COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG
Wednesday, November 25, 2015

The Council met at 9:35 a.m.

The City Clerk advised the Speaker that a quorum was present.

The Speaker called the meeting to order.

The opening prayer was read by Councillor Allard.

ROLL CALL

Clerk: Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma, His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Dobson, Eadie, Gerbasi, Gillingham, Gilroy, Lukes, Mayes, Morantz, Orlikow, Pagtakhan and Schreyer.

Madam Speaker: I would like to now introduce our Page for today's meeting. With us is Katrina Chanas, if you could please come forward. She's joining us from Miles Macdonell Collegiate and she resides in the North Kildonan Ward. She has spent many hours with us at previous Council meetings and thank you again for being here today. Madam Clerk, could we have a leave of absence Motion for Councillor Wyatt? Would you please read it into the record?

Clerk: Moved by Councillor Browaty, seconded by Councillor Schreyer, that Councillor Wyatt be granted a leave of absence from today's meeting due to a personal family matter

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Mr. Mayor, I understand you have a few announcements this morning.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you Madam Speaker. I want to welcome all the members of Council and the viewing public whether you are here in person or viewing this meeting online or on television. This is our first Council meeting since the horrific attacks in Paris, France. There have been a number of horrific incidents around the world in recent weeks including that which occurred in Paris, France. Shortly after the attacks I reached out to Mr. Bruno Burnichon... he's the Honorary Consul General of France here in Winnipeg… to offer condolences and solidarity to the people of France. Madam Speaker, we can't allow ourselves to become desensitized to these types of attacks and we cannot allow terror and terrorism and fear to triumph over hope and humanity. Over the weekend, Madam Speaker, I spoke in support of Syrian refugee resettlement and welcomed any future Syrian refugees to Winnipeg. I firmly believe that the ongoing Syrian humanitarian crisis requires support and assistance from countries around the world and that includes right here in Winnipeg. Winnipeg is a growing, diverse City. Our compassion, our diversity, our acceptance of new people and cultures are what make us strong and now is not the time to close our doors. Now, more than ever, is a time for compassion, it's a time for us to embrace our values of openness and acceptance. Over the last week I have spoken with Premier Greg Selinger and Federal Immigration John McCallum on a number of occasions to express my support for their efforts. As a City we will continue working collaboratively with our Federal and our Provincial counterparts. It's also my great pleasure, Madam Speaker to attend, with Councillor Gillingham, the graduation of Winnipeg Police Recruit Class and Lateral 158. As the women and men graduating earlier this month worked very hard and should feel very proud of their accomplishments and efforts. Last week I also had the opportunity to participate in two flag-raising ceremonies here at City Hall. One was the St. Andrews Society of Winnipeg flag raising. Founded in 1871, St. Andrews Society of Winnipeg is the oldest continuously operated Scottish Society in Western Canada. And this year, St. Andrews Society's dinner, the 145th in its history, following a historic decision of the Society to finally allow women as members and I want to congratulate this on this important change. We also lifted the flag here at City Hall on the...during the week of Global Entrepreneurship Week. We also recognized entrepreneurs as part of the Global Entrepreneurship Week which is the world's largest celebration of the innovators and the job creators who launch start-ups and bring ideas to life including many on Winnipeg's new Innovation Alley. I want to encourage Winnipeggers and in fact all Councillors to take part in the Grey Cup celebrations and festivities throughout the week as we welcome the nation and visitors to our great city here in the centre of the country, Winnipeg. Tomorrow, on Thursday evening we are lighting the Christmas tree outside of City Hall and on Saturday our annual Santa Claus Parade has joined forces with the Grey Cup festival to welcome Santa to Winnipeg and I encourage all Councillors, in fact all Winnipeggers to join us and to participate in this wonderful celebration. Madam Speaker, I would also like to acknowledge National Holodomor Awareness Week, which this year runs from November 23rd until November 29th. The crimes committed during the...and I hope I am pronouncing this correctly, Madam Speaker, Holodomor, were heinous and deliberate, the effects and consequences of which continue to impact many people today. Several countries, including Canada, have formally recognized the Holodomor as an act of genocide and it's important during National Holodomor Week, that we not only acknowledge the atrocities that occurred in the past but also work today to ensure that they don't happen again. Today, Madam Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the United Nations Safe Cities Initiative and the Sixteen Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence. Two years ago, Winnipeg was selected as the first city in Canada to join the United Nations Global

