REPORT OF THE

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

DATED MAY 24, 1995

On motion of Her Worship Mayor Thompson, the Report of the Executive Policy Committee, dated May 24, 1995, was considered clause by clause.

Moved by Her Worship Mayor Thompson,
That the Consent Agenda, Clauses 1,2,3 and 4 be adopted.

Deputy Mayor Fraser requested that Clause 3 be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

829 - Councillors Boychuk, Murray and Thomas asked to be recorded as having voted against Clause 2, in accordance with Rule 50.7 of the Procedure By-law.

The motion to adopt the Consent Agenda, Clauses 1,2 and 4 was put and declared carried.

Her Worship The Mayor and Councillors:

Expenditure of Funds from Land Dedication Reserve - Maples Recreation Association Inc. File EP-2 (Vol. 23)

830 - 1. On May 9, 1995, the Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan Community Committee recommended that funds in the amount of $7,600.00 be approved to improve the culvert draining system at Adsum Park to be allocated from the Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan Land Dedication Reserve Account.

The Executive Policy Committee concurs in the above and recommends that funds in the amount of $7,600.00 be allocated from the Lord Selkirk-West Kildonan Land Dedication Reserve Account for the project.

Adopted by consent.

Amendment to Clause 1 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated May 17, 1995 (Arena Project - Ground Lease) File F-5.1 (Vol. 4)

831 - 2. Council at its meeting held on May 17, 1995, ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee, under Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/90:

Moved by Councillor Reese,
Seconded by Councillor Hyman,

THAT Appendix "B", referred to in Clause 1 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated May 17, 1995, and entitled "Summary of Ground Lease", be amended as follows:

i) That Item 2 be amended to include only the land necessary for the Arena site, and not all of the CN land;

ii) That the purchase of 41 Westbrook Street be subject to Council approval;

iii) That Item 6 be amended to limit sub-letting to the Arena only;

iv) That any sub-letting of all or part of CN land be approved by Council.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated May 24, 1995

The Executive Policy Committee recommends that the motion be filed inasmuch as all the items in said motion are reflected in the lease signed by the City.

Adopted by consent.

(See Minute No. 829 for opposition recorded by Councillors Boychuk, Murray and Thomas)

Development of a Business Plan outlining costs and funding arrangements for the Convention Centre location for the arena
File F-5.1 (Vol. 4)

832 - 3. Council at its meeting held on May 17, 1995, ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee, under Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/90:

Moved by Councillor Reese,
Seconded by Councillor Hyman,

WHEREAS the arena/entertainment complex and the Jets' stay in Winnipeg now and in the future have been separated between the public and private sector respectively;

AND WHEREAS servicing and infrastructure costs are much higher than any other site as outlined in the report from Commissioner Frost entitled the "Proposed New Arena Facility", dated January 17, 1995;

AND WHEREAS the Convention Centre site has been considered the preferred site;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we direct our administration to develop a business plan outlining costs and funding arrangements as outlined in Tables I, II, and III for the Convention Centre location.

The Executive Policy Committee recommends concurrence in the motion.

Moved by Her Worship Mayor Thompson,
Adoption of the clause.

In amendment,

Moved by Councillor Murray,
Seconded by Councillor Thomas,
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the words "and the Polo Park" be added between the words "Centre" and "location".

The amendment was put.

The Speaker called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:-

Yea: Councillors Reese, Boychuk, Clement, Hyman, Murray, Prystanski, Silva and Thomas. 8

Nay: Councillors Duguid, Lazarenko, Fraser, Her Worship Mayor Thompson and Councillor Angus. 5

and the amendment was declared carried.

The motion for the adoption of the clause, as amended, was put.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated May 24, 1995

The Speaker called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:-

Yea: Councillors Reese, Boychuk, Hyman, Murray, Silva and Thomas. 6

Nay: Councillors Clement, Duguid, Lazarenko, O'Shaughnessy, Prystanski, Fraser, Her Worship Mayor Thompson and Councillor Angus. 8

and the motion for the adoption of the clause, as amended, was declared lost.

