Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – February 11, 2009

REPORTS

Item No. 4 Soldiers' Taxation Relief Assistance
File FL-2.3

WINNIPEG PUBLIC SERVICE RECOMMENDATION:

1. That City Council approve the applications pursuant to The Soldiers' Taxation Relief Act on the understanding that the requested amount will be recovered from the Province of Manitoba.

RE: SOLDIERS' TAXATION RELIEF ASSISTANCE

FOR SUBMISSION TO: EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED BY: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

REPORT DATE: January 15, 2009

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That City Council approve the applications pursuant to *The Soldiers' Taxation Relief Act* on the understanding that the requested amount will be recovered from the Province of Manitoba.

Report Summary

Key Issues:

- *The Soldiers' Taxation Relief Act* requires City Council to annually approve applications for tax assistance and to forward a copy to the Province of Manitoba for reimbursement.

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): The provision of the soldiers' tax relief is revenue neutral for the City of Winnipeg. This credit program is administered and funded by the Province of Manitoba. Any approved amount claimed is paid to the City of Winnipeg by the Province and refunded back to the approved property owner.

Report

REASON FOR THE REPORT:

The Soldiers' Taxation Relief Act requires City Council to annually approve applications for tax assistance and forward a copy to the Province of Manitoba for reimbursement.

HISTORY:

The Soldiers' Taxation Relief Act provides for a partial exemption from property taxes of an amount not exceeding $50 in each year, for the property of:

- The pensioned surviving spouse of any soldier;
- The pensioned parent of any deceased soldier or of a totally disabled soldier confined in any military hospital for the treatment of mental diseases, or any sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis;
- Any soldier in receipt of a military pension by reason of being disabled to the extent of at least 75% of total disability;
- A totally disabled soldier confined in any hospital or in any sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis, or in any hospital for the treatment of mental diseases, while so confined therein for not less than a minimum period of three months in any one year.

The exemption is "income tested" and does not apply to the property of any such person who has income from sources other than the pension. The $50 exemption amount has remained unchanged for several years.

DISCUSSION:

The Director of Assessment and Taxation has received 10 applications for relief from taxation for the year 2008 under the provisions of this Act, and is satisfied as to the good faith and merit of the applications. The total amount of the relief granted is $500.00.

Financial Impact Statement — Date: January 15, 2009

Project Name: Soldiers' Taxation Relief

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required					
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs					
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal					
Debt - External					
Grants (Enter Description Here)					
Reserves, Equity, Surplus					
Other - Enter Description Here					
Total Funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ 500				
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	500				
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts					
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: The provision of the soldiers' tax relief is revenue neutral for the City of Winnipeg. This credit program is administered and funded by the Province of Manitoba. Any approved amount claimed is paid to the City of Winnipeg by the Province and refunded back to the approved property owner.

[original signed by Brad Cull]
Brad Cull, CA
Manager of Taxation and Finance

IN PREPARING THIS REPORT THERE WAS:

Internal Consultation With and Concurrence By:

External Consultation With:

THIS REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

Department: Assessment and Taxation
Division: Taxation and Finance
Prepared by: Brad Cull, Manager of Taxation and Finance