COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG
Wednesday, December 19, 2007

The Council met at 9:41 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 Fielding.

ROLL CALL

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

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME OF GUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Speaker: Pages, we have Simone Jaman of Miles MacDonnell Collegiate, resides in Elmwood-East Kildonan ward, welcome. (Applause). Thank you.

Welcome of Guests and Announcements Mr. Mayor. You're on.

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, two very short ones. Number one, you are absolutely correct, although our Winnipeg Blue Bombers did valiantly attempt to win the Grey Cup without their starting quarterback they were not successful and as a result of a wager with Mayor Pat Fiacco, it is my obligation to wear this at the first Council meeting. As well as Mr. Speaker, I will be traveling to Regina shortly to stand at a busy intersection wearing their jersey again, and extolling their virtues. It appears it has taken a little longer for Mayor Fiacco to find a very busy intersection but I hear they are looking.

At this particular point Mr. Speaker, what I would just like to do is wish all members of Council a very Merry Christmas and a happy holiday. And no matter what your ethnic background, I hope you all celebrate the holiday with friends, with family. Take a long hard look at what a wonderful life we have and we should all be thankful. And also a very happy and prosperous New Year. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Mr. Mayor. We have in the gallery, Academy of Broadcasting, 6 to 12, I believe about maybe 12 students, headed by Kenny Clark. Let's give them a warm welcome. (Applause).

Also, I think it may be right for me to do this now as we are into the season of festivities, I would, each and every year I've been saying this time and time again, and I'd like to say to those who celebrate in the Julian calendar (speaking Ukrainian) and also as the Mayor had alluded to, others who are celebrating, may you have a very warm Christmas and holidays and a very prosperous New Year to Councillors.

Also may we have a continuation of next year, like what we've had this year, we've had a good Council meeting, we've had some democratic speeches being made, but still we accomplished one goal and that is to work for the citizens of Winnipeg.

I also Councillors would like to thank the Mayor, Executive Policy Committee, and the, for choosing a fine person, a caliber of a person, has been here for many years, the new Chief of Police, Keith McCaskill. Mr. Mayor and EPC you've made a very wise choice and it's up to us Councillors to support the Chief in his endeavours to correct the problems we've got in the City of Winnipeg.

So that's the announcements, instead of me saying it later on, I figure I'll follow the Mayor on this.

MINUTES

Councillor O'Shaughnessy moves that the Minutes of the meeting held on November 21, 2007, be taken as read and confirmed.

All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Mr. Speaker: No Delegation. EPC, report of November the 28th, Mr. Mayor.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED NOVEMBER 28, 2007**

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to introduce the report of November 28/07 and move adoption of Consent Agenda Items 1 to 3.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Vandal.

Councillor Vandal: I have an amendment to Item 3.

Mr. Speaker: Okay Item 3. So Item 3 is stood down. And 1 and 2.

All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Motion No. or Item No. 3.

Item 3 – Management Agreement with Rues Principales Saint-Boniface Inc. (Entreprises Riel Inc.) – Operation and Management of the Esplanade Riel Bridge File SB-13

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I…

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker…

Mr. Speaker: Point of order?

Councillor Swandel: On a Point of order Mr. Speaker. Just I'm wondering this is an agreement between two parties. There's no representation from either party here that they wish to see this amended. I wonder if it's appropriate to deal with this at this time or to have the amendment referred to… Pardon me?

Councillor Gerbasi: Point of order Mr. Speaker. I think the member from St. Norbert is getting into the details of the debate which we could certainly address his concerns in the debate.

Mr. Speaker: Let's, Councillor Swandel.

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker if I could finish without being interrupted, my Point of order is technical in nature. It's not points of debate. This is an agreement between two parties. I don't know whether (inaudible) to deal with this or not…

Mr. Speaker: I don't know but let's hear what the mover, what the mover has to say. Mr. Mayor would you like to introduce that first? Go ahead, go ahead sir.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker what I would like to do at this point in time, this is, I think it's very evident it's a management agreement. I would very much like to hear the words of wisdom of Councillor Vandal, then I will try to respond at that particular point.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Swandel. Councillor Vandal. Go ahead.