Council Seminar to consult on the restructuring and planned staffing changes effected by the "New Directions"
File GL-5.6 (Vol. 7)

833 - 4. Council at its meeting held on May 17, 1995, ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee, under Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/90:

Moved by Councillor Lazarenko,
Seconded by Councillor Golden,

WHEREAS Council at its meeting of April 27, 1994, adopted Clause 7 of the Report the Executive Policy Committee dated April 20, 1994, which provided for "A New Direction for Civic Administration";

AND WHEREAS Council, at the same meeting, directed that:

> *"Monthly Council seminars be held to receive progress reports on the restructuring and to allow full consultation with all Members of Council during the transition";*

AND WHEREAS the "New Direction" is currently being implemented with numerous changes affecting the locations of staff;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chief Commissioner be directed to hold a seminar with all Members of Council to consult on the planned change, immediately.

The Executive Policy Committee recommends concurrence in the motion.

Adopted by consent.

REPORT OF THE

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

DATED JUNE 7, 1995

On motion of Her Worship Mayor Thompson, the Report of the Executive Policy Committee, dated June 7, 1995, was considered clause by clause.

Moved by Her Worship Mayor Thompson,
That the Consent Agenda, Clauses 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 and 8 be adopted.

Carried.

Her Worship The Mayor and Councillors:

Proposed Amendment to Plan Winnipeg (By-law No. 5915/92) by redesignating lands located west of the Winnipeg International Airport and north of Saskatchewan Avenue from a "Rural" Policy Area to an "Industrial" Policy Area
File EP-1.1(PW 1/92) (Vol. 10)

834 - 1. On April 19, 1995, Council adopted Clause 2 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee, dated April 12, 1995 directing that a copy of the proposed amending By-law No. 6631/95 be forwarded to the Minister of Urban Affairs and that a further copy of the proposed By-law be directed to the Executive Policy Committee to carry out the consultations required under Section 579(1) of The City of Winnipeg Act. Appendix "A" outlines the chronology of events for the proposed amendment to Plan Winnipeg by redesignating lands located west of the Winnipeg International Airport and north of Saskatchewan Avenue from a "Rural" Policy Area to an "Industrial" Policy Area.

On April 27, 1995, the Committee on Planning and Community Services considered the matter and recommended that the public hearing on the proposed amendment to Plan Winnipeg be held.

On June 7, 1995, the Executive Policy Committee carried out the consultations required under Section 579(1) of The City of Winnipeg Act.

The Executive Policy Committee therefore recommends:

I. That Council give first reading to the Plan Winnipeg (amending) By-law No. 6631/95.

II. That following first reading of the by-law, the Executive Policy Committee conduct a public hearing on September 6, 1995.

III. That the Executive Policy Committee advertise the west boundary of the proposed Plan Winnipeg Amendment as the west limit of River Lot 4 in the outer two miles.

Adopted by consent.

Copy of attachment referred to in the above clause is on file in the office of the City Clerk.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated June 7, 1995

Proposed Amendment to Plan Winnipeg (By-law No. 5915/92) by redesignating lands located west of the Perimeter Highway between Saskatchewan Avenue and Portage Avenue, from a "Rural" Policy Area to a "Neighbourhood" Policy Area File EP-1.1(PW 1/92) (Vol. 10)

835 - 2. On March 22, 1995, Council adopted Clause 1 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated March 15, 1995, relative to the proposed amendment to Plan Winnipeg by redesignating lands located west of the Perimeter Highway between Saskatchewan Avenue and Portage Avenue, from a "Rural" Policy Area to a "Neighbourhood" Policy Area; and recommending that By-law No. 6503/94 be given second reading and forwarded to the Minister of Urban Affairs for approval pursuant to Section 580(1) of The City of Winnipeg Act.

The Province of Manitoba has now had an opportunity to review The City of Winnipeg By-law No. 6503/94 as well as two objections which were filed with the Minister's office under Section 580 of The City of Winnipeg Act.

The Province of Manitoba, pursuant to Section 581 of The City of Winnipeg Act, recommends that By-law No. 6503/94 be approved subject to the following conditions to ensure conformity with Plan Winnipeg By-law No. 5915/92:

1. Servicing
   To promote efficiency in servicing the development in accordance with Plan Winnipeg Policy 5A-15, an analysis shall be required of the overall costs for servicing the lands to ensure that the property can be economically and efficiently supplied with a full range of services and that the costs for those services can be apportioned fairly to this development; and

2. Commercial Use:
   In accordance with Plan Winnipeg Policy 5A-26, Limit Regional Shopping Centres, limitations shall be placed on the floor area for department store type uses to ensure that the development does not constitute a regional shopping centre.