Safe Cities Initiative which is aimed at generating innovative approaches to reducing sexual violence against women and girls. Every person has the right to feel safe and live in a world free of sexual harassment. The Sixteen Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence is an annual campaign designed to raise awareness and direct action towards ending gender based violence. The international campaign has been coordinated by the Centre for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers University since 1991 and continues to gain support from participants in more than 150 countries around the world. Each year from November 25 to December 10, the campaign emphasizes that violence against women and gender based crimes are violations of human rights. Each year, the United Nations Director General defines the campaign theme; the 2015 theme colour is orange. And the theme this year is "Orange the World", which symbolizes a brighter future, free from all forms of violence. I would like to allow and invite Councillor Cindy Gilroy to speak at this time, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Gilroy

Councillor Gilroy: Thank you. I am here with Kathleen Hunter and I think Carlee Johnson is up here with us and we are from the UN Safe Cities Committee and we are wearing orange today. I am so very proud that our City and our Province have highlighted this day, November 25, 2015, as the first day of the Sixteen Days of Activism. Thank you Mayor Bowman, his staff and fellow colleagues, Councillors for your support on the UN Safe Cities Initiative that looks at violence and sexual violence towards women in public spaces. Today is Orange Day highlighting the Sixteen Days of Activism Campaign against Gender Violence. I would like to thank the many community organizers that are on the ground working with women every day. Although we have many stories of women that have experienced violence, we also have seen many more stories of women that have overcome this violence and groups that help women and families with the trauma and pain of violence. Thank you for all the hard work you do. To all my male colleagues here today and other men that are out there that are standing up for gender based violence, I hope that you help be mentors. Today I'm hoping that you all tweet #Orange Day and help bring awareness to gender violence. Thank you very much.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor

Mayor Bowman: Madam Speaker I would now like to invite Dr. Kathleen Hunter, Programs and Planning Analyst, UN Safe Cities Winnipeg and Manitoba Status of Women, to come forward, welcome.

Dr. Kathleen Hunter: Thank you Mayor Bowman. Thank you Councillor Gilroy, thank you City Councillors and thank you members of the public for this opportunity just to share a few brief background points about what the United Nations is; the significance of the work that's being undertaken in Winnipeg, and specifically, the work that's being undertaken by the City and the Province. So, what is the United Nations? The United Nations is an international organization that founded in 1945 with the express purpose of preventing another World War. Given our honorary guests today and the events in Paris, all of these issues are always relevant at a global level as well as a local level. So, the UN is made up of 193 separate member states and essentially it's a global forum for dialogue and negotiations about how to solve complex social problems that we face in the 21st century including climate change, human rights violations and the achievement of gender equality. Notably, 2015 marks 70 years since the United Nations was originally formed and at that time, Canada was a founding member. We are still a member, of course. And as Mayor Bowman pointed out, the Chief Administrative Officer within the UN is the Secretary General and he is responsible for defining the theme for the Sixteen Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence which this year is Orange the World. It symbolizes a brighter and more optimistic future free from violence against women. Canada is a signatory to more than 20 international treaties and conventions which, in theory, should protect our human rights and should strive for equality for all disadvantaged groups. We also have the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms as well as Provincial Human Rights Policies which are designed to enshrine a quality in everyone's everyday lives. And like all other wealthy industrialized countries, Canada does still face challenges that are quite extreme when it comes to inequality and gender based inequality is a problem, as well as sexual based violence against women. So, UN Women is one organization within the broader UN system whose mandate is to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women. And there are safe cities and safe public places is a flagship program that now has 21 cities around the world participating and Winnipeg is the only City from Canada who is participating so far. So, Winnipeg really is a leader in this country in terms of acknowledging that we have challenges when it comes to not only gender inequality but also racializing equality, access to resources across a barometer of measures. So yeah, so Winnipeg signed on to this initiative in December 2013 and joins New York City, Reykjavik, Iceland, as well as New Delhi, India and as I said, 21 other cities. It's really encouraging that Winnipeg is participating and putting this at the front of the agenda. In terms of the structure of the Winnipeg program, I think the most innovative dimension of this work is that it involves multi-sectorial partnerships between groups in the city and the province that don't historically work together but have a similar mandate, have an objective of achieving gender equality, having an objective of achieving public safety. The fact that we are all sitting at a similar table, trying to iron out objectives and share resources and make the process more efficient is extremely encouraging. At this time, on November 25, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, we join with more than 70 other countries around the world, in participating in organizing events that acknowledge that violence against

women is a significant challenge facing us, sexual violence against women is a specific problem not only in Winnipeg but all other urban centres across Canada and we, you, are taking action against this as Mayor Bowman mentioned, violation against human rights, so bravo to you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Dr. Hunter for joining us today and for bringing awareness to such important women's issues, thank you. Mr. Mayor, you do have another group you would like to recognize as well.

