Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – March 17, 2010

OPERATING BUDGET REVIEW

Minute No. 221 Executive Policy Committee – Final Recommendation – Preliminary 2010 Operating Budget – Financial Plan for 2011 and 2012
eFile FE(2010)

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee recommends to Council:

1. That the 2010 Operating Budget, including the budgets for reserves (Appendix 2) tabled at the Executive Policy Committee on February 16, 2010, and amended by Recommendation No. 3, be approved.

2. That the 2011 and 2012 Projections on Financial Plans, tabled at the Executive Policy Committee on February 16, 2010, and as amended by Recommendation 3, be received as information.

3. That the following adjustments to the 2010 Operating Budget and the 2011 and 2012 Financial Plans, as tabled at the Executive Policy Committee on February 16, 2010, be made:

    A. That the recommendation of the City of Winnipeg Museums Board be adopted and the transfer of grant in lieu of taxes for the Manitoba Children's Museum be included, which has no bottom line impact on the budget.

    B. That the establishment of a police cadet program be approved that includes hiring of 30 cadets in 2010 and 20 additional cadets in 2011, the cost of which, (including annual increases) shall be funded 50/50 by the Province and City, with the Province's contribution representing new incremental funding to the City; and that for 2010, the approval of the required budget adjustments be delegated to the Chief Financial Officer on a budget neutral basis, once costs are known.

    C. That the annual grant funding for the Broadway Neighbourhood Centre be increased by $5,500.

    D. That the annual grant funding for the Heritage Winnipeg Corporation be increased by $2,600.

    E. That annual grant funding of $12,000 be approved for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Winnipeg.

F. That additional annual grant funding of $20,000 be approved for Take Pride Winnipeg, allocated as follows $10,000 for the Team Up to Clean Up and $10,000 for Murals.

G. That funding of $43,000 be approved in each of 2010, 2011 and 2012 for the hosting of the 2016 Federation of Canadian Municipalities, with total costs estimated at $300,000 to be budgeted over a 7-year period,

offset by a transfer from the General Purpose Reserve in 2010 with ongoing costs to be referred to the 2011 Budget Process.

4. A. That the January 27, 2010 Council Motion pertaining to the City of Winnipeg requesting the Province of Manitoba to fund 50 new Police Cadet positions and requesting additional City funding for another 50 new Police Cadet positions, be received as information.

B. That the January 27, 2010 Council Motion pertaining to a 2% increase in property taxes with the $8.5 million in funding being dedicated to the 2010 Local Street Renewal Budget, be received as information.

C. That the January 27, 2010 Council Motion pertaining to including additional funding of $1.5 million for regional sidewalk renewal ($500,000) and local sidewalk renewal ($1 million), be received as information.

D. That the February 24, 2010 Council Motion pertaining to funding for 50 new Police Cadet positions being included in the 2010 Operating Budget, be received as information.

E. That the February 24, 2010 Council Motion pertaining to snow removal service for walkways within parks and all multi-use Active Transportation pathways, be received as information, inasmuch as funding is already included in the budget of the Public Works Department.

5. That the City's mill rate be reduced from 25.448 to 15.295 for 2010 to reflect the general assessment, inasmuch as the 2010 property tax revenue will remain at 2009 levels, adjusted for new assessable properties.

6. A. That the City's business tax rate be reduced from 7.75% to 6.39% to reflect the general assessment. (Note: 2010 business tax revenue will remain at 2009 levels, adjusted for new assessable businesses).

   B. That the Small Business Tax Credit by-law under Subsection 219(2) of the City of Winnipeg Charter, which will provide a full rebate of municipal business taxes for businesses with an annual rental value of $19,260 or less in 2010, be enacted.

7. That the Advanced Life Support (ALS) surcharge be eliminated, and that ALS services be provided by all ambulances, and the Emergency Medical Services Rates be set as follows:

Proposed Emergency Medical Service Rates (Per Call)		
(in dollars)	Present Rate	April 1, 2010
Emergency Medical Service		
City Rate (city and provincial subsidized)	298	373
Regional Rate (provincial subsidized)	388	466
Basic Rate (not subsidized)	596	746
Interfacility Transfer Service		
Basic Rate (not subsidized)	477	596
Regional Rate (provincial subsidized)	310	373
City Rate (city and provincial subsidized)	239	298
Treatment No Transport Service		
Basic Rate (not subsidized)	241	298
Regional Rate (provincial subsidized)	157	186
City Rate (city and provincial subsidized)	120	149
ALS Surcharge	157	0

8. That the transfers between funds and the levies outlined in the 2010 Preliminary Operating Budget be approved.

9. That $7 million in prior years' tax supported capital surplus identified in the recent capital review be utilized to reduce debt and finance charges in the 2010 tax supported operating budget.

10. That the Concession Equipment Replacement Reserve Fund be eliminated and that any residual balance be transferred to the General Revenue Fund.

11. That the Director of Legal Services and City Solicitor be instructed to prepare the necessary by-laws to implement the above recommendations.

12. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the foregoing, including the execution of any documents related thereto.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Fielding,

That the 2010 Operating Budget and Financial Plan for 2011 and 2012 be approved with the following amendments, namely:

- Delete Recommendation No. 1 in its entirety, replace with the following and renumber the balance of the recommendations accordingly:

    1. That the 2010 Operating Budget, including the budgets for reserves (Appendix 2) tabled at the Executive Policy Committee on February 16, 2010, and amended by Recommendation No. 3, be approved.

    2. That the 2011 and 2012 Projections on Financial Plans, tabled at the Executive Policy Committee on February 16, 2010, and as amended by Recommendation 3, be received as information.