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

WHEREAS the November 28, 2007 agreement between Rues Principales Saint Boniface Inc. (Entreprises Riel) and the City of Winnipeg restricts the food vendors on the east side of Esplanade Riel from selling any food items other than crepes, baguettes, croissants, pastries, jams, seasonal fruits and vegetables and strong European coffee;

AND WHEREAS the Salisbury House of Canada Ltd. Restaurant have publicly stated they no longer have concerns with the type of food offered for sale on the east side of Esplanade Riel;

AND WHEREAS there is no public policy rational for restricting or limiting the types of food available for sale on the east landing of Esplanade Riel;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agreement between Entreprises Riel and the City of Winnipeg remove any food sale restrictions from the chosen vendors.

Councillor Vandal: Thank you. Thank you. Mr. Speaker this really is a minor item. The management agreement that we have before us severely restricts the sort of food sales that can occur on the east side of Esplanade Riel. Esplanade,

the vendors that will be chosen to sell items on the east side of Esplanade Riel will be restricted to crepes, baguettes, croissants, pastries, jams, seasonal fruits, vegetables and strong European coffee. And in fact if this agreement goes through as described here in the report the…

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Vandal. Councillor Vandal, hold it, hold it just a minute. Before you proceed any further, Councillor Swandel has moved a Point of order and he asked the question, I think he is correct. We cannot proceed.

Councillor Vandal: But Mr. Speaker you've allowed the debate to continue and I'm introducing my motion (inaudible)

Mr. Speaker: Listen to what, Councillor Vandal.

Councillor Vandal: the clause.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Vandal, just hang on a second. I'm getting advice Councillor Vandal.

Councillor Vandal: Yes. Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: I'll hear what you have to say. Council will hear but the one thing you have to understand, you know you have to have the other parties involved. What you have, this, you may just in your speech, address this to the Mayor and Executive Policy Committee to put that on their table. Go ahead.

Councillor Vandal: Through you of course. I, where was I? Baguettes. The micro-management. This is all about government micro-managing what should be private enterprise on Esplanade Riel.

The agreement that we have will outlaw any food vendor on the east side of the city, actually, actually slicing their baguette or their croissant and filling it with whatever they want. It will be, they will not be allowed to do that.

The report is erroneous in that it quotes Salisbury House as having a concern with the sort of food services that would be offered on the east side, and Salisbury House have come on the public record, have publicly stated they have no concern whatsoever. So the report needs to be corrected there. And there is no public policy rationale whatsoever for restricting what sort of food sales occur on the east side of Esplanade Riel.

This is all about, to quote Adam Smith "the freehand of the marketplace". Let Winnipeggers decide what they want to buy, when they want to buy, what they want it pay for it and let's remove all restrictions on food sales on the east side of Esplanade Riel. Government has no, government has absolutely no right to be getting involved to this level, in this agreement.

So it's a fairly, it's a common sense motion and I hope I can get the support of City Council. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Steeves. You wanted to speak.

Councillor Steeves: Well yes Mr., just briefly. I don't know exactly what's going on. I don't know if we're going to hear anything from people on this agreement directly. We have no information before Council right now in terms of the parties themselves.

Always am a bit reluctant Mr. Speaker, to suddenly have a Councillor stand up here and purport to speak on behalf of the parties. That's dangerous I think, and kind of a bad precedent. If somebody stands up after I've finished speaking… Perhaps I'll wait until Councillor Gerbasi has finished talking.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Gerbasi?

Councillor Gerbasi: Oh is Councillor Steeves finished?

Mr. Speaker: Yes he's finished.

Councillor Steeves: I'm not finished.

Mr. Speaker: No, no hey, just a minute....

Councillor Steeves: I was waiting. I was waiting. You know Mr. Speaker, this is a Councillor…

Mr. Speaker: He got caught on that one.