Mayor Bowman: Yes, I also should acknowledge, I was remiss in acknowledging a number of members of Council attended the Association of Manitoba Municipalities Annual Convention and I want to thank all members of Council who were able to make it out, I know a number were not, due to work commitments. Also want to acknowledge that on Saturday night many of us had the opportunity to attend the Winnipeg Fire and Paramedic Service Annual Dinner in support of St. Amant. And as I was speaking earlier, I was multi-tasking, I noticed Doreen who was highlighted in one of the videos on Saturday night, I believe just dropped off bannock to my office so I would invite all members of Council afterwards, should there be sufficient bannock, to pop by for a bite. I would like to approach the podium at this time.

Madam Speaker: Yes.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the 21st anniversary of “Save our Seine” and recognize them by providing them with the Organizational Community Service Award to mark this significant milestone. “Save our Seine” is a grassroots, volunteer driven, environmental organization that, as many of you know, endeavours to preserve, protect and enhance the entire Seine River Greenway. The urban Seine River is the second longest river in the City of Winnipeg beginning south from the Red River Floodway extending 26 kilometres north through St. Vital and old St. Boniface where it empties into the Red River. The Seine River is rich in history and culture since the first Métis and French settlements. Louis Riel's parents lived on the shores of the Seine River in St. Vital and later moved to the St. Boniface area where Louis Riel himself was born. For the past 25 year, Save our Seine has carried out a variety of projects and programs to improve the quality and the use of Seine River Greenway which in turn, has made Winnipeg a much better place for us all to live. These efforts have included greenway clean-ups, planting trees, building environmental awareness and education, monitoring water quality and providing leadership. And Madam Speaker I would now like to invite Mr. Denis Gautron, President of “Save our Seine”, to please come forward.

Denis Gautron: Your worship, Mayor Brian Bowman, dear Council members and members of the gallery. My advanced team is there. It is both a pleasure and an honour for me to accept this award on behalf of “Save our Seine”, and on behalf of the present and past Board of Directors and volunteers, numerous volunteers of “Save our Seine”. This recognizes the contributions of those who served as board members and volunteers in the previous year’s dating back to at least 1990 because this is our 25th anniversary. We believe that the Seine River Greenway is a real asset to the City of Winnipeg and the province of Manitoba. The present board is committed to continuing the efforts of past board members and volunteers to save and preserve this magnificent greenway for all citizens to enjoy. Speaking of citizens, the Seine River serves as a perfect classroom to do research and appreciate nature at its best in an urban setting. Primary classes, high school classes as well as 4th year university classes can be seen touring and doing research along the Seine River. It is very fitting that the title of the award includes the word "community." This is the main reason why “Save our Seine” is so successful. It is about a community wanting to save and protect the entire greenway from the floodway to the Red River, a distance of 26 kilometres like Mayor Brian Bowman mentioned. This is achieved by the members of the community and it will be enjoyed by future generations. I offer our sincere appreciation to Councillor Janice Lukes and Brian Mayes for proposing our organization for this award.

Translation of French spoken:

Thank you also to Councillor Mathieu Allard for your attention, for your support and for helping us with our vision in order to protect the Seine River forever. Thank you, Mathieu.

Denis Gautron: This is a good opportunity for Save our Seine to express our sincere thanks to the City, to the Councillors, to the administrators and staff for your support of our projects that are vital to a better Seine River Greenway. It is an excellent location for families, friends and community to meet. Members here today who would like a tour of our nice trails, especially Le Bois des Esprits and Gabrielle Roy Trail, board members would enjoy accompanying you and your families for a guided walk, so please contact Save our Seine and our guides are just waiting for your calls. Merci beaucoup and thank you very much for thinking of us and for choosing to present this award to us. Merci beaucoup. .

Madam Speaker: We will now move on to Councillor Matt Allard who has an announcement to make.

Councillor Allard: I would like to recognize Mike Davidson former President of CUPE 500 for his service and just a few facts about CUPE. He has represented 5,000 municipal and health care workers in Manitoba, he has been a CUPE member for more than 30 years, starting out as a Parks worker at the City of Winnipeg in 1979 and so for the past decade he has also served as Vice-President of CUPE Manitoba, has sat on the executive of the Winnipeg Labour Council including as Vice-President. I wanted to recognize his many years of service in the City of Winnipeg both as a City worker and representing the City workers of Winnipeg and of Manitoba. I also want to recognize that the new President is sitting in the audience, Gord Delbridge and so thank you, Mike, for your service and welcome Gord to your new role and best of luck with all your new initiatives. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Schreyer will you move the minutes of the meeting held October 28th and November 4th, 2015 be taken as read and confirmed.

MINUTES

Councillor Schreyer moves that the Minutes of the meeting held on October 28, 2015 and November 4, 2015 be taken as read and confirmed.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Moving on to delegations we have two delegations this morning. First up is Mr. George Peterson in support of Item No. 1 of the previous Downtown Committee regarding Canadian Veterans recognition. Mr. Peterson, if you could come forward. Welcome Mr. Peterson. You have ten minutes to make your presentation this morning.

