Minute No. 328
Report - Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services – April 4, 2011

Item No. 2 Doing Business in Winnipeg By-law No. 91/2008 – Businesses Dealing in Used Goods and Precious Metals

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and adopted the following:

1. That the Council Motion of March 23, 2010, be concurred in and the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to review the Doing Business in Winnipeg By-law No. 91/2008 and report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Service on the feasibility of amending the Doing Business in Winnipeg By-law to allow used goods businesses to pay commercial retail suppliers for new or refurbished items by credit card, without the requirement for the 15 day holding period for merchandise.

2. 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:

Moved by Councillor Steeves,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On April 20, 2011, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On April 4, 2011, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services concurred in the Council Motion of March 23, 2010, and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

Further on April 4, 2011, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services received from Arnold Lazareck, a presentation entitled "Disposition of Used Goods" with respect to Doing Business in Winnipeg By-law No. 91/2008 – Businesses Dealing in Used Goods and Precious Metals.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION:

On March 23, 2011, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services.

Moved by Councillor Smith,
Seconded by Councillor Eadie,

WHEREAS The City of Winnipeg Doing Business in Winnipeg By-law No. 91/2008 regulates the activities of businesses dealing in used goods;

AND WHEREAS on occasion used goods businesses also sell new or reconditioned items purchased directly from manufacturers or their agents;

AND WHEREAS the Doing Business in Winnipeg By-law requires that a used goods dealer must make and maintain a record of transaction when the used goods dealer acquires goods that are not used as if they were used goods including, paying suppliers by cheque and holding merchandise for at least 15 days after a record of acquisition is delivered to the Police Chief;

AND WHEREAS other retail outlets that sell new and reconditioned merchandise are not subject to the same stringent regulations;

AND WHEREAS The City has received complaints from Used Goods Businesses that the requirement to pay retail suppliers by cheque and holding merchandise delays transactions, and causes financial hardship for the purchaser;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to review the Doing Business in Winnipeg By-law No. 91/2008 and report back to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Service on the feasibility of amending the Doing Business in Winnipeg By-law to allow used goods businesses to pay commercial retail suppliers for new or refurbished items by credit card, without the requirement for the 15 day holding period for merchandise.