Councillor Steeves: This is a Councillor who every time she is speaking complains about other Councillors talking and I'll tell you right now, you just wait until she speaks again because I will not be silent. Not a single minute. I'm going to be heckling her from beginning until end.

Mr. Speaker: That's enough.

Councillor Steeves: But with good intentions and all good fun. That's the difference I think. Right?

The detail here is that while Councillor Vandal is purporting to speak on behalf of the parties, here's what we do know. We do know that this was a bit of an issue, or at least we were told it was a bit of an issue from administration. That's what we were conveyed. That may or may not be accurate. I'm not sure. But that was the information that we were given.

Now we have a Councillor who is standing up and saying that there is something different here that's been represented. Now I'm fine with that, as long as it can be shown the parties themselves where absent what appeared in the media are comfortable with this. If somebody stands up behind me and has definitive proof from the parties themselves, then I might consider supporting this motion. Absent that, absent that, if what we're doing here is we're simply amending this agreement on the fly, because someone has read something in the paper, then I don't think we should do that and I'm not sure, I'll wait for (inaudible).

If someone is saying that they've talked to, they've met with the people from Salisbury House and they have met with the people from Esplanade Riel and they themselves can represent that there is a new agreement in place, and they will do all the requisite items as in they will sort of undertake to ensure that this is correct and all those sorts of goody-good things, otherwise I would recommend not moving this agreement. Because I can tell you at one point, there were concerns about this. And it was done through all the proper channels and those concerns were represented and a deal was arrived at.

So this is dangerous and if we do this based on something only that somebody read in the paper, if that's what we're doing, if this entire motion is predicated on something that somebody read in the paper, then I trust that nobody on this Council is going to support this motion.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Gerbasi.

Councillor Steeves: Here we go.

Councillor Gerbasi: I'd like, I'd like to move, I'd like to wish Councillor Steeves a Merry Christmas. But, first I would also like to move automatic referral of this so that this can properly be dealt…

Mr. Speaker: Okay automatic referral without instructions.

Councillor O'Shaughnessy: It's not automatic, it's referral.

Councillor Gerbasi: Or I would like to move referral, that's correct.

Mr. Speaker: Referral.

Councillor Gerbasi: And Mr. Speaker, do I have, am I allowed a minute or two to…

Mr. Speaker: Yes. Go ahead.

Councillor Gerbasi: explain why I would like to move referral?

Councillor Thomas: Point of order Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: What's your Point of order Councillor Thomas?

We're starting out on a good page. We're starting out on a very good page for our last meeting of this year.

Councillor Thomas: Point of order Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: What's your Point of order Councillor Thomas?

Councillor Thomas: Mr. Speaker, again and again Councillor Steeves continues to berate, to berate people and making it difficult for me to actually hear the debate. I have asked him to, through you, to quit doing that. It makes it difficult. He seems to be very, very easily take umbrage with other people's comments, but he fails to acknowledge that he has been a time and time offender and I've at least had to arise twice per meeting for the past year because…

Mr. Speaker: Okay Councillor Thomas.

Councillor Thomas: he won't shut up when other people are speaking.

Mr. Speaker: Okay. Thank you Councillor Thomas. Councillor Thomas I will take Councillor Steeves to the woodshed and I'll talk to him. Councillor Steeves do you have a Point of order? Then let's get on with this. Councillor Gerbasi please continue.

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Back to the issue here. The reason I'm suggesting referral is that there were comments made on public record that, about the food sales, if you read the motion carefully. This is a very reasonable motion and I, if people don't want to amend, just a moment please. If people don't want to amend something on the fly which I think is a valid point, why not refer it back to EPC and look at this. It's a reasonable request to look at this again and make sure that these conditions, to talk to the parties, because if you read the wording here, it's not resolved.

Councillor Steeves: Point of order Mr. Speaker.

Councillor Gerbasi: And…

Councillor Steeves: The member referred to the public…

Councillor Gerbasi: Excuse me Mr. Speaker I believe I have the floor.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Gerbasi, Point of order.

