Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – November 18, 2015

REPORTS

Item No. 4 Office of Ethics Commissioner – Process and Implementation Plan

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee granted an extension of time of 60 days for the Winnipeg Public Service to report back on the matter.

Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – November 18, 2015

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Pagtakhan,

That an extension of time of 60 days be granted for the Winnipeg Public Service to report back on the matter.

Carried

COUNCIL DECISION:

On June 17, 2015, Council adopted the following motion:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Bowman,
Seconded by Councillor Gerbasi,

WHEREAS on December 11, 2013 Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee with respect to the creation of an Office of Ethics Commissioner (the "2013 Motion");

AND WHEREAS the 2013 Motion also requested the Province of Manitoba to amend the City of Winnipeg Charter Act (the "Charter") to provide the Ethics Commissioner with investigative powers to compel witnesses and evidence, which amendments have not as yet been made;

AND WHEREAS the 2013 Motion also provided that the Ethics Commissioner have jurisdiction over investigating complaints and recommending to Council sanctions with respect to members of the Public Service, and it is desirable to obtain further analysis of this issue from a labour relations perspective;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Public Service be requested to report back within 120 days to Executive Policy Committee with recommendations for a process and implementation plan to create an Office of Ethics Commissioner with the maximum authority under the existing Charter, which report shall include;

(i) a review of best practices in other jurisdictions;
(ii) human resource and labour relations implications;
(iii) budgetary implications;
(iv) legal implications; and
(v) all other relevant considerations.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT the Governance Committee of Council work with the City Solicitor to review the existing Councillor Code of Conduct (the "Code") to develop recommendations for Council consideration with respect to updating and amending the Code to ensure: (i) guidelines for ethical conduct are in line with best practices in other jurisdictions; and (ii) consequences for breaching the Code are clearly defined and articulated.