George Peterson: Thank you very much for inviting me here today. And I thank Councillor Brian Mayes for putting this before you. In 1941, on October the 27th, 1,977 Canadians, all volunteers, left the harbour of Vancouver for parts unknown. Two or three days after at sea we learned that our destination was known at that time, was to the British colony of Hong Kong. 1,976 of us arrived there on November the 16th. One of the Royal Rifles died and was buried at sea. Of that 1,977, it consisted of two infantry brigade regiments. 962 men, officers and men of the Royal Rifles of Canada from Québec, 915 Winnipeg pioneers from Winnipeg, and 100 service personnel that included our two nursing sisters, made up brigade headquarters. We became known as Sea Force. Three weeks after arrival in Hong Kong we were at war with Japan and on December 8th, 30,000 well-trained, well-led, well-disciplined Japanese veteran troops hit us, and they had another 30,000 in reserve. The Garrison in Hong Kong at the time consisted of approximately 10,000 men so we didn't really have a chance. Our battle lasted 17 days and in that time, 290 Canadians were killed in action. In the ensuing almost four years in captivity, another 264 would die. That included one of the Winnipeg Grenadiers who died on the voyage home and was buried at sea. That number, 1,422 of us, survived to return home. Of that number there is 23 of us left today and I intend to be the last one to go: Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Mr. Peterson for your very thoughtful presentation this morning. Are there any questions for Mr. Peterson before he departs? Comments? Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: Just by way of comment, I think we are going to try to move this Item, well I intend with Councillor Gillingham to move this to try and get consideration much earlier in the agenda so hopefully Mr. Holiday and Mr. Peterson can stay briefly. I think we may have one more delegation to hear from. I'll reserve my comments for when we get to the actual Motion.

Madam Speaker: We will now hear from Chuck Davidson in support of Item No. 1 from Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development Committee regarding the South Winnipeg Recreation Initiative. Mr. Davidson, if you could come forward sir, and you have ten minutes to make your presentation.

Chuck Davidson: Thank you Mayor Bowman and City Councillors as well. My name is Chuck Davidson I am the President of the South Winnipeg Community Centre. It's a bit of a momentous week for us as well. It's been one year since we combined the Richmond Kings as well as the Waverley Heights Community Centre into one, the South Winnipeg Community Centre just to give you a sense of the size of catchment that we represent with the South Winnipeg Community Centre. Bishop Grandin is our north boundary, the perimeter is our south boundary, the Red River is our east boundary and our west boundary continues to increase day by day as more houses are built into Waverley West. I am here on behalf of residents in the area. What we have developed in the past couple of months is the South Winnipeg Action Team for improved recreation infrastructure and services within South Winnipeg. Our umbrella organization represents 50,000 residents and key recreation stakeholder organizations within South Winnipeg. Members of our organization include the South Winnipeg Community Centre, the Manitoba Islamic Association, the Manitoba Chinese Community Centre, the Pembina Active Living Centre 55 plus, the Riel Advisory Group, the Richmond West