Councillor Steeves: I said Point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Steeves what is your Point of order?

Councillor Steeves: What is the public record that the member refers to?

Councillor Gerbasi: That's not a Point of order (inaudible) Organizational By-law than I was aware.

But, I believe if you, I'm not really supposed to get into the debate, I'm just supposed to explain why I want to refer it. So I'm trying to walk that line through you to Councillor Steeves.

Mr. Speaker: You've done that. Now the Mayor will reply.

Councillor Gerbasi: So I think it's a reasonable request and would I urge Council to consider referring this back. I don't think it will be the end of the world if it comes back at another meeting and then everyone can be comfortable with this.

Mr. Speaker: Okay Councillor.

Councillor Gerbasi: The Councillor represents St. Boniface, and he has a reason to want to feel comfortable with an important agreement like this.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor you've had your three minutes.

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Thank, you've had your three minutes. Mr. Mayor on a motion to refer.

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I do want to make a few comments. First of all Mr. Speaker, what this is, it's a five year agreement for the management, and it also includes two five year...

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Mayor, a motion to refer is in order. Now speak on the motion to refer. Are you in favour of the referral or not?

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker I am not in favour of referral because the department

has done their due diligence and has done their homework. They have an agreement with both parties. And I can tell you Mr. Speaker, I have not heard from any party saying they are dissatisfied. I'm at a loss to explain why this is even being brought up today Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Okay. Councillor Gerbasi, we'll be…

Councillor Gerbasi: A recorded vote on the referral motion.

Mr. Speaker: A recorded vote has been asked for on the motion to refer.

A RECORDED VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

Yeas

Councillors Gerbasi, Smith, Thomas and Vandal.

Nays

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

City Clerk: The vote Mr. Speaker, Yeas 4, Nays 12.

Mr. Speaker: Referral motion is Lost.

Would you like to speak Councillor Gerbasi?

Councillor Gerbasi: Yes I would like to speak to the clause now.

Mr. Speaker: Go ahead.

Councillor Gerbasi: I think Councillor Vandal has raised a concern that was, it was reported in the Winnipeg Free Press that Salisbury House, well even if people don't change their vote, sometimes the public debate is part of the democratic process Councillor Clement.

But the point I'm trying to make, Mr. Speaker, is that the Salisbury House has publicly stated that they don't require these restrictions for their business. So why is the restriction being put on other businesses on the bridge? It casts doubt in the public's mind about this. It is unfair restriction on one particular business.

So I think Councillor Vandal has raised a very reasonable point. He represents the constituency of St. Boniface. I represent the constituency on the other side of the bridge and we have a reason to want things to be done transparently, fairly and fair for all businesses operating in that area.

All I, I thought that just referring it back would give a chance to tweak this and change the wording. Council has chosen not to do that. So I urge you to reconsider this and I don't know how long this agreement is for but we're locked into this for a long time if we vote for this today and I don't think we should. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor O'Shaughnessy you're next.

Councillor O'Shaughnessy: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yeah, Salisbury House have publicly stated they no longer have a problem. Yeah, I didn't hear it. There was a story in the Free Press. Did anybody read the Free Press story on the budget yesterday? Passed 12 to 4, they quoted only 4 people. Guess who? That's a balanced reporting we're going to get here. Fair and transparent Councillor says.

A non, not-for-profit organization that doesn't pay taxes competing with an organization that does pay taxes. An organization that on top of these income taxes, et cetera, pays property taxes and business taxes as well as business licenses, competing with an organization that can set up somebody in a food cart, 10 feet from their door that pays no property taxes, pays no business taxes, only a license to do business, and can make hotdogs, can make hamburgers, can copy the menu and this just comes, oh this is nothing. Let's just go amend the agreement.

