COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG
Wednesday, April 29, 2009

The Council met at 9:34 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, Nordman, Orlikow, O'Shaughnessy, Pagtakhan, Smith, Steeves, Swandel, Thomas, Vandal and Wyatt.

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME OF GUESTS

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. We have Pages Rory Mitchell of Kelvin High School who resides in the Fort Rouge-East Fort Garry Ward. Is Rory Present? Welcome Rory.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Speaker: Communications? Councillor Wyatt moves that the rule be suspended and the following communication which was received too late to be placed on the regular agenda, be received as information All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Delegations. I understand there is none. The announcements. Councillor Nordman then followed by Councillor Swandel. Councillor Nordman.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Nordman: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize the brave sailors aboard the H.M.C.S. Winnipeg as they participated in a multi-national effort to reduce piracy on the high seas off the horn of Africa. As the City of Winnipeg's liaison with the H.M.C.S. Winnipeg, I had the distinct pleasure of representing the City back in February at the recent departure ceremony for the ship on February the 5th, as they deployed for a six-month mission from C.F.B. Esquimalt in Victoria, B.C.

Though the fact that they're thousands of kilometers away from home, the crew of the Winnipeg is not alone. Besides our City name, the walls of their mess, three different messes actually on board the ship, are adorned by the athletic jerseys of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers, the Winnipeg Goldeyes, the Manitoba Moose, University of Manitoba Bisons, the University of Winnipeg Wesmen and the Red River College Rebels. I've been told by the Commander of the H.M.C.S. Winnipeg, Commander Craig Baines, who is in fact a grad of the University of Manitoba and by Executive Officer, Tim Kerr, that the crew are keen followers of sports and events here in Winnipeg and greatly appreciate the visual connection to their home and native land and their namesake city.

Recently, I received a message from the H.M.C.S. Winnipeg remarking on the fact that several of the crew members are concerned about the flooding taking place in and around the City. So even while they're busy searching for pirates, the crew of the H.M.C.S. Winnipeg continues to remain interested in the happenings here in our City. As the Globe and Mail put it last week, fairly effectively, and I quote, "Somalian pirates get a taste of Winnipeg. The City has received more international recognition in the past few weeks from the mission of the H.M.C.S. Winnipeg than our City has received from almost any other marketing campaign in recent times." I would like the brave men and women of the H.M.C.S. Winnipeg to know how much we, the City Council and the citizens of Winnipeg, appreciate their dedication and commitment to a safer world. We are proud of how they represent our City and our country on the international stage, and wish them safe voyage until they return in August. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Councillor. Well said. Councillor Swandel

Councillor Swandel: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just want to rise today on behalf of the residents of the St. Norbert Ward to thank a few individuals who have been working hard during our recent flood efforts. We're still, as you are aware,

remaining diligent in fighting floods with high water levels, but I wanted to take this opportunity to thank our folks, our Civic employees in Public Works and Water and Waste and our leaders at the Emergency Operations Centre and the team that has been working there to ensure that the needs of individuals whose homes are threatened are being looked after. I don't know if everybody here realizes it but many of these folks have been working twelve hour shifts seven days a week for quite a number of weeks now, ensuring that all properties in the City of Winnipeg are protected and we've been very fortunate to date that all properties are protected. We're not out of the woods yet, but certainly a strong effort and impressive effort has been made, and I wanted to make sure that the employees of the City of Winnipeg were thanked on behalf of the constituents from the St. Norbert Ward.

There's a couple of corporate citizens I would like to also make mention of. Tim Horton's, who has fuelled not just our volunteers but our employees as well, as they've been out there and it's been great as a corporate citizen and I know in the St. Norbert Ward, the Pony Corral as well has also been out there helping to provide some food and sustenance for those who have been building those dikes and ensuring that those properties are well protected.

In the St. Norbert Ward also, St. Norbert Collegiate, the graduating classes at St. Norbert Collegiate and Fort Richmond Collegiate have been a great assistance as has the Behavioural Health Foundation, which is an addictions treatment facility out in the St. Norbert Ward. You know, often times we wrestle with whether or not to have these facilities in our own back yards and I can tell you, as someone who has a facility like this in the Ward's backyard, it is never a problem and when there is a need for somebody to assist, a volunteer base to get out there and protect our citizens, one of the largest responses and the loudest responses comes from the Behavioural Health Foundation in the St. Norbert Ward.

And I'd also like to make mention of the Christian Disaster Relief Incorporated who…these are people who don't even live in the City of Winnipeg. They come from small communities to the south. They're a North American organization but there is a large group of them to the south of Winnipeg and on an almost daily basis they would send a troop of volunteers in to help those that, you know, that couldn't muster volunteers on their own or to get dikes built and that organization, in particular, really deserves a great deal of appreciation from the citizens of the City of Winnipeg. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Councillor. I also would like to thank the residents in the St. James, I mean Scotia Street, especially to a resident, Carol Bitola who was very, very cooperative and active in helping out not only the City employees that were out there volunteering, but also a lot of the residents that were there. The same thing, I'd like to thank each and every one on Scotia Street.

Executive Policy Committee Report of April 8, 2009, Mr. Mayor.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE DATED APRIL 8, 2009

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

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

April 15th, no report. April 22nd, no report. E.P.C. motions? There is none. Consideration of By-laws. Mr. Mayor, this is only the third reading.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Mayor Katz: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would move that By-law No. 149/2008 be read a third time and that same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Consideration of By-laws, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: I move that the following by-laws be read a first time, By-law No. 75/2009, By-law No. 76/2009

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

Clerk: By-law No. 75/2009 and By-law No. 76/2009

Mayor Katz: I move that By-laws No. 75/2009 and 76/2009 be read a second time.

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

Clerk: By-laws No. 75/2009 and 76/2009.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I move that the rule be suspended and By-laws No. 75/2009 and 76/2009 be read a third time and same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

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

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE QUESTION PERIOD

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Gerbasi what's your first question?

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my question through to you the Mayor is that it has come to my attention that the City is hiring less summer students in the Public Works Department as a result of efficiency requirements in the budget. I was told that we normally hire around 285 summer students and that we are hiring at least 75 less students. These students provide front line services in our parks and open space areas as well as some in streets and other areas in Public Works. Mr. Mayor, are you aware of this cut in service?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor?

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, through you to Councillor Gerbasi, one, I am not aware of the number of students that are being hired, so what I would undertake to do is to look into the numbers and get back to Councillor Gerbasi.

Mr. Speaker: Your second question, Councillor Gerbasi.

