commitment by the Winnipeg School Division and the Province of Manitoba.

Councillor Steeves: Yes, just briefly Mr. Speaker. People will recall that despite the heated opposition of Councillor Gerbasi and Pagtakhan, I managed to get through a program that included school resource officers being expanded. A little joke there, I was joking, a little fun for the record there. There was some discussion at the time around the length of time and the motion that we passed asked that the other parties, namely the province and the school divisions commit to ten years of funding under the program.

That was a bit of an issue at the time, remained an issue through negotiations, I was contacted by the, our police administration some time ago, a few weeks ago and they stated that as far as they were concerned they were comfortable going back to a three year funding commitment with the Winnipeg School Division and the Province of Manitoba because everybody felt that that made more sense for their, I guess their budgeting timelines.

This doesn't in any way change the premise and I want to be very careful to put this on the record, that just because we've changed or I'm suggesting that we change the, sort of that funding horizon from ten years to three years in keeping with past practice.

This doesn't in any way change the premise that, if at the end of the budgeting horizon, be it ten years or as suggested three years, if for whatever reason either of these parties, the Winnipeg School Division or the Province of Manitoba, if they vacate from this program, there is no doubt in my mind that the S.R.O. program will cease to continue to exist in that area. That would be my suggestion, just want everybody to be abundantly clear about that.

Having said all of that, I spoke to our administration. They're comfortable moving ahead with this and as such I put this on the table and ask that Council amend it from ten years to three years as represented in the motion Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Gerbasi.

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Just briefly, I just wanted to, I wasn't going to stand up and say anything and I do appreciate the motion and I support it. I just think it's a little premature of Councillor Steeves to make the comment that the city could never assume this role in the future because I think that would be something that all of Council would have to decide that. I don't think he has that authority. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Okay, on the motion, all in favour, contrary? Carried. Consideration of By-laws, Councillor Steeves.

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

Councillor Steeves: Maybe before I read off the Consideration of By-laws Mr.

Speaker, I just want to invite everyone on Council and friends in the gallery after the meeting is over, looks like it might be over soon, to come down to my office. Lorrie has brought the baby down, so you can come down and meet Camille if you like. She's downstairs working on constituent issues right now, but I want you all to come down and I extend that invite to friends in the gallery as well. You can do whatever, no you can't touch the baby, I don't think, but you're welcome to. You, you can't touch the baby. Anybody else is welcome, but I hope you'll all come down and have a look at the baby, so. I'll move that By-law No. 143/2007 be read a first time.

Mr. Speaker: Just before I call the question, congratulations on your new child.

Councillor Steeves: Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Clerk: By-law No. 143/2007.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Steeves.

Councillor Steeves: I'll move that By-law No. 143/2007 be read a second time.

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

Clerk: By-law No. 143/2007.

Councillor Steeves: I'll move that the rule be suspended and By-law No. 143/2007 be read a third time and that same be passed in ordered to be signed and sealed.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. Questions, no questions? Councillor Vandal you have a question.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Vandal: Yes, thank you Mr. Speaker through Councillor Steeves, in the last week there's been three shootings on Magnus, a shooting in River Heights, stabbings and a murder victim found and I'm wondering what is the plan to address this level of violence in our city over the next little while.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Vandal before I ask Councillor Steeves to answer here, correct, there was no three shootings on Magnus, there were two, one was in another area which is not even part of William Whyte area. So I just want to get that for the record.

Councillor Vandal: Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Steeves.

Councillor Steeves: Thanks for the question Mr. Speaker, through you to Councillor Vandal, through you to, through the Speaker to you. I think you may have picked up some of the adjustments that have been made by our Police Service with respect to some of, some of the shootings and some of the violence in certain areas and that there was, if I can use the word flooding of resources into those areas to try and abate those concerns and without sort of I guess shouting it too loud, I think there has been some success in suppression of the concerns in those areas, I don't pretend for a second to indicate that everything is been alleviated, its not an area of continuing concern. But I can offer the Councillor a reassurance that once those incidents, I guess were occasioned, there was immediate meetings with, between the Police Administration, our CEO Annitta Stenning, the Mayor of the City of Winnipeg on a couple of different occasions. I was included in those meetings, a lot of communication as to how to address those, these issues. So once they happened, there was an immediate coalescing of all the resources that we have to try and address it. I do also want to say this, as part and parcel of what we went through with our Acting Police Chief, we did talk about comparisons and some of the numbers and while any one murder is too many, one assault is too many, we all understand that, on a year to year basis, in terms of some crimes, our numbers are