Neighbourhood Association, the Bridgwater Lakes Neighbourhood Association, the Bridgwater Forrest Neighbourhood Association and the South Point Neighbourhood Association. The issue that we are here to discuss today, and I hope that you will consider, is understanding the problem we are dealing with in South Winnipeg. The reality is that South Winnipeg does not have adequate recreation infrastructure to meet the needs of our community. We have no gym space outside of schools that we have access to that cannot support the many programs that we provide or to add additional programs. We have limited meeting space available to our community groups and our Pal 55 Program relies on church basements to run their programs. This is a problem; this is not a new problem. This was identified in the GCWCC 2025 report which was published back in April of 2009, more than six years ago. At that time it was identified that service levels are below the City's established Recreation Leisure and Library Facilities Policy before construction of even one house in Waverley West. Existing facilities are aging; they are not adequate to meet the needs of the City's most rapidly growing community. Waverley West, of course, has grown much more quickly than expected and this has done nothing but accelerate the problem. To understand the problem and looking at the current situation, the recreation infrastructure deficit is equivalent to at least 3.5 traditional community centres in our area. In addition to required library, emergency services and transit investments. This is impacting the delivery of services that we can provide to many groups in the area; to our children, our seniors and to our new Canadians. This is an urgent problem that requires action. We are asking the City to champion this project and help us push for provincial and federal support as soon as possible. To give you a sense of the facilities that we currently have, the two facilities that we operate under the South Winnipeg Community Centre include the Richmond King site which includes an ice surface which operates through September 1st to March 31st for hockey, ringette, lacrosse there is an outdoor pleasure skating rink, there's a small boardroom that accommodates up to 12 people, there's storage for sports equipment and two small baseball and softball fields. We have a main hall, that's 2200 square feet with 200 person max for specific programs that we run; Pilates, karate, senior fitness, preteen dances as well we have a mezzanine area as well that provides dance classes that we hold there. At our Waverley site, 3800 square feet, used from 7:00 to 7:00 every day with a daycare housed in that facility, we do socials, birthday parties, tae kwon do, dog training, you name it, that facility is busy seven days a week. We have a small boardroom that we can provide as well for some, there's prayer groups, there's family centres, there's bridge clubs that are in there, as well as the daycare uses some of that. The process that we have been going through for the last number of years has been one of community consultation and that's taken place over the last two years. And in your report you will see a document that is entitled the BRAID Report and the BRAID Report was finalized in 2014 and some of the outcomes of what is established and what's been outlined in the BRAID Report based on the consultations that have happened include the need for the development of the Showcase Regional Campus as the hub of a coordinated approach for the entire community. Stakeholders that were consulted believe the traditional community centre model is no longer a viable strategy for South Winnipeg. The BRAID Report indicates broad consensus to pursue the development of a Regional Recreation Campus that was also outlined in the plan 2025 report. We believe in pursuing synergies and cost savings with the Pembina Trails School Division and through alignment of City investments in libraries, transit and emergency services. We believe in investigating the opportunities to leverage a relationship with the YM and the YWCA Manitoba. The repositioning of developing existing recreation facilities in the area. The lower overall construction cost through shared infrastructure and servicing investments and the require for access to transit. These steps are to establish a bold new vision for the delivery of recreation services that is currently relevant and in line with service expectations and to drive the planning, design, development and operations together with us. We believe that we can develop a Showcase Regional Campus as the hub to pursue excellence like other communities are already doing in places like Calgary, Edmonton, London, Saskatoon, to name a few. Are ask of you today, we would ask you to support, to make this project a priority for the City of Winnipeg. To confirm financial support to initiate the further planning and feasibility work recommended in the BRAID Solutions Report. We would ask you to make this project a Council priority, establish a government structure that includes the community stakeholders to continue to move this issue forward and to establish and define clear expectation for time frames and delivery. This is an issue of urgent. We need to secure the land required for a facility of this. We need support moving the leadership and direction for the initiative to the community stakeholders through the swat group we have established and we want you to work with us to get this program to shovel-ready state. We believe this needs to be a priority for discussion with the provincial and federal governments which we have already started and we need to confirm the City's responsibility to provide basic infrastructure to the level of established city policies. We believe there is a tremendous opportunity for not only the residents of South Winnipeg, but for all Winnipeggers and I would ask for your support to continue to move this forward. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Mr. Davidson. Are there any questions for the delegation? Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, Madam Speaker, I have a...it is a vast area without enough recreation facilities absolutely Madam Speaker. My question actually is given the...and that is a huge catchment area for this community centre that exists now. My question is, are there...are you experiencing any problems in terms of your per capita operating contributions? Has that been a challenge as well? Or, it seems to me you are serving a lot of people verses a community centre like Ralph Brown Community Centre which has a very tiny catchment area. Is there a problem with operating dollars in this particular area of the City?

Chuck Davidson: If you were to say could we use additional operating dollars? Absolutely. Because of the way the formula works it's based on the square footage of the buildings that you house. It's not based on the number of residents you have. So there is a formula that works. In fact, when there was a redo of the current situation while we had increased residents and this was previous from a Waverley Heights perspective for the amalgamation, because of the size of the building that we had and the catchment area that we represented, we actually saw a decrease in our operating budget from the City of Winnipeg.

Madam Speaker: Second question Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, thank you Madam Speaker. Just a question...are not some of the monies received by community centres based on a per capita versus square footage of the building itself? Because there is operating the building but then, is there not some grants or something that come in related on a per capita basis?

Chuck Davidson: It's based on a combination of the two. It's not one verses the other, it's a combination based on the facilities that you represent and the square footage you have and as well as capacity that you provide. So it is a combination of the two but because our square footage...we are not growing in comparison, it hasn't been substantial in terms of any increase that we have had.

Madam Speaker: Any further questions for our delegation this morning? Seeing none I thank you for appearing today Mr. Davidson. Councillor Mayes wishes to suspend the rules to change the order of debate this morning so we can hear Item No. 1 of the Downtown Development Committee. The Item on Canadian Veterans Recognition. All those in favour? Contrary? Carried. Councillor Mayes to introduce the item.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT, HERITAGE AND RIVERBANK MANAGEMENT DATED OCTOBER 5, 2015

Councillor Mayes: Thank you Madam Speaker. Can I speak to it now?

Madam Speaker: Yes.