It should be noted that the subject lands are located adjacent to Provincial Trunk Highway No. 1 which is a "Limited Access Highway". Based on current regulations under The Highway Protection Act, any new, modified or relocated access to this highway, or any construction above or below ground level within 76.2 m (250 ft.) from the edge of the right-of-way of P.T.H. No. 1, requires a permit from The Highway Traffic Board. In addition a permit is also required from the Manitoba Department of Highways and Transportation for any planting placed within 15.2 m (50 ft.) from the edge of the right-of-way of this highway.

The Executive Policy Committee recommends:

I. That pursuant to Section 581(3) of The City of Winnipeg Act, By-law No. 6503/94 be given third reading, subject to the following conditions to ensure conformity with Plan Winnipeg By-law No. 5915/92:

   1. Servicing
      To promote efficiency in servicing the development in accordance with Plan Winnipeg Policy 5A-15, an analysis shall be required of the overall costs for servicing the lands to ensure that the property can be economically and efficiently supplied with a full range of services and that the costs for those services can be apportioned fairly to this development; and

   2. Commercial Use:
      In accordance with Plan Winnipeg Policy 5A-26, Limit Regional Shopping Centres, limitations shall be placed on the floor area for department store type uses to ensure that the development does not constitute a regional shopping centre.

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

Adopted by consent.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated June 7, 1995

Appointment of Directors for the 7th International Winter Cities Winnipeg 1996 Inc./7 ième recontre internationale des villes hivernales Winnipeg 1996 inc. ("Winter Cities") File GC-8.10 (Vol. 3)

836 - 3. On November 16, 1994, Council adopted Clause 28 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated November 9, 1995, recommending appointment of Directors for the 7th International Winter Cities Winnipeg 1996 Inc.

Since that time, for various reasons, the following persons have resigned, namely:

Tom Denton	Ivan Berkowitz
David Grant	Roger Currie
Sandy Hopkins	Betti Port
Sheryl MacDonald	

The Executive Policy Committee recommends that the following individuals be appointed to serve on The Board of Directors for the 7th International Winter Cities Winnipeg 1996 Inc., namely:

Els Kavanagh		Councillor Sandy Hyman
Patrick McCullough	(replacing Rod Zimmer)	Terry Cristall
Barrie McPherson		D. G. L. (Don) Pearsons
Gloria Blacklaw	(replacing Sheryl MacDonald)	

Adopted by consent.

1995 Civic Election Advance Voting File GK-2 (Vol. 20)

837 - 4. On July 4, 1994, the Province of Manitoba gave Royal Assent to Bill 17, The City of Winnipeg Amendment and Consequential Amendments Act, which dealt with civic election reform including advance polls.

Specifically, The City of Winnipeg Act was amended to include the following:

Advance polls and mail vote
89.3.1 For the purpose of accommodating electors at an election, the returning officer

(a) shall open and keep open an advance polling place at City Hall, during regular office hours and such other hours as the council may prescribe by by-law, between the last day on which a candidate may withdraw under section 51 of The Local Authorities Election Act and the day before election day;

(b) shall open and keep open additional advance polling places at such central locations as the council may prescribe by by-law

(i) on such days other than holidays as may be prescribed by the by-law, between the last day on which a candidate may withdraw under section 51 of The Local Authorities Election Act and the day before election day; and

(ii) during such hours as may be prescribed by the by-law, which shall include 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. on at least one day in the three days before the day preceding election day, and on any other of the three days on which the advance polls are prescribed under the by-law.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated June 7, 1995

In compliance with the legislation, the Ad Hoc Committee on Election Review recommends that an Advance Poll be conducted at City Hall from October 2 to 23, 1995, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, with one evening (till 9:00 p.m.) on each Thursday. The Ad Hoc Committee also recommends that an Advance Poll be held in the following additional civic office locations from October 16 to 21, 1995 from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