We had an agreement. It's being amended with this. It was over a year that our, the City's experts in this field negotiated with both sides. This is what they came up with. Off the cuff to just say oh, somebody who is not on an equal playing field, can sell the same product 10 feet away, is nuts! In a way, I wish if someone had a concern it would have been brought up and brought to our negotiators during the process over the last year. To try and fly this by on the cuff is ridiculous, ludicrous, and it almost wants to make me cuss. Please vote against this.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Councillor. Councillor Swandel.

Councillor Swandel: Thank you Mr. Speaker, you know, the parties got together and negotiated this agreement down to as finely as they could. My understanding is the parties are satisfied with this. For us to start tinkering it without involving the parties is ludicrous, just you know for a little bit of a flash in the pan of press perhaps maybe, you know I don't know if that's the intent here but I can't see any other reason why this would be coming forward.

You know our information is that both parties are able to work with what we have here and they are agreeable to it. It works well. These things were done in good faith and I think its incumbent of us to respect that process and not to be you know using it you know for the purposes of some flashy conversation here on the floor of Council today.

Mr. Speaker: No further speakers? Closing debate Councillor Vandal.

Councillor Vandal: Mr. Speaker first of all to address Councillor O'Shaughnessy's concerns, Entreprises Riel are building owners. They own a significant amount of property in St. Boniface. They all pay property tax. And when there is businesses in those buildings they all pay business tax. The vendors that are going to be on the bridge are going to be licensed by the City of Winnipeg. They're going to pay a license to the City of Winnipeg, and this is all, excuse me Councillor Steeves, I'm talking. This is all about common sense.

Why would we, the role of government, try to, try to influence, limit, micro-manage to this level on a service that's going to enhance the vibrancy of our City? We're actually going to micro-manage this to a level that's going to deny the rights of those vendors to actually cut their croissants and their baguettes. That's how ridiculous that is and we've had people working on this for a year? That is incredible. That we have our City administration when we have so many important issues facing the City of Winnipeg, working on this deal for one year.

Mr. Speaker, this is micro-management to a degree which is absurd. We just need to get out of the way and that's what my motion says, let's just get out of the way and let them go.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor. Councillors, Councillors please. Let's listen to the speaker.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I have all day, I'll wait. No problem.

Mr. Speaker: Go ahead. Councillors. Shall we adjourn for about five minutes until you get yourselves together so you can listen to the speaker? Go ahead Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, as was mentioned yesterday, Esplanade Riel, which I will tell you in my personal opinion, is a fantastic landmark for our City. Even though it was budgeted to be built for $9 million, then went to $14 million and finished off at $22 million, a 140% increase. But put that aside Mr. Speaker.

I've heard Councillor Gerbasi say that she represents the constituents on this side of the river. Councillor Vandal represents the constituents on that side of the river. Mr. Speaker, I represent the constituents on both sides of the river.

So here is the reality. We should be letting our department do their job. They

are leasing out the management for a five year term with two extensions of a $22 million dollar asset. I would hope that all Councillors here would think they should do their due diligence. That's number one.

Number two, what some people seem to forget, this is a gateway to a community. It's a symbol of amends. This is very important to people. They want to have a theme on that bridge. They've expressed they want to make it vibrant and I hope they do a phenomenal job Mr. Speaker, and I have no doubt in my mind they will. Whether it's baguettes, whether it's crepes, whether its buskers, whether it's someone selling sunglasses, whatever it is it is.

There is an agreement that has been reached by both parties and if you want to use the Winnipeg Free Press Mr. Speaker, I do recall reading in the Free Press, Councillor Vandal saying why is anybody wasting their time on this. I'm busy eating dinner, leave me alone and my dinner is spaghetti and meatballs. You know what? That's what I heard in the Free Press as well. Why anybody would refer to comments about the Free Press on the floor of Council is ludicrous.

As I mentioned earlier Mr. Speaker, since this agreement has been brought forward to Council, okay, I have yet to hear from either Enterprises Riel or, I have yet to hear from Enterprises Riel or Salisbury House there's a problem. So if there is no problem I'd love to know why we're wasting 25 minutes.

