STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION

AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

MOTIONS

Minute No. 558
Moved by Councillor Havixbeck,
Seconded by Councillor Smith,

WHEREAS every student and school staff member has the right to be safe;

AND WHEREAS the current Special Resource Officer (SRO) program is made up of 12 officers, with two additional officers being assigned to the St. James Assiniboia School Division;

AND WHEREAS the funding for the SRO program is a tripartite agreement between three partners: the City of Winnipeg, the Province of Manitoba and the Manitoba School Divisions;

AND WHEREAS there are two school divisions within the City of Winnipeg who do not have access to School Resource Officers;

AND WHEREAS there is a growing need for additional resources and in particular, to allow every school division within the City of Winnipeg the opportunity to have access to an SRO;

AND WHEREAS the SRO program has resulted in (but is not limited to):
- enhanced school safety of students and teachers during both school hours and after-school hours (dances, sporting events) and;
- improved knowledge of safety, lock-down procedures, legal issues and policing as a career option through officer presentations;

AND WHEREAS Council is committed to providing the citizens of Winnipeg with safe communities, which includes schools;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council refer for approval to the 2014 Budget process:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service make the SRO program a permanent initiative geared towards public safety and that the number in the first year, 2013, be increased to 16 from its current 14 Full Time Equivalents.

2. That Winnipeg City Council request the Province of Manitoba and the School Divisions to match the funding for these additional two SRO’s and that this be reviewed annually and adjusted based on need in the community.

Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services – Motions (continued):

The Speaker ruled automatic referral to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services, in accordance with Rule 16.1 of the Procedure By-law.

Moved by Councillor Fielding,

That the rule be suspended to refer the motion to the 2014 budget process.

Carried