2000 Portage Avenue
300 Assiniboine Avenue
1760 Main Street
755 Henderson Highway
604 St. Mary's Road
1539 Waverley Street

The Executive Policy Committee recommends:

I. That Council enact By-law No. 6652/95 respecting Advance Polls for the 1995 civic election, to provide for the establishment of Advance Polls for the following dates, times and locations, namely:

a) At City Hall, Council Building, 510 Main Street, commencing on October 2, 1995 to October 23, 1995, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, and on Thursdays until 9:00 p.m.;

b) At the following additional civic office locations:

- 2000 Portage Avenue;
- 300 Assiniboine Avenue;
- 1760 Main Street;
- 755 Henderson Highway
- 604 St. Mary's Road; and
- 1539 Waverley Street;

during the following dates and times: October 16 to 21, 1995, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Adopted by consent.

1995 Civic Election Automated Voting
File GK-2 (Vol. 20)

838 - 5. Council at its meeting of February 22, 1995 adopted Clause 4 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee, dated February 15, 1995 which provided for the approval for the acquisition of automated voting equipment to be utilized in future elections. Executive Policy Committee, at its meeting of March 15, 1995, awarded a contract under Proposal No. 95-4, which contracted with Business Records Corporation to provide for the City's automated voting requirements.

On July 4, 1994, the Province of Manitoba gave Royal Assent to Bill 17, The City of Winnipeg Amendment and Consequential Amendments Act, which dealt with civic election reform including automated voting. Specifically, The City of Winnipeg Act was amended to include the following:

By-law Re Devices for Voting and Counting Votes
89.3.2(1) The council may pass a by-law respecting the use at elections of voting machines, voting recorders, optical scanning vote tabulators, or other devices, and any such by-law shall include provisions

(a) prescribing the form of ballot;

(b) respecting procedure for voting and for counting votes;

(c) respecting any other matter that council considers necessary or advisable.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated June 7, 1995

Regulation
89.3.2(2) If the council passes a by-law under subsection (1), the Lieutenant Governor in Council may by regulation provide for any matter the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary or advisable for the purpose of conducting an election with the devices referred to in subsection (1), including any matter referred to in the by-law, and in the event of any conflict between the regulation and the by-law, or the regulation and The Local Authorities Election Act, the regulation shall prevail.

By-law No. 6550/95 regarding Automated Voting for the 1995 Civic Election is herein submitted to provide for the form of ballot and election procedures. Notably, there are numerous inconsistencies between the electronic voting procedures and the statutory provisions as set forth in The Local Authorities Elections Act, which pertain solely to manual election procedures.

The Executive Policy Committee recommends:

1. That Council enact By-law No. 6650/95 respecting Automated Voting for the 1995 civic election, to provide for the form of ballot, procedure for voting and for counting votes and other matters pertinent to election procedures.

2. That the Province of Manitoba be requested to enact a regulation pursuant to Section 89.3.2(2) of The City of Winnipeg Act to address any inconsistency between the procedures, rules and requirements established by the aforementioned by-law and the statutory provisions of The Local Authorities Elections Act, to effect that the City's by-law shall prevail in any and all areas of inconsistency.

Adopted by consent.

Disbursement of Funding Under Phase II of the Winnipeg Sport Facility Program
File GC-8.8 (Vol. 10)

839 - 6. On July 29, 1992, Council adopted Clause 11 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated July 22, 1992 approving additional recommendations for Phase II of the Winnipeg Sport Facility Funding Program as submitted by the Winnipeg Sport Facility Committee.

The Executive Policy Committee has considered a communication dated April 12, 1995, from the Chairman, Winnipeg Sport Facility Committee submitting additional recommendations for the distribution of $262,741.90 under Phase II of the Winnipeg Sport Facility Program, namely:

1. Winnipeg South Minor Baseball Association - recommended funding - $262,000.00

   Field Development, fencing, and lighting of a single diamond baseball facility in south Winnipeg. The association has allocated funds from a previous phase of the program, although a site had not been confirmed at that time. The association is now ready to begin construction, and additional funds are required to complete the project.