Councillor Gerbasi: Just so I'm clear, you're saying that this would not be something that the Mayor or E.P.C. was aware of in the budget process, that the decisions made in the budget, when we accepted the efficiencies in the budget, that this would lead to reduction in service in this sort of way? You were not aware of that possibility?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor?

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I think the words that Councillor Gerbasi are using are totally inaccurate and unfair. Number 1, there is nobody here on the floor of Council that I'm aware of and even Councillor Gerbasi said she has just been made aware of or it's come light. Whether it's fact or fiction I don't know which is why I have agreed to look into it and get back to her, and I can assure you that every single director has confirmed that there was no cut in front line services. So once again, to make that comment, I think is unfair but I am happy to confirm what Councillor Gerbasi has been made aware of and once again, get back to her as soon as possible

Mr. Speaker: Your final question, Councillor.

Councillor Gerbasi: So just to confirm, Mr. Mayor, are you aware that there was an e-mail that I received from someone from our staff and I don't want to start naming names, in response to a service request, that we had to reduce our summer workforce substantially from previous years' numbers explaining why the work might not be able to get done.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor?

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, it would have been really nice if Councillor Gerbasi had been kind enough to forward that e-mail to me. I would have then had time to look into it and respond to her. Unfortunately, that's the first time I've heard of it so once

again, I can only respond once I've been made aware of it. Maybe next time they'll do it earlier because I would have loved to have looked into that immediately. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Mr. Mayor. Councillor Browaty your first question

Councillor Browaty: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Now that the Canad Inns Water Park Proposal at Polo Park is not proceeding and it's been stated that we'd like to see this whole thing move along very quickly, was any consideration given to looking at the other short-listed proposals that were listed last time from the previous expression of interest?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor?

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, as a result of what has taken place to date, Canad Inns is not moving forward on the project. What we will be doing is, as soon as possible and hopefully for the next Council meeting, we'll have a new expression of interest prepared. We now have much more detail to put in there, for example, the public access agreement so everybody knows exactly what's up front, and see who comes forward. We may get 4, 5, 6 responses. As Councillor Browaty has mentioned there were a total of three in the last expression of interest, and this was the one that was basically recommended by the Public Service and we moved forward on it. So, the only thing I can say right now, I think it's in our best interests to go out there and see what other proposals come forward and who knows, maybe Councillor Gerbasi will get her wish and something will come forward downtown.

Mr. Speaker: Your second question Councillor Browaty.

Councillor Browaty: Would the City entertain the short-listed proposal from Crestwin at Kilcona Park, even though it did not meet the criteria specifically that it did not have title or option to the land?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I think that the astute thing to do would be to let the process move forward very quickly and get proposals from whoever decides to come forward. I think one of the difficulties the Public Service probably had last time is endorsing a proposal where the land is not owned or controlled by that and who knows how long it might take and if they could even assemble the land. I think that's a very difficult thing one is asking. So you know what, I just want to see what comes forward. I know that Creswin is very much aware of what's gone on and if I'm not mistaken, their representative, Dan Edwards has already said they'll wait to see when the expression of interest goes out and then hopefully, if they wish to apply, that would be terrific

Mr. Speaker: Your final question Councillor.

Councillor Browaty: The Mayor mentioned that terms of the public accessibility agreement will be in the new expression of interest. Does he have any details about what may be in there or what other details from previous expressions of interest may be different.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, it is my opinion that the more details we can put in the expression of interest, the better off we are. A public access agreement was negotiated and going by memory, but I believe it was $700,000 over ten years to make sure that our citizens can access that facility. So that is one thing, and there probably would be other things that I think the Public Service would want to put in.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Swandel your first question.

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker through you to the Mayor, I would just like to inquire on the same subject matter. If there is any penalty in place for the proponent that's just backed out of the water park deal, for tying up the $7 million of the City's money for the period of time that they have without moving forward?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, to my knowledge there is no penalty, that's number 1. Number 2, Mr. Speaker, I think and I alluded to earlier, the Public Service might want to put some changes in the E.O.I. and maybe we'll require a deposit or something. I'm just throwing out some ideas, but as I said, I believe that things can be tightened up.

Just to…sometimes the impression gets out there that we're sitting on all sorts of money, Mr. Speaker, so just for the record, when this money of $43 million was going into recreational facilities, first of all, it's unfortunate but quite often there are announcements made on a Friday and people think we have the money on a Tuesday. The $17 million from the Federal Government, we did get that money and that money has been spent for other projects. I can also tell that you that we're closer to $50 million on projects because some of the projects, such as the Cindy Klassen complex will cost more, et cetera. So we're closer to 49 that we're spending. I also should make you aware of the fact that the Provincial money was spread over ten years, Mr. Speaker. It's not like we're sitting on a bunch of money sitting in the bank. I just want to make that very clear.

Mr. Speaker: Your second question Councillor.

Councillor Swandel: Thank you. Just to clarify, is the intent to put some sort of a protection clause for the citizens of the City of Winnipeg to ensure that we are putting $7 million out there again in this expression of interest process, that if we identify a proponent, that there will be some way of putting a financial burden on these folks to ensure that they actually follow through on the commitment that they have with the City of Winnipeg?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, there are many ways to do that, but I can tell you this. Just speaking for myself, it's something that I would very much like to see in there, It may not be exactly what Councillor Swandel said, but some sort of safe guards, but keeping in mind, it will be Council that makes that final decision. But I certainly would encourage that.

Mr. Speaker: Final question? Councillor Vandal your first question.

Councillor Vandal: Thank you Mr. Speaker. To the Mayor. Can you give this Council an update on what is the status with the Long Plain First Nation's Treaty Land Entitlement or Urban Reserve which was rolled out at least three years ago, and I'm wondering what the status is of that. Can you apprise this Council?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor?

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, through you to Councillor Vandal, I would be more than pleased to. I'll use the term Economic Development Zone because we all know what that project is all about. I think it's a very good project and we have already made arrangements to move that forward and there is an agreement that exists right now between the City and Long Plains along with the Assembly of Chiefs. My understanding is that just recently, within the last two weeks, there has been a new election for the Chief for Long Plains and that Chief Dennis Meeches is no longer the Chief; that Chief David Meeches is the Chief, a cousin to Dennis, and now the…I believe Grand Chief Ron Evans is bringing him up to date and we're just waiting for them to move forward at this stage of the game. The City has completed its due diligence and we are ready to move forward and we are now waiting for them

Mr. Speaker: Your second question, Councillor.

Councillor Vandal: Will there be any reports that come forward to this Council prior to the entire project being signed off?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor?