Now I do agree with Councillor Gerbasi, it's always good to have a debate but if neither of the parties have expressed a problem, because the only problem that I've ever been informed of or, and that was through the public service, was that the Salisbury House had a concern about the crepes and it was about breakfast crepes. It was decided let them sell crepes. End of story. It's done. Everybody's happy. Let's make this wonderful bridge be what it can and let's stop wasting time Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Mr. Mayor. On Motion No. 1 by Councillor, pardon me, Motion No. 6, Councillor Vandal, on the… All in favour?

Councillor Gerbasi: Recorded vote.

Mr. Speaker: Recorded vote has been called for.

A RECORDED VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

Yeas

Councillors Gerbasi, Smith, Thomas and Vandal.

Nays

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

City Clerk: The vote Mr. Speaker, Yeas 4, Nays 12.

Mr. Speaker: The Motion is Lost.

On Item 3.

All in favour? Aye. It's Carried.

Report of December the 5th, 2007 Mr. Mayor.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED DECEMBER 5, 2007**

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker I would like to introduce the report and move adoption of Consent Agenda Items 1 to 3.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Report "A" of December 12th Mr. Mayor.

**REPORT "A" OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED DECEMBER 12, 2007**

Mayor Katz: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to introduce the report and move adoption of Consent Agenda Items 1 to 19 and 21.

Mr. Speaker: I believe there is the motion, Item 20? We've done that.

All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Mr. Mayor.

Item 20 - Winnipeg Police Advisory Board - Citizen Member Appointments File GF-2

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I would definitely move the clause. I believe there is an amendment to that.

Mr. Speaker: Yes. Councillor Steeves, Councillor Steeves. Councillor Steeves do you want to introduce it?

Councillor Steeves: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: Motion No. 2.

**Motion No. 2
Moved by Councillor Steeves
Seconded by His Worship Mayor Katz**

WHEREAS Kristine McGhee has advised that she is unable to serve on the Winnipeg Police Advisory Board;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Item 20 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated December 12, 2007, be amended to remove Kristine McGhee's name as a citizen member appointee on the Winnipeg Police Advisory Board.

Councillor Steeves: For some reason I don't think I was given the amendment here. Just let me, here it is.

It's simply put, Mr. Mayor that one of the members as listed, Christine McGhee has advised that she is unable to serve on the Winnipeg Police Advisory Board. So she will not form part of the recommended membership this morning, okay. That's the amendment. Shall I introduce the clause at this point Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker: No.

Councillor Steeves: Okay.

Mr. Speaker: Okay on the amendment.

All in favour? Contrary. Carried.

On the clause as amended.

All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Mr. Mayor, report of December 19th of 2007, and Council as it is before you, it's the Executive Policy Committee report of this morning. Mr. Mayor.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED DECEMBER 19, 2007**

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker I move that the rule be suspended and the report of the Executive Policy Committee dated December the 19th of 2007 be considered please.

Mr. Speaker: Clauses 1 and 2.

Item 1 – Negotiations between the City of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Association of Public Service Officers including WAPSO Exempt File GU-4.6

Mr. Speaker: All in favour?

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

Mr. Speaker: Okay. All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Item 2.

Item 2 – Winnipeg Arts Council Inc. – Executive Director File FG-3

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

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

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Motions.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE MOTIONS

Motion No. 1
Moved by Councillor Pagtakhan
Seconded by Councillor Smith

WHEREAS Libraries are an essential public service by enhancing literacy, providing access to technology and by making our communities better places to live;

AND WHEREAS in 2005, the Province of Manitoba appointed a committee to conduct a Public Library Review, with the findings released in January 2007;

AND WHEREAS three (3) recommendations of the Public Library Review could have a positive financial impact on the Winnipeg Public Library system;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba has just completed the public consultation portion relative to the 2008/2009 Provincial Budget;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council calls upon the Province of Manitoba to give favourable consideration to the following three (3) recommendations from the Public Library Review final report, Reaching Our Vision: Providing High Quality, Sustainable Public Library Services for All Manitobans, as part of its 2008/2009 budget, namely:

a) Recommendation #10 – That the Province and Municipalities establish a funding mechanism to address current trends in population and operating costs.