not marketable ahead of what they were last year. Just there's been a recent spate and we've taken some actions to try and address those concerns directly to the neighbourhood and again I want to underline, that we continue to stick with our program of registering, targeting crime, pursuant to the CrimeStat model, reacting to where they are, making sure we're flooding areas of direct concern, so again there's an ongoing long term plan which was augmented in this circumstance by allocation of new resources into these problem areas.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Vandal, your second supplementary.

Councillor Vandal: Yes thank you for that answer Councillor Steeves. Second question has to do with the hiring of the Police Chief. Can you assure this Council that the advertisement or the process for hiring has started and when can we expect to have a new Police Chief in the City of Winnipeg?

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Steeves.

Councillor Steeves: Good question and thanks again for that. As to when, I'll try to answer that first, I would personally be hoping we could have an announcement in the fall, that would be my hope, in September, October, that might be optimistic. I don't know. The process has already started, I think our CAO who is looking now, its public consultations, should be taking place in the very, very near future. There was I guess some, part of the, if I could use delay as a term, is that while we were waiting for the report to come forward with respect to our Police Advisory Board, before it being tabled it wasn't clear at that stage who would or would not be sort of quote unquote in charge of running the process. The document as its been tabled and I fully respect there's not hundred percent concurrence on that, does state that right at this moment its still contemplated that the current hiring mechanism that exists in the City of Winnipeg Charter and our administration will be respected. So I think our CAO had to stand aside for a period of time until that got tabled and so as to not raise questions as to why this new process would be affecting the hiring of the new Police Chief, so now we have both the Police Advisory Board consultations going on and now since the report has been tabled in June, the hiring of the new Police Chief process has been unleashed in full and that includes the advertisements, if they're not going out, they're be going out soon. The consultations have begun. We've had some inter-committee discussions to how the consultations will work. Some discussions with some of my colleagues as to whether or not we wanted to combine them with the meeting that took place a week and a half ago with the Police Advisory Board, consultations have decided not to go that way, so there'll be a separate process that would be starting, but we actually thought we might be doing that. Some members of the committee thought that wouldn't be a very good idea, so we respected that and that's the process. But, generally speaking, I'm hoping to have the, we're hoping to have the whole thing done and somebody named within that time frame. And you're aware of course your Acting Chief Menno Zacharias will be, we're siphoning the two Deputy Chiefs in as Acting Chiefs in the interim.

Mr. Speaker: That's it Councillor? I would just like to add, most of the incidents that happened was in my ward, last week and I paid the price, you know I was under the heat, not firer, but under the heat of irate citizens. I just received a memo from our Chief Administrator, Annitta Stenning, there was a fire last night at 393 Magnus and I want to thank the administration and Annitta for having immediately the building will be demolished. And that's, that's a good process. So anyways Councillors, this is it for question periods of the, no further, so we'll proceed now with the Standing Policy Committee Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works, the report of July 3, 2007 Councillor Clement.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS DATED JULY 3, 2007

Councillor Clement: Thanks Mr. Speaker and I'm happy to move clause one as amended by Executive Policy Committee.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour, contrary? Carried. No motions. No By-laws. Question period, none. Bill you're lucky, I don't know how you do it Bill, because I'm on your committee you know. I am on your committee. I've been tutoring you. No questions. Now we, before we go into adjournment Councillors, this is our last Council meeting until September and I'd like to wish each and all of you a happy holiday and come back in one piece, well refreshed so we can have another good session for the following, following year. So with that I'll call on Councillor Nordman to move adjournment. All in favour, contrary? Carried. Roll call.

ROLL CALL

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

Council Adjourned at 10:59 A.M.