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I'm assuming Councillor Vandal is probably aware of what we basically do is we put an

agreement in for services in lieu of taxes and I'm more than happy to share that information. But like I say, we do have an agreement that is prepared that we are ready to move forward on, and we're just waiting for their response, and if Councillor Vandal would like to sit down and talk to me about it, it would be my extreme pleasure. But right now, we are ready to move, we are waiting for them.

Mr. Speaker: Your third and final question, Councillor.

Councillor Vandal: Can you also give this Council a status report on what is happening with a motion I brought forward several months ago on the World Indigenous Games? I know it was sent off to the Administration. Is there any more information on the inaugural World Indigenous Games in Winnipeg in 2012?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, I don't have any new information to share with Councillor Vandal. I know that it was definitely forwarded to Destination Winnipeg and as you know, we have certain qualifications and they certainly have monies available which we have through the hotel tax. I can certainly try and follow up with D.W. as well as the Public Service and get back to Councillor Vandal. But I don't have any new information at all at this stage of the game.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Wyatt your first question.

Councillor Wyatt: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Is there any news with regards to…we've heard the announcement with regards to the infrastructure for the stadium. We've heard now an announcement with regards to Federal/Provincial infrastructure for CentrePort. Is there any plans for any announcements coming up soon with regards to the requests that we've put through as a City for Federal…for the Federal infrastructure and Provincial infrastructure dollars seeing that we're now at the end of April, and construction seasons are moving by and moving fast and we are at risk if we don't get some announcements here and our Public Service can start working on these projects, we're at risk of losing the entire 2009 construction season.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, through you I thank Councillor Wyatt for that question. What I can share with Councillor Wyatt is, I know that there have been several discussions with Minister Toews, as well as I had a meeting with Minister Baird and they have asked for some more details on some of the projects that were listed. As everybody knows we did list quite a few projects on there. We are supplying them with that information and we are waiting for a response on which projects they want to move forward with. I'm sure everybody will understand that the Province and the City would have to be supportive of any projects in order for the Federal Government to make any announcement of any kind, and that's where things are at right now, but it certainly is in the works, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Your second question, Councillor.

Councillor Wyatt: We know Ottawa doesn't work particularly fast, but is… what are we doing directly to push the Federal and Provincial Governments to make these announcements because clearly, they've been able to make other announcements, yet when it comes to the priorities of this City they are not prepared to make announcements so we can get construction under way. What are we doing to actually get them moving and make announcements?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor?

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, part of the issue is at this particular point in time, we do not know how much money is available for the City of Winnipeg as far as infrastructure. You can appreciate the dilemma when you have, you know, "y" amount of projects and only…you don't know how much funds are available, whether it's less or more, and more than likely it's significantly less than all the projects that we've put in. So as I've said before, I did have a one-on-one meeting with Minister Baird. I've had several meetings with Minister Toews' office.

They have a list of projects, and they're going through them and I expect to hear something very shortly. I can tell you that on some projects, they've asked for more information which the Public Service has assembled to get to them right away or is a assembling to get to them. So the process is moving and they certainly are aware of it and you know, there are times these projects don't move that quickly as Councillor Wyatt is aware of. You know, the CentrePort announcement, the City wasn't involved in that announcement. That was the Province and the Feds, but he is right, they did move quickly.

Mr. Speaker: Your final question Councillor.

Councillor Wyatt: So it would be fair to say that the CentrePort announcement and the stadium announcement, that neither of these projects were on our list with regards to our priorities that we submitted to the Federal Government back in January?

Mayor Katz: It is my understanding that the monies that were announced for CentrePort were not coming out of our infrastructure money. They may have been coming out of Building Canada fund, but we have yet to confirm that, but my suspicion is it definitely has. As far as the stadium announcement, I believe Councillor Wyatt is aware of the fact that the Federal Government did not put any money into the stadium, they put it into the University of Manitoba for a very modern recreational facility that will exist, not the football stadium, they were very careful about that, so I just want to make that very clear.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Orlikow your first question.

Councillor Orlikow: Thank you very much, Mr. Mayor. Just a quick question, and I don't know the accurate name but I'm still going to call it the Swine Flu. Can you tell myself and I believe members of the gallery and City Councillors, what is the City's role and how do we get more information out to the public about what our role is and how we can help facilitate with the Province?

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: I thank Councillor Orlikow through you Mr. Speaker, and it just so happens I can tell you exactly what we're doing because I asked the same question. So, rather than paraphrase it, it's very short, and this is from the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service regarding Swine Flu. "Precaution City paramedics are taking in light of the Swine Flu outbreak in Mexico. The W.F.P.S. has been in contact with peers across Canada to share information on safe procedures to deal with calls from persons who may have the Swine Flu virus. E.M.S. dispatchers carry our specific questioning with callers to 9-1-1 to determine the presence of fever and the history of travel to Mexico. The City has a new data collection system called "First Watch" which is a program that responds to key words which flags potential victims who may have the virus. Over the past weekend there were 41 calls for respiratory ailments and four were considered significant enough to take precautions with masks and isolation techniques. None of the four had contacted the Swine Flu. City paramedics are well trained and prepared to deal with this if there is a case of this fu virus which surfaces here. The City has a pandemic plan in the case of a serious outbreak. We are prepared to implement the plan. The City continues to work with and is in frequent contact with the W.R.H.A. on this issue." And that's where we're at right now and hopefully that addresses the issue.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor, would you be kind enough to send that to all members, Mr. Mayor? Would you be kind enough to send that note to all members of Council?

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, my pleasure.

Mr. Speaker. Thank you. Thank you sir. No further questions? Thank you. Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, no report. Motions none. By-laws none. Question Period. Councillor Vandal.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Vandal: To the Chairman through you, Mr. Speaker, can you give us an update on what's happening with the Metropolitan Theatre in downtown?

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Pagtakhan.

Councillor Pagtakhan: Mr. Speaker, thanks for the question. To Councillor Vandal. It's my understanding that the Canad Inns is working on a proposal at this point through CentreVenture, and I'll endeavour to get some more information and pass it on to the good Councillor. Make it available to all Councillors who are interested.

Mr. Speaker: Your second question? None? Thank you. Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development. I understand Councillor Swandel you'll be doing the report?

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT DATED MARCH 3, 2009

Councillor Swandel: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Councillor Fielding is here but has an issue with his throat and has been told he shouldn't talk. I know you might expect some humour here but I think in light of the seriousness of the issue we'll leave it as is. I'm pleased to, on behalf of Councillor Fielding introduce the report of March the third and move adoption of the Consent Agenda Item number 2.

