Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – November 9, 2011

Minute No. 23
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – November 1, 2011

Item No. 1 Amendment to the Water Works By-law No. 504/73 – Providing a Transition Period to the Cross Connection and Backflow Prevention Recertification Program

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works and submits the following to Council:

1. That an amendment to the Water Works By-law No. 504/73 (Attachment A) which includes provisions to add subsection 38.1 (8), to Section 38.1 Cross Connections and Backflow Prevention, as well as updating miscellaneous wording, be enacted.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – November 9, 2011

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – November 1, 2011

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Vandal,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Carried

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 1, 2011, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Issue: **Amendment to the Water Works By-law 504/73 to Provide a Transition Period to the Cross Connection and Backflow Prevention Recertification Program**

Critical Path: **The Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – Executive Policy Committee - Council**

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
K. Kjartanson, P. Eng. Manager, Environmental Standards	M. A. Shkolny, P. Eng. Acting Director, Water and Waste Department	n/a	D. Joshi, Chief Operating Officer

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council enacts an amendment to the Water Works By-law (attached as Attachment A) that includes provisions to add subsection 38.1 (8), to Section 38.1 Cross Connections and Backflow Prevention, as well as updating miscellaneous wording.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

An amendment to the Water Works By-law requires Council approval.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The current Water Works By-law does not adequately support the implementation of the Backflow and Cross Connection recertification program.

In 2010 the City implemented a recertification program based on:

- The American Water Works Association, Canadian Cross Connection Control Manual (page II-6) – states that testers are required to update their testing skills by successfully completing a recertification course every five years.
- The CSA Manual for Maintenance and Field Testing of Backflow Prevention Devices B64.10.1-01 (page 51 item 4.3.1) – states that when applying for a licence the tester must have a certificate proving attendance at a recertification course in the previous five years.

A recertification course is designed to bring testers up to date with changes to cross connection control standards, guidelines, codes, products, test procedures, and recertify testers that failed to remain active or have submitted unacceptable test reports. The recertification requirement is being implemented in many other utilities across Canada.

Section 38 of the City of Winnipeg Water Works By-law 504/73 requires that cross connection control devices be tested annually by testers who are approved by the City. The City issues an annual licence to approximately 300 testers. Since the training capacity will only allow about 70 testers to be recertified per year, it will take about five years to have the current list of about 300 testers recertified. The list will be broken into five groups with the testers with the longest service being in the first group to be recertified. We will require recertification every five years thereafter. In order to accommodate a five-year transition period to permit some licence holders to renew their licence even though they have not recertified in the previous five years, an amendment to add a five year transition period is requested.

HISTORY

The current Water Works By-law 504/73 was approved by City Council in 1973. Several minor administrative adjustments have been approved by Council since that time. In 2010, Section 38 was changed in the by-law to reflect the current practices of the Backflow and Cross Connection program and to provide for program enforcement.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date:** October 18, 2011

Project Name:

AMENDMENT TO THE WATER WORKS BY-LAW 504/73 TO PROVIDE A TRANSITION PERIOD TO THE CROSS CONNECTION AND BACKFLOW PREVENTION RECERTIFICATION PROGRAM

COMMENTS:

There is no financial impact associated with this report.

"Original signed by L. Szkwarek, C.G.A."
Lucy Szkwarek, C.G.A.
Acting Manager of Finance & Administration

CONSULTATION

In preparing this report there was consultation with:
Legal Services Department

SUBMITTED BY

Water and Waste Department
Environmental Standards Division
Prepared by: R. Grosselle
Date: October 19, 2011
File No. 020-11-01-29-00

APPENDIX A

A By-law of the City of Winnipeg to Amend The Water Works By-law No. 504/73



by-law backflow
licence amendments.(