2. Manitoba Soccer Association - recommended funding - $741.90

   Development of a practice soccer field at the Wilkes and Waverley Soccer Complex, and purchase of irrigation system components. The association has unexpended funds totalling almost $13,500.00 remaining from earlier phases of this project, which will be combined with this small allocation to complete the final phase.

These recommendations will effectively conclude the program, although a small amount of interest may be generated prior to the distribution of these final allocations. Any funds remaining will be held as a contingency until all projects are completed, at which time a final recommendation will be made.

The Executive Policy Committee recommends:

I. That funding in the amount of $262,000.00 for the Winnipeg South Minor Baseball Association - for field development, fencing, and lighting of a single diamond baseball facility in South Winnipeg be approved.

Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated June 7, 1995

II. That funding in the amount of $741.90 for the Manitoba Soccer Association - for the development of a practice soccer field at the Wilkes and Waverley Soccer Complex, and purchase of irrigation system components be approved.

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

Adopted by consent.

1995 Budget with a 0% Tax Increase / Multi-year budgeting to target a substantial property tax decrease by 1997
File GL-5.6 (Vol. 5)

840 - 7. Council at its reconvened meeting held on April 28, 1994, ruled automatic referral of a motion to your Committee, under Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law No. 5400/90 relative to the 1995 budget with a 0% tax increase - multi-year budgeting to target a substantial property tax decrease by 1997.

On March 22, 1995, Council granted an extension of time of 90 days to allow for further consideration of the matter.

The Executive Policy Committee recommends that Council refer the motion to the 1996 budget deliberations for further consideration.

Adopted by consent.

Appointment to fill the vacant City Council position on the Board of Directors of the Winnipeg Enterprises Corporation
File F-5 (Vol. 20)

841 - 8. The Executive Policy Committee has been advised that Councillor Rick Boychuk has recently resigned from the Board of Directors of the Winnipeg Enterprises Corporation. By-law 33 of the Winnipeg Enterprises Corporation stipulates there shall be 5 members of City Council serve on the Board of Directors of the Winnipeg Enterprises Corporation.

The Executive Policy Committee recommends that Deputy Mayor George Fraser be appointed to fill the vacant City Council position on the Board of Directors of the Winnipeg Enterprises Corporation.

Adopted by consent.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

MOTIONS

Moved by Councillor Golden,
Seconded by Councillor Lazarenko,

842 - WHEREAS, between the years 1899 and 1968, the former City of Winnipeg submitted money by-laws and referenda to the electorate on a regular basis as a means of determining the acceptance, or lack thereof, of a particular proposal or question to its citizens.

AND WHEREAS, after unification of The City of Winnipeg in 1972, this practice has not been used to determine the opinion of the citizens of Winnipeg other than in the year 1983;

AND WHEREAS Section 120 of *The City of Winnipeg Act* reads as follows:

> **PLEBISCITES**
> 120 The council may submit any question, within or without the powers of the council, to an expression of opinion of the electors or resident electors of the whole or any part of the City but the result of the expression of opinion is not binding on the council, and the council shall make such expenditures as it considers necessary and advisable for the purposes of holding the vote and for providing information to the electors or resident electors on the question that is submitted to an expression of opinion and the information provided may be favourable or unfavourable, or partly favourable and partly unfavourable, to the question to be submitted to the expression of opinion.

AND WHEREAS the City is faced with very high expenditures and the elected representatives often do not have the benefit of a clear mandate from the electorate to proceed to expend municipal funds;

AND WHEREAS, on June 9, 1995, the Deputy City Clerk advised that the cost of conducting a referendum would be approximately $500,000, using new automated voting equipment and a limited number of polling locations and that such a referendum would require a minimum of three weeks lead time following the statement of question;

AND WHEREAS the cost of conducting a referendum during a general election will be minimal;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Policy Committee investigate and report back to Council on the feasibility and cost of reintroducing the submission of money by-laws and referenda during general elections to the electorate of Winnipeg as a means of determining the acceptance, or lack thereof, of a particular proposal or question.

Councillor Clement called for notice of motion.

The Speaker ruled automatic referral to the Executive Policy Committee in accordance with Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law.

Councillor Clement challenged the ruling of the Chair.

The question, "Shall the ruling of the Chair be sustained?" was put and the ruling of the Chair was declared sustained.