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

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT DATED APRIL 7, 2009

Councillor Swandel: Report of April the 7th. I will, on behalf of Councillor Fielding, introduce the report and move adoption of the Consent Agenda Items 1 to 6.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Motions. Councillor Fielding, you will be leaving the chambers as this motion is before us. Possibly could be conceived as a conflict of interest, the family interest. Thank you Mr. Fielding.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT MOTIONS

Motion No. 2
Moved by Councillor Swandel,
Seconded by Councillor Pagtakhan,

WHEREAS:
(a) Pursuant to its By-law No. 1/2009, The City of Winnipeg authorized the expropriation of the lands described therein and made a Declaration of Expropriation dated the 28th day of January, 2009; and

(b) The Lieutenant Governor in Council has deemed it necessary or expedient in the public interest to direct the confirming authority to make its order confirming the Declaration of Expropriation without an inquiry being conducted under Schedule "A" to The Expropriation Act;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Declaration of Expropriation dated the 28th day of January, 2009, made pursuant to By-law No. 1/2009 and expropriating the following lands:

(a) Parcel A,

(b) Parcel B, and

(c) The lands taken for McGillivray Boulevard,

as the same are shown bordered on Plan Deposit 1588/2008 WLTO, prepared by Leslie Neil McLaughlin of the City of Winnipeg, Manitoba Land Surveyor

is hereby confirmed.

The lands described above in (a) are expropriated subject only to the following existing interest:

Lease Caveat (Instrument No. 2929254) registered by

The Liquor Control Commission on December 9, 2003.

The lands described above in (b) are expropriated subject only to the following existing interest:

Federal Court Certificate of Judgment (Instrument No. 3267744)

registered by the Minister of National Revenue on March 24, 2006.

The lands described above in (c) are expropriated free of encumbrances.

The aforesaid lands except:

- *mines, minerals and named substances which are excepted from or not included in the Certificate of Title of the registered owner of the surface under The Real Property Act or are not owned by the owner of the surface under The Registry Act; and*
- *reservations in favour of the Crown as excepted from the Title of the owner of the surface, or to which Title is subject by implication under the provisions of The Real Property Act.*

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker this is just a housekeeping matter. I see in our document in the Council agenda it shows it as being moved by Councillor Fielding and seconded by myself. It is in fact moved by myself and seconded by Councillor Pagtakhan. This is just the second motion required in the confirmation of the expropriation of lands required for the widening of McGillivray Boulevard near Kenaston Boulevard.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Councillor. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Consideration of By-laws, Councillor Swandel on behalf of Councillor Fielding would you please read them.

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

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker I'm pleased to move By-law No. 70/2009, By-law No. 71/2009, By-law No. 72/2009, By-law No. 73/2009, By-law No. 74/2009, By-law No. 77/2009.

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

Clerk: By-law No. 70/2009, By-law No. 71/2009, 72/2009, 73/2009, 74/2009, and 77/2009.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor?

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker, I'll move that By-laws Numbered 70/2009 to 74/2009, both inclusive, and 77/2009 be read a second time.

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

Clerk: By-laws Numbered 70/2009 to 74/2009, both inclusive, and 77/2009.

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker, I'll move that the rule be suspended and By-laws Numbered 70/2009 to 74/2009, both inclusive, and 77/2009 be read a third time and that same be ordered to be signed and sealed.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Addendum, Property and Development Consideration of By-laws, Councillor Swandel on behalf of Councillor Fielding.

Councillor Swandel: I don't have that.

Mr. Speaker: By-law No. 78/2009.

Councillor Swandel: I will move By-law No. 78/2009.

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

Clerk: By-law No. 78/2009.

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker I will move that By-law No. 78/2009 be read a second time.

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

Clerk: By-law No. 78/2009.

Councillor Swandel: Mr. Speaker I will move that the rule be suspended and By-law No. 78/2009 be read a third time and that same be passed and order to be signed and sealed.

Mr. Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Question period. None? Councillor Fielding, take care of that throat. The next on the agenda is the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services report of April 17th 2009. Councillor Steeves please.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DATED APRIL 17, 2009

Councillor Steeves: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Regarding the report of April 17, 2009, I'll introduce the report and move adoption of Consent Agenda Item 1.

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

Mr. Speaker: No motions. By-laws? None. Question period. Councillor Smith.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Smith: Yes. Councillor Steeves, why are we allowing firefighters to go shopping at Safeway and other food stores, going to the Superstore in a fire truck?

Mr. Speaker: What a question. Councillor Steeves.

Councillor Steeves: I'm not sure of the exact incident that the Councillor is referring to. We do know that we ask our Fire and Paramedic personnel to live overnight and often in circumstances at the fire hall. Obviously that necessitates things like cooking and doing those sorts of things and to do those sorts of things as a group they need to shop and other associated activities. No problem in that. Whether or not our personnel will stop at places to purchase things they need for the fire hall, be it food, be it cleaning supplies or be it other things like that, I guess we could look into. I'm not aware of any policy or protocol that prohibits that. Obviously, these things are done in non-emergency times. I'm not completely convinced that having our vehicles out there in the community so people can see them and approach and talk to firefighters or paramedic personnel, as long as they're not infringing on emergency time, is necessarily a bad thing in any event. We know that when we have events in the community, often times our firefighters will go to block parties or go to community centres with a fire truck and they'll allow children to come on to the truck and take them through little tours. We have the burning trailer exhibit and the like and those sorts of things. Firefighters are a part of the community and sometimes firefighters and paramedics go full speed for an entire shift, and sometimes we have to pull in people from other stations to work in certain areas because there's really serious things that are going on. And as a community, we always want to make sure that, god forbid, if something dreadful was to ever happen, that we have enough personnel on hand to deal with something very, very serious. That does happen in communities periodically. Of course the other side of that is there's going to be times where we're not operating at full capacity in terms of response to emergency issues, so we have to kind of find that balance. If there is a specific concern that the Councillor has, I'd be please to look into it.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Smith, I believe that question should be referred to Our Chief Administrator. I believe that is in the collective agreement. Any further questions, Councillor Smith? Councillor O'Shaughnessy your first question.

Councillor O'Shaughnessy: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Chairman. Do you think the City would be better off if the firefighter, paramedic in question, one or two of them on their shopping trip, were there with their private vehicles or took the City transit and took it back when a call happened they took it back to the station and responded from there? Or would it be better if they had the proper type of vehicle sitting there, on the lot near the door that if a call came in, they could go straight to the emergency?

