Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – April 14, 2010

REPORTS

Minute No. 235 Review of the City of Winnipeg In Camera By-law No. 5288/89
eFile GL-5.8

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee recommends that the Winnipeg Public Service be requested to report back to the Executive Policy Committee in 90 days with a report recommending amendments to the City of Winnipeg In Camera By-law No. 5288/89 to address the following issues:

1. An evaluation of the current categories of reports classified as in camera agenda items, with the goal of reducing the number and/or categories of agenda items that are currently classified as in camera; and

2. A process for regular review of the In Camera By-law No. 5288/89 to ensure that the City of Winnipeg is following municipal best practices for transparency, openness and accountability.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

The Chairperson called Deputy Mayor Swandel to the Chair in order to move the following motion:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Katz,

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg Charter provides that City Council may pass by-laws specifying the categories of matters that may be considered at in camera meetings or a committee of Council or a subcommittee thereof;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg is committed to transparency, openness and accountability;

AND WHEREAS in camera items are currently determined by the In Camera By-law No. 5288/89 and recommendations based on past precedence or at the discretion of the departments and/or committee and/or Clerk;

AND WHEREAS clarifying and evaluating the categories of reports that should genuinely be classified as in camera agenda items will ensure that the processes and accessibility to information are transparent;

AND WHEREAS the Vancouver Charter, Alberta Municipal Act, Cities Act in Saskatchewan, Ontario Municipal Act, the City of Toronto Act and Halifax Regional Municipality Charter address issues as defined in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act;

AND WHEREAS the Vancouver Charter, Cities Act in Saskatchewan, Ontario Municipal Act and the City of Toronto Act refer to in camera meetings as closed meetings;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chief Administrative Officer be requested to report back to the Executive Policy Committee in 90 days with a report recommending amendments to the City of Winnipeg In Camera By-law No. 5288/89 to address the following issues:

(i) an evaluation of the current categories of reports classified as in camera agenda items, with the goal of reducing the number and/or categories of agenda items that are currently classified as in camera; and

(ii) a process for regular review of the In Camera By-law No. 5288/89 to ensure that the City of Winnipeg is following municipal best practices for transparency, openness and accountability.

Carried

The Chairperson resumed the Chair.