Councillor Mayes: All right. First...I was going to say George Peterson is a remarkable man but I don't need to say that because people have heard him and met him here today. I want to thank Councillor Gillingham who is our military liaison for Council for supporting and working with me on this Motion. We are national leaders in doing this and we should be national leaders in doing this because what this does is shed a bit of a light on what Mr. Peterson talked about, the Battle of Hong Kong. I once criticized the province for saying this was part of the Korean War and then the City, a few years ago, put out something that it was part of the Korean War. The Battle of Hong Kong but it was not part of the Korean War. It was a sad chapter in Winnipeg's history and Canada's history that was part of the Second World War and as Mr. Peterson said, there remain 23 veterans from that group. If you want information on the battle of Hong Kong there is a war memorial in St. Vital Ward, which I want to give some credit to Christine Melnick, my provincial colleague, for her idea to do that in which I was happy to support and which we opened with a very moving speech from Mr. Peterson in 2014. You don't often see politicians and reporters in tears at these sorts of events but after his speech, I have to say, that was the case. He talked about not being a hero in the…it's called the Arden Seven Memorial because Mr. Peterson and six of his friends and brothers went off from Arden, in which the street in my Ward, off to volunteer and the thought they would do the right thing and volunteer to help their country. And they were sent into the conditions he described; untrained, unaware really of what they were getting into and their war lasted about three weeks and their status as prisoner of war lasted, I said four years and Mr. Peterson, before we started, gave the exact day, the number days, three years, eight months, the number of weeks that he was a prisoner of war. It was an extremely difficult time, many died, many came back and were not the same, but Mr. Peterson, remarkably, is still with us. We are very pleased to open that memorial on River Road, in my Ward, that talks about the Battle of Hong Kong not just about the Arden Seven but about the Canadian contribution, about the Winnipeg contribution to that Battle and so that leaves us in a fashion to this resolution today, the Mitsubishi Corporation to its credit, earlier this year, issued an apology to many of the vets from different nations who had worked in the Mitsubishi mines in Japan and the surrounding area during the Second World War and I want it use the words to their credit, they had no legal obligation to issue that apology. They did that to the Dutch veterans, the British, the American veterans, there was a moving ceremony in Los Angeles with a gentleman about Mr. Peterson's vintage who had served for the US in that war. What Mitsubishi has said is that they don't have the data to support apologizing to Canadian vets. One of the reporters here started his article on this subject by saying they should have talked to George Peterson which I thought it was a good summary. The Globe and Mail had

a front page story on Mr. Peterson and other media outlets have done the same. We aren't demanding anything here, we are making a request to recognize the service of Mr. Peterson and others, is it a Winnipeg issue? Absolutely it is because the Winnipeg Grenadiers, as you heard, were really the lead group in that force that went off to be in the Pacific Theatre during World War Two. So, again, I want to thank Councillor Gillingham for working with me on this. It's a request, it's a Motion, it's an attempt to shed some light. I hope other jurisdictions in Canada take a look at it. We are sending it to the new Minister of Veterans Affairs and hopefully he can speak to the right parties and hopefully we will have you there in the Arden Seven Memorial and have someone there from the Mitsubishi Corporation. Mr. Peterson has told Mr. Holliday, Chair of the St. Vital Historical Society, intends to get his money's worth out of his ten year membership which runs …I believe in the St. Vital Historical Society. Despite the fact that we might have another ten years hopefully we will get this to the Minister of Veterans Affairs and get some action on it by 2016 and we can meet again at the Arden Seven Memorial sometime in 2016. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Mayes. Moving on to Councillor Gillingham.

Councillor Gillingham: Thank you Madam Speaker, and I too want to rise and support this Motion, obviously, and I want to thank Councillor Mayes for his leadership and vision on this Motion. Of course I want to thank Mr. Peterson as well. We are honoured to have him with us today and to hear him speak. I just want to emphasize similar to what Councillor Mayes has said that this Motion is respectfully submitted. It's in no way an effort to shame any corporation or individual. Councillor Mayes has already indicated what the Mitsubishi Corporation has done. Rather, this Motion is about we as Winnipeg City Council doing our small but very important part to support our veterans even though it is, remarkably, some 70 years plus after the ordeal. Mr. Peterson, and his fellow soldiers as you heard served to defend our freedom, for their efforts they carry with them the memories of their experiences and it's quite remarkable when we think of it that Mr. Peterson and others have carried those memories for more than seven decades. I believe that our Motion today will clearly communicate a message, not only to the company involved but even more so to Mr. Peterson and to his colleagues. Winnipeg is grateful for their sacrifice, we value their lives, we value their contribution, the contribution that they have made to our nation and certainly to our City as well. Winnipeg will be forever indebted to Mr. Peterson and his fellow Canadian Veterans so I consider it a privilege, as Councillor Mayes indicated, to be serving in this new role as Council Liaison for Veteran and Military Affairs. I thank Mayor Bowman for the opportunity. This past Remembrance Day the Mayor and I stopped by several locations to speak with as many veterans as possible just to express our City's gratitude to them. And I can tell you from first-hand experience that our veterans and current forces personnel really appreciate the sincere effort that the City is making in this regard. I believe it's incumbent upon us a Council to express support to the men and women who are currently serving and certainly to our veterans as well who served over the years. And this Motion gives us, as Council, gives us the opportunity to do just that. I am confident that my colleagues will unanimously support this Motion and once again, on behalf of all of us, we do thank Mr. Peterson for his presence today.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Gillingham. Any further speakers on the Item? Councillor Mayes, do you wish to close? I can call the question.

