Minute No. 249
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – February 19, 2013

Item No. 19 Intergovernmental Funding Agreement Between Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) and the City of Winnipeg

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and adopted the following:

1. That Council approves the inter-governmental letter of agreement between the City of Winnipeg and Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) for 2012/13 for the Beam Refurbishment Project – Foam Injection at Brookside Cemetery Field of Honour, for incremental funding of $18,200.00 resulting in a total funding allowance of $17,334 plus $866.70 GST.

2. That Council delegate authority to the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to approve future inter-governmental letters of agreement for funding between the City of Winnipeg and Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) for the refurbishment, maintenance and construction of Military memorials and interment sites at City-owned and/or managed locations and ceremonies or Services of Remembrance arranged by The City of Winnipeg.

3. That the proper officers of the City do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – February 19, 2013

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Browaty,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 22, 2013, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 19, 2013, the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: **APPROVAL OF THE 2012/13 INTERGOVERNMENTAL FUNDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA (VAC) AND THE CITY OF WINNIPEG AND DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO APPROVE FUTURE VAC INTERGOVERNMENTAL FUNDING AGREEMENTS.**

Critical Path: **Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development - Executive Policy Committee – Council**

Date: **February, 1st, 2013**

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
J. Saxby	B. Thorgrimson	N/A	D. Joshi COO

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council approves the inter-governmental letter of agreement between the City of Winnipeg and Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) for 2012/13 for the Beam Refurbishment Project – Foam Injection at Brookside Cemetery Field of Honour, for incremental funding of $18,200.00 resulting in a total funding allowance of $17,334 plus $866.70 GST.

2. That Council delegate authority to the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to approve future inter-governmental letters of agreement for funding between the City of Winnipeg and Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) for the refurbishment, maintenance and construction of Military memorials and interment sites at City-owned and/or managed locations and ceremonies or Services of Remembrance arranged by The City of Winnipeg.

3. That the proper officers of the City do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report recommends incremental Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) funding of $18,200 and that authority to approve future funding agreements between the City and VAC be delegated to the CAO to establish a clear approval authority and assist in achieving faster processing times required to meet VAC signing deadlines and further facilitate timely negotiation of future intergovernmental agreements with VAC.

The majority of funding agreements have been in relation to the refurbishment project at Brookside Field of Honour. However, VAC also offers other funding programs for Military ceremonies and memorial repairs and construction. The City's intention is to apply for the additional funding programs as they become applicable to use.

The existing and proposed agreements with Veterans Affairs Canada have leveraged an average $4 of federal funding for every $1 of City funding.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

Council approval is required to delegate authority to the Chief Administrative Officer and to enter into inter-governmental letters of agreement for funding between the City of Winnipeg and Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) for the refurbishment, maintenance and construction of Military memorials and interment sites at City-owned and/or managed locations and ceremonies or Services of Remembrance arranged by The City of Winnipeg.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Further VAC funding of $17,334 plus $866.70 GST is being offered for the 2012 /2013 financial year.

HISTORY

The signing of an inter-governmental letter of agreement

The City of Winnipeg has regularly worked in partnership with VAC to commemorate Veterans and Military servicemen and women's achievements and service through the provision of Remembrance Services, the construction of memorials and also the provision of the Brookside Military Field of Honour. Each funding partnership with VAC requires the signing of an inter-governmental letter of agreement.

The majority of funding agreements have been in relation to the refurbishment project at Brookside Field of Honour. However VAC also offers other funding programs for Military ceremonies and memorial repairs and construction. The City's intention is to apply for the additional funding programs as they become applicable to use.

Under 'The Execution of Documents By-law', the CAO has delegated signing authority for grant agreements for grants to the City from an outside funding source like the inter-governmental letter of agreement with Veterans' Affairs Canada (VAC). The delegation of approval authority to the Chief Administrative Officer will assist in achieving faster processing times required to meet VAC signing deadlines and further facilitate negotiation of future intergovernmental agreements with VAC and timely receipt of funding.

The 2012/13 Beam Refurbishment Project – Foam Injection Funding Agreement
In all cemeteries where a Field of Honour exists, the owners are required to fund the refurbishment of foundations. At Brookside, the City as the owner is financially responsible.

The foam injection beam refurbishment program commenced in 2008 and will continue on a year-to-year basis provided both parties are able to support the necessary funding and agreements.

The Cemeteries Branch has allocated an amount of capital funds to continue refurbishment in the Field of Honour in 2013. The current VAC funding allocation of $18,200.00 is to fund a program of foam injection preventative maintenance. The City is required to sign the inter-governmental letter of agreement between VAC and the City of Winnipeg for the further 2012/13 funding.

The Cemeteries Branch negotiations with VAC are ongoing regarding the continuation of the working partnership (including joint funding agreements) relative to the refurbishment program for the Field of Honour. A funding agreement that allows both parties to contribute to the refurbishment program has been developed for the federal fiscal year 2012/13, whereby VAC will contribute the cost of:

- Preventative Maintenance Foam Injection for hollow-core beams.

The City of Winnipeg – Cemeteries Branch will contribute:

- Contractor supervision for the preventative maintenance program.

Additional capital funding will be required in subsequent years (2013 onwards) to support subsequent years of funding amounts provided by VAC and have been included in the Cemeteries Branch draft 2013–2018 capital budget submission, to enable continuation of the refurbishment programme in the same manner as in previous years.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

APPROVAL OF THE 2012/13 INTERGOVERNMENTAL FUNDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA (VAC) AND THE CITY OF WINNIPEG AND DELEGATION OF APPROVAL AUTHORITY FOR FUTURE VAC INTERGOVERNMENTAL FUNDING AGREEMENTS

COMMENTS:

There are no direct financial implications associated with the recommendations contained in this report. The $18,200 in VAC funding is already included in the draft 2013 Capital Budget under the "Cemeteries - Improvements" capital program. The recommendations also include the delegation of approval authority to the Chief Administrative Officer for the signing of inter-governmental funding agreements between the City of Winnipeg and VAC.

"Original Signed By"
Mike McGinn, CA
Manager of Finance

CONSULTATION

In preparing this report there was consultation with:

Legal Services Department
Protocol and Special Events Branch – City Clerk's Department
Municipal Accommodations Division, Planning, Property and Development Dept.

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

The information and progress outlined in this report are in accordance with the policies and programs reflected in the City's Council-adopted 25-year blueprint OurWinnipeg through "A City That Works – Direction 4:

Collaborate with all public, private and community economic development agencies to advance economic advantages.

Enabling Strategies:

Provide integrated, streamlined, seamless and transparent government service;

Pursue cost-effective sharing agreements with other governments and with the private sector for priority infrastructure projects.

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Planning, Property and Development
Division: Cemeteries
Prepared by: Jane Saxby
File No.

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