Councillors Clement and Silva asked to be recorded as having voted against the ruling of the Chair, in accordance with Rule 50.7 of the Procedure By-law.

Moved by Councillor Golden,
That the rule be suspended to allow consideration of the motion at this time.

The motion to suspend the rule was put.

Executive Policy Committee - Motions (continued)

Councillor Reese called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:-

Yea: Councillors Reese, Golden and Lazarenko. 3

Nay: Councillors Boychuk, Clement, Duguid, Hyman, Murray, O'Shaughnessy, Prystanski, Silva, Thomas, Fraser, Her Worship Mayor Thompson and Councillor Angus. 12

and the motion to suspend the rule was declared lost.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Fraser,
Seconded by Councillor Angus,

843 - WHEREAS the Preliminary Report of the Task Force on Restructuring of City Council was adopted by Council on December 14, 1994;

AND WHEREAS By-law No. 6550/95, to provide for the delegation of powers and duties by City Council to the Executive Policy Committee and the Standing Committees and the establishment of the administrative structure of the City and the delegation to it of its administrative powers and duties, was adopted on February 22, 1995;

AND WHEREAS since that time the Task Force has continued to explore and deliberate all aspects of the decision making process including roles and responsibilities and the delegation of authority;

AND WHEREAS the Task Force is in process of finalizing its recommendations for Council's consideration at its next regularly scheduled Council meeting;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council grant a 30 day extension of time to permit the Task Force to complete its "final" report; and that said report be available for Council's consideration at its July 12, 1995 scheduled meeting.

Carried.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

844 - On motion of Her Worship Mayor Thompson, By-law No. 6503/94, a By-law of The City of Winnipeg to amend By-law No. 5915/92, a By-law establishing Plan Winnipeg, being a statement of the City's policy and general proposals in respect of development or use of the land in the City was read a third time and was passed and ordered to be signed and sealed. File EP-1.1 (PW 1/92) (Vol. 10)

Councillor Thomas asked to be recorded as having voted against the third reading of By-law No. 6503/94, in accordance with Rule 50.7 of the Procedure By-law.

On motion of Her Worship Mayor Thompson, By-law No. 6631/95, a By-law of The City of Winnipeg to amend By-law No. 5915/92, a By-law establishing Plan Winnipeg, being a statement of the City's policy and general proposals in respect of development or use of the land in the City was read a first time.
File EP-1.1(PW 1/92) (Vol. 10)

Her Worship Mayor Thompson moved that this constitute the first reading of By-law No. 6631/95, which motion was carried.

Executive Policy Committee - Consideration of By-laws (continued)

On motion of Her Worship Mayor Thompson, the following By-laws were read a first, second and third time, the rule being suspended for the third reading of each by-law, and were passed and ordered to be signed and sealed, namely:

By-law No. 6650/95, a By-law of The City of Winnipeg respecting the procedure for voting and for the use of optical scanning vote tabulators. File GK-2 (Vol. 20)

By-law No. 6652/95, a By-law of The City of Winnipeg respecting advance polls for the 1995 election. File GK-2 (Vol. 20)

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

QUESTION PERIOD

845 - Councillor Boychuk questioned whether the appropriate permits were taken out for the recent closings of the junction of Portage Avenue and Main Street in relation to the Jets demonstrations, and questioned whether Her Worship sanctioned this.

Her Worship Mayor Thompson noted that she would look into the matter and noted that she did not sanction anything where rules were not followed.

Councillor Clement noted past requests made by the City of Winnipeg to the Province regarding changes to assessment to remedy unfairness and further noted that property tax rebates were sometimes unfair and that the City had requested appropriate changes. He also noted that the Province had not appropriately addressed the issue of people relocating outside the City of Winnipeg and in noting recent media reports which questioned Council's ability to put its house in order, questioned whether Her Worship would write to the Premier explaining Council's financial deliberations and actions taken to date.

Her Worship Mayor Thompson noted that she had had two meetings with the new Minister of Urban Affairs, and that these items had been raised at the meetings, but that any concern over Council getting its house in order had not been raised. Her Worship also stated that she would raise the matter at their next meeting and that the Minister had agreed to attend a seminar with all Councillors.