Councillor Mayes: That reminded me of another St. Vitaler...John Robert Osborne who I believe received the Victoria Cross posthumously after sacrificing his life to launch...to jump on a grenade, basically, and save the lives of others in his army unit and there is a memorial in Guay Park in St. Vital to Mr. Osborne who is certainly deserving of our recognition. So again, as Councillor Gillingham has said it's trying to capture here that Mitsubishi did apologize for the slave-like conditions in which the POWs were employed, were used in their lines. Mr. Peterson has talk to me and to others about his work in the coal mine. The story is in the Globe. It's quite...it's hard reading, to be frank. So, we just seek a similar apology to the Canadian vets like Mr. Peterson who served in those coal mines under some very, very harsh conditions. And again, we thank Mr. Peterson and his colleagues for their service.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE DATED NOVEMBER 18, 2015

Madam Speaker: Thank you. I will call the question now. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Again, Mr. Peterson thank you for joining us here today, it was an honour. We will now move on to committee reports. Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated November 18th, 2015. Mr. Mayor on report, knowing that we have a Motion, Motion No. 1 as amendment to Item No. 4.

Mayor Bowman: Madam Speaker, for process I would like to actually pull 3 and 8.

Madam Speaker: Absolutely. 3?

Mayor Bowman: Yes. Three and eight please. I would just like to speak to them so I will introduce the report and move adoption of the consent agenda Item Nos. 1, 2, 4...sorry, 5 as amended, 5, 6 and 7.

Madam Speaker: I will call the question on Item Nos. 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk, Item No. 1.

Item 3 – Cross Jurisdictional Review of Open Government Policies

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor to introduce Item No. 3.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you Madam Speaker, this report is a cross jurisdictional review of what other Canadian cities are doing for open government initiatives and this is something that I am very proud that we are moving forward with. Of course I am hopeful that we will receive...and I will receive the consent of this EPC Motion from all members of Council. This, as you'll recall, Executive Policy Committee, Madam Speaker, moved the Motion requesting such a review and also requesting future opportunities to improve our open government initiatives here at the City of Winnipeg. I do want to thank the Clerks for their diligence on this important file. They have done outstanding work in the last little while for us and I want to really commend them as Winnipeggers and all members of Council should know I am deeply committed to ensuring Winnipeg is leading on open government and transparency and accountability matters to our citizens. The City of Guelph is highlighted in this report and is highlighted with their Council adopted policy that they have implemented. It's worthy of review. I think we can do better than Guelph and quite frankly, I think if we keep moving in this direction we will in fact lead the nation when it comes to open government. The recommendations contained in this Motion, Madam Speaker, are to request the CAO to implement actions across all departments as well as to report back within six months with a specific action plan for Council adoption, Madam Speaker. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Mr. Mayor. Any further speakers on the Item? Councillor Dobson.

Councillor Dobson: Yes, Madam Speaker, I applaud all the efforts of the EPC and Council here for pursuing an open government policy here in the City of Winnipeg. This will bring more openness and transparency, making information more accessible and in a format that is easily read. It will go a long way to increase the trust in this government. However, I am at a disconnect. Here we are making information more accessible to the public and many Councillors and myself are not privy to budget discussions that have been going on since June. That's six months. Not a word. Nadda. It's all secret. You would think that with a tough budget coming, it would have all hands on deck with Councillors participating and doing their best to come up with a viable solution. Apparently not. We are pursuing openness and transparency, I think we have to look a little closer to home. While the Mayor and EPC and possibly two Councillors helping Councillor Morantz have been involved in the budget deliberations, the rest of Council has not. We have not met with the administration, we have not had budget discussions with department heads and trust me, we would all like to participate in the process and provide input but we are denied. Last time I looked we were all elected by residents in this City. Nobody on the EPC was elected in my ward and yet here they are, producing a draft budget of which I have no part in and for that matter, many Councillors here had no part in it. Sure we can make changes to the draft budget once it's released but what were the choices that were made in producing this budget? Perhaps we Councillors would have chosen differently, or not. But we will never know because we were denied the opportunity to see the choices available. I had a discussion with one EPC Councillor recently who wanted to know my concerns, but that he couldn't talk about the budget. His concern was genuine and I thank him for that but he wasn't elected in my ward either. It's my job to represent my residents not his, nor anyone else in EPC. I was told last budget cycle that due to the election things are rushed and that there will be a whole new process next year. Well, here we are and things don't look any different to me. Open and transparent, this is not. If you want an open government at City Hall and you wish to promote openness and transparency as well as improving trust then I suggest we change the status quo. All elected officials should have access to all budget deliberations at the start, not after someone made choices and produced a draft budget. You want an open government, a more transparent government, then look a little closer to home. It's time for the secrecy to stop.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further speakers on the Item? Mr. Mayor to close.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you Madam Speaker. I just wish to have the question called.