Councillor Steeves: I cannot believe that in my somewhat verbose answer I forgot to mention that exact thing. The Councillor is correct. That is another reason, obviously. If supplies are needed for the station, if supplies are needed for the station and somebody has to respond, then obviously, we'd want the vehicle to be with them. Let me tell you about the first time.... (laughter).

Mr. Speaker: Your second question, Councillor. Councillor O'Shaughnessy your second question. None? Councillors let's get down to serious business here. Leave the Fire Department alone.

Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works, report of April 14th of 2009, Councillor Clement.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS DATED APRIL 14, 2009

Councillor Clement: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I'm pleased to introduce the report. I'll move Items 1 to 3 as Consent.

Mr. Speaker: Stand down 3? On 1, Items 1 and 2, All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Item 3.

Item 3 - Inkster Boulevard (Keewatin Street to Brookside Boulevard) - Memorandum of Understanding with Province of Manitoba for Reconstruction of PR221 eFile S-7

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Clement.

Councillor Clement: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure what Councillor Wyatt wants to add. Actually I'm probably pretty sure what he wants to say but my understanding of this is that we are currently putting together a tender for Inkster Boulevard east of Keewatin, and there evidently is the money in the Provincial coffers to do a piece of Inkster west of Keewatin. I believe that there has been a discussion between the Public Works Department and Andy Hirosco who heads up the Highway's Department who would like to bring this project forward and was of the view that because we were already tendering in that area, that it would be more efficient if they were tendered at the same time because we have the expertise to do it, and that they were short of people or they just had so much work to do and I think a lot of it was as a result of the flood. So I believe that that's what is taking place, Mr. Speaker, and we're just basically helping them out a little by helping to have this project move it along and there is a tremendous number of Winnipeggers that use Inkster notwithstanding that this piece of Inkster is shared between Rosser and Winnipeg, and I believe that's what this is all about, and I'll wait to hear what Councillor Wyatt has to say.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Wyatt.

Councillor Wyatt: Thanks Mr. Speaker. I want to make it very clear that I am not against infrastructure works like this. I'm very much supportive of the Inkster widening taking place to the east of Route 90, or planned. And as well, by face value, this seems you know, like a good project.

The concerns I have, Mr. Speaker, revolve around the fact that why this is being done now, and the fact that we have…this is all part of…if you read the report, this is part of the CentrePort announcement and specifically, this is going to be part of what's called CentrePort Canada Way. We had an announcement here a week…well a couple of weeks back about $212 million of infrastructure money to go to CentrePort. We were told that this is for a new overpass at Inkster and the

Perimeter. There's one there now, but a new one to be built, and for a new roadway. The question and concern I have, Mr. Speaker, is that the CentrePort announcement made by the Province with the CentrePort Canada Act last September of 2008, promised the business plan, the Province has been indicating to us that Winnipeg would be sharing in this, even if you look at the web site of CentrePort Canada, it says quite clearly on their web site, "CentrePort Canada is optimally located within the City of Winnipeg." Well that's inherently false. Part of it is and part of it isn't. A good chunk of it; as a matter of fact most of it's in the R.M. of Rosser. My concern, Mr. Speaker, is that we are slipping down a slippery slope here where we're extending services into the R.M. of Rosser. For all the Councillors in this room who have always expressed concerns about suburban sprawl and ex-urban development, wake up. That's what we're doing here, and we're doing it without having any service agreement with the Province with regards to the R.M. of Rosser; revenue sharing agreement, Mr. Speaker, with the R.M. of Rosser, or, any kind of commitment with the expansion of our boundaries. And yet, we will be asked to extend our City services into the CentrePort development as we are now starting to be asked to do so. So, I won't be supporting this report coming forward, Mr. Speaker. I think that we should ask the Province to address these concerns that we have been expressing to them for some time now, and they haven't been concerned. Now, you could say this is an excellent project and I think it is. But $212 million, Mr. Speaker, I can think of other projects as well that we have as a priority in the City. I can think of the inner ring road system that has not been yet built between Main Street and McPhillips that is a priority for northwest Winnipeg. I can think of a lot of different projects, Mr. Speaker, that we could say is a priority. Now the Mayor has said we're not sure, we don't think that there is infrastructure money involved here that was earmarked to the City. There might have been some Building Canada dollars, we're not sure. But the fact of the matter is they've already earmarked those Building Canada dollars, even if they were part of this, whether we like it or not.

So the concern, Mr. Speaker, is that this is apparently 20,000 acres of shovel-ready industrial land. Shovel-ready. Shovel-ready means they can start building tomorrow. Well they don't have water, they don't have sewer, but they'll have a road. They haven't got the first stretch started Mr. Speaker. I can tell you right now, the R.M. of Rosser is extremely enthused about this. They're excited. They're ecstatic, and they should be ecstatic. They're going to get a large development and they'll receive all the taxes and have to put very little into it Mr. Speaker to benefit here. Yet, the services and all the costs involved will once again fall back on the taxpayers of the City of Winnipeg. I'd like to think, Mr. Speaker, as I look at the map on CenterPort and there is…and by the way there are some extremely high profile folks who are part of this you know. Art Morrow and Eugene Kostyra and Bob Silver, you know, Barry Remple, Chris Lorenc and you know, some very big names. Some very important and very…Ryan Craig is on the Board of Directors. You know, important people who are obviously very competent. And you know, you look at the design of the road they want to build through here, I guess this CentrePort Canada Way, and you know, it's going to build a new direction around Headingly by the looks of it and I think it's a good idea. But until… we haven't seen the Province pass this back in September and we haven't seen a business plan from the Province, and yet we're asked to be putting…amending our Capital Budget today. That's what we're being asked to do, to amend our Capital Budget to increase it. They'll give us the money for it but to increase it so they can start building this. So I have some serious concerns, Mr. Speaker. This shouldn't be about politics. They should be doing what's right for the City. It shouldn't be about building roads in certain parts of the area just to help certain Federal M.P.'s in that end of town. This should be about what we need to do to build a City. Now I had a chance, Mr. Speaker, a year and… well, about 14 months, 16 months ago, to sit down and talk to the fellow who was