b) Recommendation #11 – That the annual Collection Development Grant be extended to include all library branches in the province that meet the qualification of being open at least ten hours a week, and agree to share their collections through the MAPLIN system.

c) Recommendation #13 – That an annual technology maintenance grant be made available to each library branch including Winnipeg Public Library to be used for hardware or software replacement, for purchase of digital content or Internet access.

Mr. Speaker: Motion No. 1, Councillor Pagtakhan. Automatic referral.

And By-laws, Mr. Mayor.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker I move that the following By-laws be read a first time, By-law No. 217/2007, 218/2007, 222/2007, 223/2007 and 224/2007.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 217/2007, 218/2007, 222/2007, 223/2007, 224/2007.

Mayor Katz: And Mr. Speaker I move that By-laws No. 217/2007, 218/2007, 222/2007 and 224/2007, both inclusive, be read a second time.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 217/2007, 218/2007, and 222/2007 to 224/2007.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker I move that the rule be suspended and By-laws No. 217/2007, 218/2007, 222/2007 to 224/2007, 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. No questions.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker Point of order. That's not fair. (Laughter).

Mr. Speaker: Okay you want to open it? Let's have it.

Mayor Katz: It's just not right. Thank you Councillor Gerbasi.

Mr. Speaker: That's the first time. I can't believe it. We started really rocky. Now we seem to be going on a smooth surface.

Okay now Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, report of November the 30th, 2007. Councillor Wyatt. Councillor Wyatt.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DATED NOVEMBER 30, 2007

Councillor Wyatt: Yeah. I'd like to move adoption of the report.

Councillor O'Shaughnessy: From your feet.

Councillor Wyatt: I'd like to move adoption of the report. (Laughter).

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Motions. None. By-laws. None. Question Period. No Question Period.

Report of Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Councillor Swandel.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT DATED NOVEMBER 27, 2007

Councillor Swandel: I'll rise for this Mr. Speaker. I will introduce the report and move adoption of the Consent Agenda Items 1 to 12.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Property and Development Motions. None. By-laws. Councillor Swandel.

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

Councillor Swandel: I will move that By-laws No. 200/2006, 209/2007 to 216/2007, oops, sorry I'm on the wrong page here, one moment.

I move that the following By-laws be read a first time, By-law No. 200/2006, 209/2007, 210/2007, 211/2007, 212/2007, 213/2007, 214/2007, 215/2007, 216/2007, and 221/2007.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 200/2006, 209/2007, 210/2007, 211/2007, 212/2007, 213/2007, 214/2007, 215/2007, 216/2007 and 221/2007.

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker I will move that By-laws No. 200/2006 and 209/2007 to 216/2007, both inclusive, and 221/2007, be read a second time.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 200/2006, 209/2007 to 216/2007, both inclusive, and 221/2007.

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker I will move that the rules be suspended and By-laws No. 200/2006, 209/2007 to 216/2007, both inclusive, and 221/2007, be read a third time and that same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Question Period. None.

Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services. Councillor Steeves report of December 3rd.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DATED DECEMBER 3, 2007

Councillor Steeves: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We're walking on the report of December 3rd this morning, a Special Meeting of Executive Policy Committee.

I'll just let you know and the clerk will correct me if I'm off base but I believe the two motions to be considered by Council this morning are going to be:

"That the City Council endorse the application of the Winnipeg Arts Council Inc. to The Department of Canadian Heritage for the creation and promotion of events and activities for Winnipeg Cultural Capital of Canada 2010;

That dependent upon the City receiving the said designation from the Department of Canadian Heritage, and subject to confirmation of private funding outlined in the application; funding in the amount of $150,000, in the 2010 budget be dedicated specifically towards the creation and promotion of events and activities for Winnipeg Cultural Capital of Canada 2010."