Councillor Clement questioned whether Her Worship would also bring to the attention of the Minister, the concept of representation by population and the fact that there are 31 Members of the Legislative Assembly representing Winnipeg, where 68 percent of the population of Manitoba resides and that the rationale of giving one vote to Winnipeg while extending one to municipalities including St. Francois Xavier for the Capital Region should be questioned.

Her Worship Mayor Thompson noted that the Minister had been made aware of the importance of a Capital Region model with appropriate representation and the seriousness of the problems posed by bedroom communities, that must be addressed by a Capital Region policy.

Councillor Golden questioned whether there were any plans to take advantage of the tri-level funding to provide a new facility for the City of Winnipeg, in the event that the Jets' deal fell through.

Her Worship Mayor Thompson stated that there were no initiatives underway or in a discussion phase to build a facility outside of the Jets' deal but that input was being received as to possible options.

Councillor Golden questioned whether Her Worship would inform the other levels of government that Winnipeg would like to proceed with a facility if the Jets' deal failed.

Her Worship Mayor Thompson noted that she would forward such comment to the other levels of government.

Councillor Golden articulated concern that the proposed facility would not be adequate over the long term and questioned whether Her Worship would join the Planning Committee to determine the construction of an appropriate facility and further questioned whether Her Worship would take stronger efforts to re-open the corner of Portage Avenue and Main Street to the public.

Her Worship Mayor Thompson stated that it would be appropriate for Councillor Golden to articulate his concerns in writing and further stated that she was making every effort to re-open the corner of Portage Avenue and Main Street.

Councillor Lazarenko questioned whether Her Worship would discipline the public for not getting an appropriate permit for a public gathering.

Her Worship Mayor Thompson noted that rules of the City must be adhered to, and that contravention would require subsection action.

Councillor Lazarenko questioned whether Her Worship would call a Special Meeting of Council if there is no Jets' deal signed by Friday.

Executive Policy Committee - Question Period (continued)

Her Worship Mayor Thompson noted that she would take the matter up with Members of Council prior to calling a Special Meeting.

Councillor Lazarenko questioned whether Her Worship was communicating all information in relation to the current Jets' negotiations, whether the City of Winnipeg will be removed from being accountable for Jets' losses and whether the public will be formally notified that the City's cost for the new facility will represent a zero tax increase.

Her Worship Mayor Thompson noted that there will be a news conference on the pre-agreement for the purchase of the Winnipeg Jets at 2:00 p.m. in the Midway Ballroom at the Westin Hotel and took the remainder of questions as notice.

Councillor Silva referred to the issues raised by Councillor Clement and in noting the fact that 47.3 percent of the City of Winnipeg's property tax bill represented education while another 8 to 9 percent reflected social services, questioned whether Her Worship would endeavour to put together a communication to apprise the citizens of the City of Winnipeg of these realities.

Her Worship Mayor Thompson noted that she had already commenced a communication process with the assistance of Councillor Lazarenko and that the matter would be on the agenda of an imminent meeting that she had requested with the Premier.

Councillor Hyman questioned what amendments to The City of Winnipeg Act were currently being considered by the Province.

Her Worship Mayor Thompson noted that Bill 7 pertaining to tax credits for campaign contributions and stricter enforcement of campaign expense guidelines was expected to receive Royal Assent and that the Province had been reminded of the importance of photo radar. The Speaker further noted that he was a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on Election Review and stated that it was doubtful that the tax credit program would be instated for the 1995 Civic Election.

Councillor Hyman questioned whether Her Worship would be calling a Special Meeting or Council seminar to discuss the information on the Jets' deal arising out of the imminent Press Conference.

Her Worship Mayor Thompson noted that she had contacted the administration to prepare an analysis identifying impacts of the information soon to be received and that she was aware of a signing date and that once signed, that she would proceed with a Council seminar.

Councillor Golden noted that some people residing in the capital region enjoy the benefits of the services that the City of Winnipeg provides and questioned whether Her Worship would allow these persons to continue receiving these benefits and allow them to contribute by way of a capital region tax.

Her Worship Mayor Thompson took the question as notice.

The Speaker advised that in accordance with the direction of Council, Rule 6.1 of the Procedure By-law would be suspended to allow Council to continue in session without taking a recess over the lunch hour.