appointed by Emerson to look into inter-continental trade and the idea of inland port, and that was Art DeFehr, and Art DeFehr's concept was very clear. You take the railways, you get them out of the City of Winnipeg, you consolidate them into a large marshalling yard inland port combined with trucking, you make it attractive for business and industry to use that rail yard. I don't see any plan for the consolidation of the rail yards coming forward here. Nothing. We've heard nothing about that, Mr. Speaker. We know as it was pointed out by Art, that the key to this is the Port of Prince Rupert to make it work for Winnipeg, because the Port of Prince Rupert Mr. Speaker is a deep water port that has loads of capacity to be expanded, and you think it's way out of the way, way up north on the western coast of Canada. Well reality is, Mr. Speaker, it is extremely logistically placed in a smart location because of the wonders of our globe. It is actually closer to China than Vancouver and way closer than Los Angeles or San Francisco. The idea is you cut down on transportation costs and a direct rail link which is a better rail link than the rail line running through to the Fraser River Valley, direct into Winnipeg, it's a C.N. line, to bring the goods. And the concept was is that you have these cars coming through, Mr. Speaker, full of goods coming in from the orient, being marketed basically into the midwest, eastern United States, and then coming back they are about 80% empty. So the concept that DeFehr was driving at is that if you can somehow get them to stop in a modern facility, new facility, these trains, linked to the trucking industry, and somehow fill even part of them with Manitoba-made goods and products, that's how we can grow the economy here in the Province. That was the vision put forward. I don't see any of that right now, with regards on their web site or…and we haven't seen any business plan so maybe it's coming. But, we know right now, there's $212 million of Federal and Provincial money and part of this we're being asked to finance…

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Swandel moves two minute extension. All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Councillor Wyatt: …to front end money for it. So.

Mr. Speaker: Recorded vote has been…Councillor. Councillor, stop. A recorded vote has been called for. It's been withdrawn. Continue.

Councillor Wyatt: So, Mr. Speaker, I hope…I think…I'd like to see a sincere effort here. I think there are a number of issues here. We need to know exactly what…for the future of this City, what is CenterPort going to entail. What are our obligations and what are our opportunities? Let's…I don't have a problem putting obligations like this forward, Mr. Speaker, to the City. But I'm saying at the same time, what are our opportunities here? Are we going to share in this opportunity and this benefit that's being advertised as Centerport Canada is optimally located within the City of Winnipeg. Well is it going to be optimally located within the City of Winnipeg? Are we expanding our boundaries? Are we going to have revenue sharing here or are we not? So we need to know this. The Province has to be up front with us on this as we have to go to the Provincial Government, not the Federal Government. (inaudible). They have to be up front and they have to tell us, and give us an opportunity to see what our role is going be here and maybe this has been sorted out and worked out and we're not aware of it, but we're being asked to vote on this today and I'm being asked to vote on this today. So those are my comments Mr. Speaker, and I want to re-assure members of Council, especially those representing that end of town, that I think this is a good project. I think there's just some outstanding issues that have to be addressed. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Councillor. Councillor Swandel.

Councillor Swandel: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm not sure how Councillor Wyatt got so far down the full development of CenterPort on this, but you know this is pretty simple. We're talking about a kilometer of road here. We're not talking about the whole CenterPort Way. If any of you have ever

been to the intersection of Inkster and Brookside Boulevard, you know how congested the traffic is going out Inkster. It's a two-lane stretch of roadway. If anything the problem here is that this isn't going far enough and I assume the reason it's not going far enough is because the Province hasn't got the design done as to how this will hook into CenterPort Way. This piece, whether CenterPort was happening or not, the Province would have been building this piece. They've just asked us to couple it on with the work that we're doing. It was already, as I understand it, in the Provincial budget to do this piece of work. It will just move faster when you combine it and probably more cost effectively when you combine it with the engineering we are doing. So at the end of the day, the work needs to be done. It should have been done a long time ago. The fact that we can help in getting it done a little bit quicker by bundling it with the works that we're doing to the east of Brookside Boulevard only makes perfect sense. We can spend all day debating the merits or lack of merits on CenterPort and what it means and how it relates to the City of Winnipeg or the R.M. of Rosser or, I think there's another R.M. on the very westerly edge of it that bumps into it a little bit. At the end of the day, this piece of roadway needs to be done. It makes sense to do it in partnership with the City from the Provincial perspective to do it in partnership with the City of Winnipeg, and it's a good cost-effective use of taxpayers' dollars. This is not about CenterPort. This is about improving infrastructure and improving the flow of traffic in this particular section of the City. It's not my section. I spend quite a bit of time out there and I can tell you this needs to get done. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor O'Shaughnessy.

Councillor O'Shaughnessy: Mr. Speaker, I put my hand up in response to Councillor Wyatt's rant. Councillor Swandel answered it very well but I'm going to do it again.

Just to point out that the twinning of Inkster Boulevard in this section is entirely within the City of Winnipeg. It's been in the City's five-year Capital Budget for a few years and was due anyway. The reason all this is up here and moving is that it is shovel-ready and there are shovel loads of Federal dollars available and this is what's ready to go now. The project outside of the City of Winnipeg, the one kilometer stretch on the Inkster extension through Rosser, is a Provincial project. As Councillor Swandel says it has been on their books for a long time. It is ready to go. All we're doing is combining the tender to get the speed necessary to qualify as shovel-ready project and to gain the economies of scale. We are not funding one cent in the R.M. of Rosser and both these projects that are being tendered together weren't even a gleam in Gary Doer's eye when they got into the City and Provincial budgets. So really, there is…CenterPort has nothing to do with the twinning of Inkster and the City of Winnipeg, and we have no say and no input into what the Province does in the R.M. of Rosser any more than any other citizen of Manitoba has.

But I would like to ask the Chair if he can answer two questions in his summation. Number 1, involves the overpass. It was brought up that Inkster and the Perimeter, that they need a new overpass. Well they don't need a new overpass unless it's falling down. What you need is an overpass at Inkster and the Oak Point Highway, which has more than ten times the traffic of Inkster and the Perimeter, and which causes delays of up to…I've sat there for at least three series of lights, very long series. There's four separate lights in that location because of the semi-trailers. That's what it's about. So, is there any consideration between the City and the Province to having an overpass built either in the short run or in the long run, at Inkster and the Oak Point Highway?

My second question involves the same project in a stretch within the City of Winnipeg. Do the specs for the twinning of Inkster include noise attenuation barriers? Both sides of this stretch of Inkster, one side is Garden Grove in Councillor Pagtakhan's ward, the other side is Meadows West in my ward, and

this wide corridor just filled with semi's coming out of the Inkster Industrial Park, once we divide it and the speeds increase and the traffic of course increases, I think there will be a call for noise attenuation. I'm asking the Chair if that is under consideration as part of the specs, the design, for this project. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Katz: Mr. Speaker, first of all, I just want to make it clear that I very much support this clause.