    3. That the following adjustments to the 2010 Operating Budget and the 2011 and 2012 Financial Plans, as tabled at the Executive Policy Committee on February 16, 2010, be made:

        A. That the recommendation of the City of Winnipeg Museums Board be adopted and the transfer of grant in lieu of taxes for the Manitoba Children's Museum be included, which has no bottom line impact on the budget.

        B. That the establishment of a police cadet program be approved that includes hiring of 30 cadets in 2010 and 20 additional cadets in 2011, the cost of which, (including annual increases) shall be funded 50/50 by the Province and City, with the Province's contribution representing new incremental funding to the City; and that for 2010, the approval of the required budget adjustments be delegated to the Chief Financial Officer on a budget neutral basis, once costs are known.

        C. That the annual grant funding for the Broadway Neighbourhood Centre be increased by $5,500.

        D. That the annual grant funding for the Heritage Winnipeg Corporation be increased by $2,600.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

E. That annual grant funding of $12,000 be approved for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Winnipeg.

F. That additional annual grant funding of $20,000 be approved for Take Pride Winnipeg, allocated as follows $10,000 for the Team Up to Clean Up and $10,000 for Murals.

G. That funding of $43,000 be approved in each of 2010, 2011 and 2012 for the hosting of the 2016 Federation of Canadian Municipalities, with total costs estimated at $300,000 to be budgeted over a 7-year period,

offset by a transfer from the General Purpose Reserve in 2010 with ongoing costs to be referred to the 2011 Budget Process.

4. A. That the January 27, 2010 Council Motion pertaining to the City of Winnipeg requesting the Province of Manitoba to fund 50 new Police Cadet positions and requesting additional City funding for another 50 new Police Cadet positions, be received as information.

B. That the January 27, 2010 Council Motion pertaining to a 2% increase in property taxes with the $8.5 million in funding being dedicated to the 2010 Local Street Renewal Budget, be received as information.

C. That the January 27, 2010 Council Motion pertaining to including additional funding of $1.5 million for regional sidewalk renewal ($500,000) and local sidewalk renewal ($1 million), be received as information.

D. That the February 24, 2010 Council Motion pertaining to funding for 50 new Police Cadet positions being included in the 2010 Operating Budget, be received as information.

E. That the February 24, 2010 Council Motion pertaining to snow removal service for walkways within parks and all multi-use Active Transportation pathways, be received as information, inasmuch as funding is already included in the budget of the Public Works Department.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

- Delete (former) Recommendation No. 2 in its entirety and replace with the following:

    5. That the City's mill rate be reduced from 25.448 to 15.295 for 2010 to reflect the general assessment, inasmuch as the 2010 property tax revenue will remain at 2009 levels, adjusted for new assessable properties.

- Delete the following text from (former) Recommendation No. 4

    "That in order to eliminate the Advanced Life Support (ALS) surcharge and provide ALS services for all ambulances, Emergency Medical Service Rates be set as follows:"

    and replace with the following:

    7. That the Advanced Life Support (ALS) surcharge be eliminated, and that ALS services be provided by all ambulances, and the Emergency Medical Services Rates be set as follows:

and forwarded to Council.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 15, 2010, the Executive Policy Committee received as information the delegations and presentations, pertaining to the Preliminary 2010 Operating Budget and Financial Plan for 2011 and 2012, and referred the matters brought forward to the Operating Budget deliberations by the Executive Policy Committee on March 17, 2010.

On February 16, 2010, the Executive Policy Committee tabled the Preliminary 2010 Operating Budget, which outlined the following recommendations:

1. a) That the Preliminary 2010 Operating Budget, including the budgets for reserves (Appendix 2), be approved and forwarded to all Members of Council for their review; and

    b) That the 2011 and 2012 projections be received as information on the preliminary financial plans for those years.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

2. That the City's mill rate be reduced from 25.448 to 15.295 for 2010 to reflect the general assessment. (Note: 2010 property tax revenue will remain at 2009 levels, adjusted for new assessable properties).

3. a) That the City's business tax rate be reduced from 7.75% to 6.39% to reflect the general assessment. (Note: 2010 business tax revenue will remain at 2009 levels, adjusted for new assessable businesses).

   b) That Council enact the attached Small Business Tax Credit by-law under Subsection 219(2) of the City of Winnipeg Charter, which will provide a full rebate of municipal business taxes for businesses with an annual rental value of $19,260 or less in 2010.

4. That in order to eliminate the Advanced Life Support (ALS) surcharge and provide ALS services for all ambulances, Emergency Medical Service Rates be set as follows:

Proposed Emergency Medical Service Rates (Per Call)		
(in dollars)	Present Rate	April 1, 2010
Emergency Medical Service		
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City Rate (city and provincial subsidized)	120	149
ALS Surcharge	157	0

5. That the transfers between funds and the levies outlined in the 2010 Preliminary Operating Budget be approved.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

6. That $7 million in prior years' tax supported capital surplus identified in the recent capital review be utilized to reduce debt and finance charges in the 2010 tax supported operating budget.

7. That the Concession Equipment Replacement Reserve Fund be eliminated and that any residual balance be transferred to the General Revenue Fund.

8. That the City Solicitor/Manager of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary by-laws to implement the above recommendations.

9. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the foregoing, including the execution of any documents related thereto.

Further on February 16, 2010, the Executive Policy Committee referred the Preliminary 2010 Operating Budget to the following budget process timetable, namely:

March 2 to 9, 2010	Standing Policy Committees - Review
March 15, 2010	Executive Policy Committee - Delegations
March 17, 2010	Executive Policy Committee - Recommendation to Council
March 23, 2010	Council