Report "A" - Executive Policy Committee - December 10, 2008

Item No. 4 Sinking Fund Trustees - Appointments
eFile FI-4

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On December 10, 2008, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submits the following to Council:

1. That Eric Stefanson be appointed to the Sinking Fund Trustees for a term ending on December 31, 2011.

2. That Garry Steski's term on the Sinking Fund Trustees be extended to December 31, 2010.

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On December 10, 2008, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to Council.

RE: APPOINTMENT OF SINKING FUND TRUSTEES

FOR SUBMISSION TO: EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED BY: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

REPORT DATE: November 27, 2008

RECOMMENDATION:

That the following be approved with respect to the Sinking Fund Trustees of the City:

1. Eric Stefanson be appointed to the Sinking Fund Trustees for a term ending on December 31, 2011; and,
2. Garry Steski's term be extended to December 31, 2010.

Report Summary

Key Issues:

Involves the appointment of a new member to the Sinking Fund Trustees and the extension to the term of one other of the current members.

Implications of the Recommendation(s):

General Implications

(X) None

( ) For the organization overall and/or for other departments

( ) For the community and/or organizations external to the City

( ) Involves a multi-year contract

Comment(s):

Policy Implications

(X) No

( ) Yes

Comment(s):

Regulatory Implications

(X) None

( ) Eliminates or reduces regulatory impact

( ) Proposes regulatory impact

Comment(s):

Environmental Implications

(X) No

( ) Yes

Comment(s):

Human Resources Implications

(X) No

( ) Yes

Comment(s):

Financial Implications

(X) Within approved current and/or capital budget

( ) Current and/or capital budget adjustment required

Comment(s): There are no financial implications with this report.

Report

REASON FOR THE REPORT:

Section 520(1) of The City of Winnipeg Charter provides for the continuation of the existing Sinking Fund Trustees for sinking fund debentures that were outstanding on the date the Charter came into force. The term for one of the current Trustees of the Sinking Fund, Garry Steski, expires on December 31, 2008. In addition, with the recent resignation of Scott Penman, it is being recommended that the City appoint Eric Stefanson to the Sinking Fund Trustees of the City.

Under Section 314(2) of the former City of Winnipeg Act, provision was made for the appointment of Sinking Fund Trustees for The City of Winnipeg as follows:

"314(2) The corporation referred to in subsection (1) shall consist of four trustees, of which the treasurer shall be one, and the other three trustees, none of whom shall be a member of council, shall be appointed by council."

Section 520(1)(b) of The City of Winnipeg Charter states "the city continues to have the same rights, duties and obligations set out in the former Act to (ii) appoint and remunerate the trustees of the Sinking Fund Trustees of the City of Winnipeg."

HISTORY:

The City of Winnipeg Charter provides for the continuation of the existing Sinking Fund Trustees for the purpose of continuing to manage sinking fund contributions for any sinking fund debentures outstanding on the date the Charter came into force or the refinancing of those debentures.

The City is empowered to raise funds through the issuance of debt securities or other means of borrowing. When the City passes a by-law authorizing the issuance of a new debt instrument it may choose to issue a sinking fund note or debenture. The sinking fund debt security is characterized by a requirement that obliges the City to provide for its orderly repayment through a system of levies paid into a reserve fund known as the Sinking Fund. At the time of borrowing, the annual levy rate is established and is paid into the Sinking Fund each year on its anniversary date. Under the former City of Winnipeg Act, this obligation to pay the levy is considered a debt of the City, which is to be paid to the Sinking Fund Trustees. In turn, the Sinking Fund Trustees, at the request of the City, are obliged to pay to the City, at or before the maturity date of each respective sinking fund debenture, all amounts collected by way of levy, together with interest accrued thereon.

In accordance with Sections 314 to 332 inclusive of the former City of Winnipeg Act, the Sinking Fund Trustees are empowered to act and manage the monies deposited by the City into the Sinking Fund. The Sinking Fund Trustees have custody of the Sinking Fund for the purpose of investing the monies deposited into the Sinking Fund in a manner which shall accommodate the retirement of the sinking fund debt securities either before, or at, their respective maturities.

Section 38 of the City's Organization By-law presently provides that "the City Treasurer is the treasurer for the purposes of the continuation of the Sinking Fund Trustees under *The City of Winnipeg Act*, S.M. 1989-90, c. 10, in accordance with section 520 of *The City of Winnipeg Charter*."

DISCUSSION:

Since The City of Winnipeg Charter requires the existing Sinking Fund Trustees to continue to manage the sinking fund contributions on sinking fund debentures that were outstanding at the time the new Charter came into force, the City will need to ensure there are four trustees appointed for this purpose as per Section 314(2) of the former City of Winnipeg Act. Section 314(2) of the Act specifies the treasurer shall be one (of the trustees).

Scott Penman has recently resigned as a trustee and will need to be replaced. In this regard, it is being recommended that Eric Stefanson be appointed as a Sinking Fund trustee for a three-year term ending on December 31, 2011.

One of the other trustees, Garry Steski, will need to have his term renewed. He has agreed to remain on as trustee, for a further two-year term, ending on December 31, 2010.

For information purposes, the fourth trustee is John McCallum whose term won't expire until December 31, 2009.

Section 314(6) of the City of Winnipeg Act states that "Two trustees shall form a quorum."

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

There is no financial impact with this report as it involves the appointment of Sinking Fund Trustees.

"Original signed by Carrie Erickson"
Carrie Erickson
Manager of Finance & Administration

IN PREPARING THIS REPORT THERE WAS:

Internal Consultation With and Concurrence By:

Legal Services

External Consultation With:

THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Corporate Finance Department
Financial Services
Prepared by: Garry Steski , Manager of Financial Services
File No.