Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – September 17, 2014

Minute No. 576
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – September 16, 2014

Item No. 11 Burying of Manitoba Hydro Transmission Lines in Sage Creek (St. Boniface Ward)

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development and submitted the following to Council:

1. That the report on Burying of Manitoba Hydro Transmission Lines in Sage Creek be received as information.

Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – September 17, 2014

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development – September 16, 2014

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Browaty,

That Rule 10(3) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007 be suspended in order that the following item, which was received less than 96 hours preceding the committee meeting, be considered by Committee.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Browaty,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Carried

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On September 16, 2014, 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: **Burying of Manitoba Hydro Transmission Lines in Sage Creek**

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

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
J. Zabudney	B. Thorgrimson	n/a	M. Jack A/CAO

RECOMMENDATIONS

That this report be received as information.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

At its meeting held on February 26, 2014, Council adopted the following:

1. *"That Manitoba Hydro be requested to determine the cost of burying transmission lines and seek funding partnerships for burying the lines.*

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

The Public Service has received a response from Manitoba Hydro in regard to the proposed establishment of a partnership of burying the hydro transmission lines within the Sage Creek area.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- There are no regulatory or human resources implications associated with this report.
- There are no direct financial implications associated with this recommendation.

HISTORY

The Public Service provided Manitoba Hydro with Council Minute No. 244 (copy attached) which included the motion that was passed at the Riel Community Committee meeting of January 13, 2014. The said motion outlined a number of reasons to bury the proposed lines in Sage Creek and referenced a previous cost sharing program for burying transmission lines. The former program, approved by Council on September 25, 2002, was a 50/50 cost sharing arrangement between The City of Winnipeg and Manitoba Hydro to fund the relocation and burial of a portion of the high voltage transmission line emanating from Winnipeg Hydro Substation No. 6, running south along Waterfront Drive and easterly through North St. Boniface.

Manitoba Hydro has acknowledged the previous project where Manitoba Hydro and the City of Winnipeg had a 50/50 cost sharing arrangement to fund the relocation and burial of a high voltage transmission line. This project was initiated when Manitoba Hydro and Winnipeg Hydro were separate entities. These 66 kV circuits formed an interconnection between Winnipeg Hydro's Amy Street Station and Manitoba Hydro's St. Boniface Des Meurons Station, and cost sharing was pursued as the interconnection benefitted both entities. These 66 kV circuits were not on Hydro owned right-of-way (ROW) but rather on eased private property and this option was pursued due to space restrictions. In the case of Sage Creek, Manitoba Hydro owns the ROW and the City of Winnipeg is not a partner for the interconnection. Hence, these projects are not comparable and funding partnerships are not being pursued.

Manitoba Hydro has indicated that overhead lines are the option being used in Sage Creek as there is ample space in the existing ROW, and they are cost effective and reliable. Alternatives such as placing lines underground are associated with additional costs, risks, and are pursued by utilities only where there is insufficient space in which to place the transmission lines. Placing the line underground through Sage Creek would cost more than 10 times as much as the current overhead design.

Manitoba Hydro has received an independent expert cost estimate for burying these two 230 kV circuits lines along the 2.6 km route through the Sage Creek neighbourhood and the least-cost alternative is $23.25M for direct burial in two trenches. Manitoba Hydro has advised that this additional cost is not necessary in this case to meet industry guidelines or due to space restrictions.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date:** June 24, 2014

Project Name:

Burying of Manitoba Hydro Transmission Lines in Sage Creek

COMMENTS:

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

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

CONSULTATION

In preparing this report there was consultation with:

N/A

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Planning, Property and Development
Division: Real Estate
Prepared by: John S. Zabudney
Date: June 24, 2014
File No.: N/A

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Minute No. 244
Report – Executive Policy Committee – February 5, 2014
Item No. 2 Burying of Manitoba Hydro Transmission Lines in Sage Creek

COUNCIL DECISION:

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

1. That Manitoba Hydro be requested to determine the cost of burying transmission lines, and seek funding partnerships for burying the lines.

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

Report – Executive Policy Committee – February 5, 2014

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

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

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 5, 2014, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Riel Community Committee and submitted the matter to Council.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 13, 2014, the Riel Community Committee passed the following motion:

WHEREAS Manitoba Hydro has announced plans for the installation of several new transmission towers in the existing hydro right of way in Sage Creek;

AND WHEREAS there are aesthetic and safety benefits by burying the hydro lines instead of installing them above ground in transmission towers;

AND WHEREAS there was a 50 – 50 cost share program for burying transmission lines which are close to residential housing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Riel Community Committee express their preference for the transmission lines to be buried;
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Riel Community Committee ask Manitoba Hydro to determine the cost of burying transmission lines, and seek funding partnerships for burying the lines;

and forwarded the matter to the Executive Policy Committee