Number 2, regarding some of Councillor Wyatt's comments, as you know there are times you try and do the right thing and quite often politics does rear its ugly head, and is there potential for this? Quite possibly. But it should not affect this. First of all, although I can't confirm it and it's difficult to get an answer, I have no doubt in my mind that Building Canada fund money was part of that announcement for CentrePort. We were originally supposed to be part of it but they did it without us and I still believe there is Building Canada fund money in there.

Number 2, so that every Councillor here is aware of the fact, when we sat down with the original stakeholders regarding CenterPort, which is another project that I do support, we made it very clear that there were three pillars for CenterPort to be successful and that we would be supportive of it. One, it had to be private sector driven. The private sector has to go out there and raise the money to make this work. Number 2, it has to be a single authority, for example, just like the Winnipeg Airport Authority, they would have to have their own board. And number 3, it would be one jurisdiction, and, of course, the City of Winnipeg. And we have had meetings with Rosser, basically, in an attempt to take over that property, but in a nice way, not using some of the words that other people might throw out, and we would be happy to compensate them for their loss of revenue. But, I do agree with one thing Councillor Wyatt said. For us to pour in money for someone else to reap the benefits is not acceptable to me, which is why the Premier, the Board, the new Board for CentrePort, the Winnipeg Airport Authority and Rosser are aware of what the City is looking for, and I can tell you right now that our C.A.O. has had dialogue with representation from Rosser to move this forward, and I can also tell you it's taken longer than it should have. But I do understand some of the concerns that Councillor Wyatt is bringing up but I am fully supportive of this clause, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Clement do you want to close?

Councillor Clement: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll think I'll try to stick to the road and the actual clause because I've only got a little bit of time.

What the Mayor said is very true in terms of the actual project itself. This is really got nothing to do with the larger project. It's a piece of the long term puzzle but it's really got nothing to do with services to another community.

To Councillor O'Shaughnessy's question about an overpass, the overpass at Inkster is completely within the purview of the Provincial Government. It's on the Perimeter, it's their bailiwick, it's not ours. They don't ask us for permission to do these things. Do I agree with him that Inkster and Keewatin is a delicate intersection? Absolutely, but he and I both know that it's not in the five-year capital in our document. I'm sure that if we as a Council chose to create an underpass at that particular intersection, that other levels of government would probably participate in it, but currently, there hasn't been any discussion with them because it's not in our capital and that's where that has to start.

As far as noise attenuation goes, I'm not aware, I can ask and don't mind doing that. Usually these projects require, if they are major projects, require environmental impact studies but because this is a twinning, I don't think it really does, and we twin roads all over the place. We're doing McGillivray in Councillor Orlikow's ward right now, and there was no noise attenuation done there and we're moving that street about 40 feet closer to the

homes in Lindenwoods as an example. But I can ask. I don't know whether they're looking at that or not, Mr. Speaker.

I think this is a pretty good project. I appreciate what Councillor Wyatt was trying to raise here today, you know, you can play t-ball with the other governments or you can play softball or you can play hard ball with them. This is a fairly significant project, long term for the City of Winnipeg, and I am of the view that we don't play hard ball enough with one of our significant friends. But at the same time I know that there's been some discussions going on. I think it's absolutely ridiculous that the Winnport project would go ahead without the Provincial Government forcing annexation of the 12 acres of Rosser land into Winnipeg when we're being asked to do the servicing by these other levels of government. And it's interesting that they're spending so much money without even talking to us before they make announcements like that. But you know, so be it. Having said that, the actual project in front of us is a widening of Inkster Boulevard. I think this is a good project and I think it should go forward and I'm looking forward to unanimous support. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Councillor. On Item 3, all in favour? Contrary? Councillor Wyatt is opposed. It's carried.

Motions. There was one motion. Motion No. 1 which is automatic referral moved by Councillor Wyatt and seconded by myself.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS
MOTIONS

Motion No. 1
Moved by Councillor Wyatt,
Seconded by Councillor Lazarenko,

WHEREAS for every one penny increase in the price of diesel, it costs Winnipeg Transit and the City of Winnipeg an extra $150,000 per year;

AND WHEREAS it is widely expected that, with rising energy demands and reductions in oil supply (peak oil), the cost of non-renewal carbon fuels will increase at a rate higher than the rate of inflation;

AND WHEREAS our transit system is now reliant on one fuel source, namely diesel fuel, yet Manitoba produces and exports clean and renewable hydroelectricity;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba has made strong commitments to reaching climate-change goals and has recently committed to fund both rapid transit in Winnipeg and cost share the operating expenses of Winnipeg Transit with the City of Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS Manitoba Hydro is a stable, crown corporation, with plans to build more hydroelectric generating stations in the future and now supply's Manitobans with some of the most affordable electricity in North America;

AND WHEREAS the Electric Trolley Bus is a proven and reliable technology that produces zero- emissions with a whisper-quiet operation and is manufactured in Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS the Electric Trolley Bus technology is operating in major centers around the world, including the City of Vancouver, BC.;

AND WHEREAS the 2005 "'Made in Winnipeg' Rapid Transit Taskforce Report" to Council concluded that Winnipeg should invest in a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system with the option to convert to rail (LRT) in the future;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Winnipeg Public Service review and report to Council on the feasibility of investing into an Electric Trolley Bus system for Winnipeg Transit, for both the Rapid Transit (dedicated lane) corridors and the existing bus route corridors;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the report shall include a long-term cost benefit analysis which will take into account estimates for future rising diesel fuel costs, the impact of the ongoing use of diesel fuel on our corporate

contribution to greenhouse gases, and the low cost of present day borrowing for any new capital expenditures.

Councillor Clement: Mr. Speaker, before you do that can I ask a question about that.

Mr. Speaker: Which?

Councillor Clement: Well if you read the motion at the top it's been determined by, I'm assuming, the Clerk's Department that that motion be dealt with under Public Works, but if you read the motion it says that the report should go to Council. So is the report going to Council? If the report's going to Council it should have been dealt with under Executive Policy Committee. If the report's going to Public Works the motion doesn't say that. It doesn't say that the report should go to Public Works. It says it should go to Council. It doesn't matter to me one way or the other, but …

Mr. Speaker: Councillor. Mr. Clerk. Can you address that, please?

City Clerk: If you want, the matter can be dealt with by E.P.C., but the idea of the Transit being the purview of Public Work, automatically really it is should go to Public Works and find its way back to Council.

Councillor Clement: I've got no problem with it coming to Public Works. I'm just questioning the way that the motion is worded. That's all. Because we may get it back to Public Works and just receive it as information or something and then it doesn't come back here.

Mr. Speaker: Okay we might.

Councillor Clement: So what's your will?

