Minute No. 41
Report – Executive Policy Committee – December 8, 2010

Item No. 3 Request to Review Process for Regulating Demolitions

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and adopted the following:

1. That an extension of time of 60 days be granted in order for the Winnipeg Public Service to report back on the July 21, 2010 Council Motion, as directed by the Executive Policy Committee on September 8, 2010.

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 His Worship Mayor Katz,
That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On December 8, 2010, the Executive Policy Committee recommended that an extension of time of 60 days be granted in order for the Winnipeg Public Service to report back on the July 21, 2010 Council Motion, as directed by the Executive Policy Committee on September 8, 2010, and submitted the matter to Council.

On September 8, 2010, the Executive Policy Committee referred the July 21, 2010 Council Motion, resolving that the City Auditor or another independent entity fully review the city process for regulating demolitions, and that the Winnipeg Public Service work with the Province of Manitoba to review their safety standards, and to report such a review with recommendations for improvements to Council, to the Winnipeg Public Service for report back in November 2010.

COUNCIL:

On July 21, 2010, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee:

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,
Seconded by Councillor Vandal,

WHEREAS demolition permits are required by the City during a demolition to ensure all proper safety precautions are in place for the dangerous task of demolishing a building;

AND WHEREAS there was a failure to take proper safety steps to ensure public safety pertaining to the demolition of Transcona Meats/Transcona Locker Room on the 100 block of Regent Ave East;

AND WHEREAS the community was very fortunate that no one was insured or killed in relation to the building collapse;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL (continued):

AND WHEREAS some building materials may have included asbestos and other harmful substances which clearly require provincial government intervention;

AND WHEREAS this incident was the second example in three years of an unsafe demolition resulting in building collapse, with the first being the WRHA site on Main Street, where the collapse of the building precipitated lane closures on Main Street;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Auditor or another independent entity, fully review the city process for regulating demolitions, and that the Winnipeg Public Service work with the Province of Manitoba to review their safety standards, and to report such a review with recommendations for improvements to Council.