The motion is silent as to where the hotdog vendors will be Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Motions. None. By-laws. None. Question Period. No questions? We had it all this morning.

Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works. Councillor Clement, report of December the 4th of 2007.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS DATED DECEMBER 4, 2007

Councillor Clement: Thank you Mr. Speaker and from that date I'll move clause 1 as Consent.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS MOTIONS

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

WHEREAS there is no consistent economical means of recycling plastic grocery bags;

AND WHEREAS they are constantly blowing form the landfill and store parking lots creating a visual blight in our clean and green City;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to prepare a report on a strategy for the elimination of their use in the City of Winnipeg.

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

WHEREAS Winnipeg has among the lowest landfill tipping fees in the country;

AND WHEREAS higher tipping fees should cause an increase in commercial recycling thus diverting material from the landfill and thereby reducing greenhouse gasses;

AND WHEREAS increased tipping fees could be used to offset a Business tax reduction;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT increased tipping fees be referred to the 2008 Operating budget process for consideration.

Motion No. 5
Moved by Councillor Swandel
Seconded by Councillor Leipsic

WHEREAS a pilot project using truck-plows for snow removal during lesser snowfalls for residential streets not serviced by back-lanes and sidewalks

was previously run but never continued due to operational issues including impacts on snow-clearing of Priority 1 & 2 streets;

AND WHEREAS recent improvements to the City's snow-clearing policy may eliminate those negative impacts;

AND WHEREAS there currently exists an inequity where resident with back-lanes and sidewalks receive a higher level of service than those who must use their residential streets as sidewalks;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the pilot project be referred to the 2008 budget process for further consideration and possible implementation.

Councillor Clement: There's three motions here.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, they are automatic referral.

Councillor Clement: They're all, yeah, I believe so.

Mr. Speaker: Automatic referrals. Clerk, Mr. Clerk what number are the?

Councillor Clement: 3, 4 and 5.

Mr. Speaker: 3, 4 and 5. Motions are automatic referral.

Motions. None. By-laws, Councillor Clement.

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

Councillor Clement: Yes I'll move that By-law No. 220/2007 be read a first time.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 220/2007.

Councillor Clement: I'll move that By-law No. 220/2007 be read a second time.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 220/2007.

Councillor Clement: I'll move that the rule be suspended and that By-law No. 220/2007 be read a third time and that same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Standing Policy Committee on Finance. No report.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS QUESTION PERIOD

Mr. Speaker: Oh Question Period. No I don't think there is any. Oh Councillor Smith.

Councillor Smith: Yes. No, no, not back lanes. You know I thought we passed in the last, the current budget that the removal of the snow from the boulevards, the windrow, and you know they seem to be very high now. I wonder when Public Works is going to start removing some of that snow.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Clement.

Councillor Clement: Mr. Speaker I'm assuming that Councillor Smith is talking about the windrows between the sidewalk and the curb in front of businesses because that's what we included in the budget. And my understanding is they're doing that.

I know that they've already done significant sections of that along Corydon and Roblin. I don't know. West Portage as well. Yeah that's right I saw that in front of the Heights. Pembina Highway is done. So they must have missed the West End.

Anyway all I can do is if you'd like to come to my office after the meeting and tell me where you are talking about I'll endeavour to talk to Mr. McPhail about it. Thanks.

Mr. Speaker: That's it? Standing Policy Committee on Finance. No report. Finance Motions. None. Finance Consideration of By-laws. None. Question Period on Finance. No Question Period.

Councillors we've come to the moment that we had a real charade here first thing this morning. I want to thank Councillor Steeves for his Santa Claus role here providing gifts to each and everyone, that all of us were so perked up we had to take out the frustration one way or another.

And with that and lunch, and don't forget Councillors the lunch at 12:00 noon and adjournment. Who's going to move it?

Councillor Smith moves adjournment.

All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

ROLL CALL

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

Council adjourned at 10:21 a.m.