Mr. Speaker: Might do that. Okay that's referred to…this motion be referred to the Standing Policy Committee on I.R.P.W.

The Consideration of By-laws have been dealt with. Question period. Any questions? No questions? Councillor Swandel what's your first question?

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS
QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Swandel: I just wanted to get an update from the Chair of Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works on the current street cleaning operations. I know myself and I think a few other Councillors have been receiving some calls and I think it's probably timely that we get an explanation as to how the weather is affecting getting some of the streets swept off, and in particular the boulevards swept off. The streets seem to be getting done but there seems to be a lot of material left on the boulevards and the sidewalks on the edge of the streets, so perhaps we can get an update.

Mr. Speaker: Boulevards are too wet. Councillor Clement.

Councillor Clement: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Yeah, they're doing very well actually. It's a bit of a slow process and usually is and even more so this year because, particularly because of not only the first ice we got in November where we had to put extra material down, but particularly in February when we had the ice storm and there was a lot of extra material placed on the streets, so that's taking a wee bit more time. But they are moving very well, Mr. Speaker.

The issue about the boulevards is this, is that Public Works is doing the streets and the boulevards are done by the Parks Department, and I appreciate those are Public Works people ultimately but they are different departments and the reason why they're not doing the boulevards yet is because the boulevards are too wet and they will get basically destroyed if those brushes and stuff get on the boulevards. So what happens is they'll do those a little later on and then the Public Works people who are doing that will actually take that away at the same time. And for the Councillor, on a localized basis, I've been told that St. Norbert has been swept, even the P3's, as well as Richmond West. They are currently in Fort Richmond and moving to Waverley Heights after they finish there, and as far

as, well, and then they'll get to Councillor O'Shaughnessy ward, and Councillor Swandel did ask me something earlier today about signage and they don't sign the streets unless they believe they have a problem with them. They actually have a list of streets evidently where they know people park and I guess they look at that, and so if they believe they can clean a street without having to sign it they don't because it takes a lot of time and work, and if they believe it's a street where there's a lot of parking then they will sign it and they will sign it again if there is still some cars parked there that they have to go around and come back. Thanks.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Swandel your second question.

Councillor Swandel: If the residential streets are not being signed for street clearing, I'm assuming the cars aren't being ticketed either, and if there is residual material left it would be done on a complaint-based system or is there a proactive approach from the City of Winnipeg to go out and sort of look at where the work's been done and identify where cars have been parked and send some sort of equipment back to clear those areas up afterwards.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor Clement.

Councillor Clement: I think it's a bit of both actually. Generally if there's been something missed people aren't shy about calling so that happens. They're aware. They do interact with each other. They make notes evidently when they're highlighting. They have maps basically, and they highlight them as they're finishing them and I guess they use a different colour when they know they've got to go back somewhere, so I believe they do have that in place type of thing. Or you can get real proactive and the Councillor can go out and take a drive and look and see what they missed. You know, send that into the Superintendent directly. Anyway, that's the answer.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Your final question, Councillor.

Councillor Swandel: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Just, I guess, you know, at the end of the day we want to ensure that this is the same level of service that we've been providing in the past and I'd just like the Councillor to confirm that. That from a service-based approach that any delay right now is more to do with weather and climate conditions as opposed to any changes that may…haven't been happening from what I understand, but this is the same level of service that we've always had.

Mr. Speaker: Councillor?

Councillor Clement: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I thank Councillor Swandel for the question. There's no question this is the same level of service. We got a little bit of a late start for a couple of reasons. A. the weather hasn't been wonderful as we all know, and B. most of these same people have been working on flood-related issues. I don't know what's been taking place specifically in all areas of the City, but I know in our area where Councillor Swandel and I represent, the Acting Superintendent, I know for a fact, worked 34 straight days without a day off with 12-hour shifts, 7 to 7, and so did the night foreman and most of the staff. The only way they got a day off was if they phoned in sick and most of them weren't doing that. They were putting in tremendous overtime. They were working in situations that were not normal. As an example, in my area, everybody knows I've got about three-quarters of all of the streets in Winnipeg that have culverts in my ward, and normally there's many of them frozen but not like this year where every single culvert was frozen. In fact, the way the weather was, sometimes they had to go back three or four times to open them, and they've also been working diligently. The people out our way were also making several hundred thousand sandbags and helping with that and also learning how this new tube type sandbag works and things like that. There was a lot of activity going on during this time and it's not over yet and they're still going through it so they've done a tremendous job but it's the same people that were doing working on that that are now working in many cases, on the cleanup as

well as private contractors, so they're doing the best they can. They started a little late but they're out there 24/7 trying to clean it up. Thanks.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. I'd like to say my area has been swept. The signages have been put on all residential streets, same as like last year. Councillor Gerbasi your first question.

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Through you to the Chair of Infrastructure and Public Works, are you as Chair of this committee aware of any reduction in summer students hires over the summer, because I've heard from a couple of sources and I don't like to name staff because I get yelled at when I do that. I've heard from a couple, and other sources as well other than our staff that there are 75 less, at least, summer students been hired to work in the area of parks and other areas of Public Works. Are you aware of this as Chair of Public Works?

Councillor Clement: No, I'm not aware of the exact numbers, Mr. Speaker. I…although it wasn't part of the question, I'm, as far as I'm concerned, all Public Works issues are being handled with the same gusto that our employees used last year. I'm not aware of any changes to any service situations whether that be the number of opportunities we have to cut grass or that type of thing, or any type of street cleaning that may take place further along, or any other type of work that they do. I did hear the answer that the Mayor gave and I know that his office will follow that up to get a little longer answer, but the simple answer is no, I'm not aware of anything like that.

Mr. Speaker: Your second question, Councillor.

Councillor Gerbasi: Do you believe given the work, the extra work that our Public Works Department has in terms of flooding and everything else this year, that if there was in fact a reduction of 75 summer students from the amount we had last year that we would be able to do the same level of service as last year?

Councillor Clement: Amazingly it's possible, Mr. Speaker. It may be, and I don't know, but it may be that we had more people working last year than we actually required to get the work done. And so you only find that out by making changes like that from time to time, and I'm sure that the people that are directing all of those employees, and I'm talking from Mr. McPhail down through his superintendents, are going to be on top of that and I'm sure that if there was some kind of a problem that we'd hear about it very quickly. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: No more further questions? Standing Policy Committee on Finance. There is no report. Motions. None. No by-laws. Question period for Committee on Finance. No questions? Councillor Orlikow moves that Council do now adjourn. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Roll call, sit, sit. Roll call.

ROLL CALL

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

Council adjourned at 10:45 a.m.