Madam Speaker: I'll call the question on Item No. 3. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Item No. 4 Madam Clerk.

Item 4 – Winnipeg Arts Council Inc. / Public Art Program

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor to introduce the Item. Then we'll have Councillor Gerbasi introduce the amendment. Councillor Gerbasi to introduce the amending Motion.
Motion No. 1
Moved by Councillor Gerbasi,
Seconded by Councillor Pagtakhan,

WHEREAS in accordance with the Council Policy on Public Art, the Winnipeg Arts Council Inc. is responsible for managing the Public Art Capital Program;

AND WHEREAS the Winnipeg Arts Council receives an Annual Operating Grant that falls under the jurisdiction of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and Parks;

AND WHEREAS funding for the Public Art Capital Program falls under the jurisdiction of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage, and Downtown Development;

AND WHEREAS it would be more efficient to have all funding for the Winnipeg Arts Council to fall under the jurisdiction of one committee;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Item 4 of the Report of Executive Policy Committee dated November 18, 2015 be amended to delete Recommendation No. 1 and replace it with the following:

"1. That consideration be given to changing jurisdiction over funding of the Public Art Strategy to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and Parks during the annual budget review."

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you Madam Speaker. This amendment really seconded...and I thank Councillor Pagtakhan for seconding the amendment is really just for clarification so that any Motion that comes out the other end of Council, everybody understands what it means. The Motion as it was originally passed at the committee wasn't clear to me when I read it so I am hoping that this amendment will be fine and will...and I hope you will all support it because i think it brings some clarification. And I wanted to take a couple of minutes on the Public Art Policy and kind of explain why I am suggesting this change. The...therefore be it resolved is that consideration be given to changing jurisdiction over funding of Public Art Strategy to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and Parks during the annual budget review. So I am not sure what the original intent of the Motion was but I believe that Council's jurisdiction over the public art policy should be in the amount of funding that goes to it, it shouldn't be which project gets picked or interfering with that sort of thing. So I just wanted to be very clear that the intent of this Motion which I am quite certain that's what it would have been, would be that this...that how the budget process works in terms of where the Public Art Policy goes. Currently it's the Property and Development Committee or in the past that would review whether or not to adjust the budget amount that went into the Public Art Program. This is putting it together with the other Items that come forward from the Winnipeg Arts Council, so I think that's fine. It referred to Parks as the reason for that and I just wanted to clarify and I confirmed this with Carol Phillips, that the majority of the Public Arts Projects aren't actually in Parks. The majority, there is bridges, Osborne Bridge, there's bike... bike racks…it really crosses all departments as a program, it has to go somewhere in the budget review process so for Council oversight. I am okay with it going there with the other whack of programs as they are presented when whack presents its case but I wanted to make it clear that that's what we're talking about, is simply, the envelope of the budget amount that goes to public art and I think it would be very dangerous if people misunderstood that. Someone could say, I would really like this type of project in Transcona, in this park. We have very specific process that we go through and I don't think that was the intent and I just want to be sure that it's really clear that we are talking about just our role as Council is to decide how much we invest into public art within the parameters of that program and the way it works is there is a very specific administrative review process across all the…led by Planning and where the sites are considered they have to consider the real estate, they have to consider the public works, like all the different aspect and then it's juried out to expert artists who…and people from the arts community that determine more specific aspects of the project and I really don't think anybody is intending to alter that in any fashion. That would not be good. And I also want to bring this to Council's attention, that we have a very, very special Public Art Program that was created and the results of it are impressive across the country, people admire what we have achieved with this program its really, really exceptional. And part of it is the mechanism of how it's done and nothing will change that it's at arm's length and done in the fashion it's done. With Council oversight in terms of the budget process is very appropriate. Really that was why I wanted to amend it so it's crystal clear and it says that we can consider when the budget process…it's for consideration that it could go to that committee. That doesn't stop it...also, everything goes through EPC and through all of Council, it could even be considered that it still continues to go to Property and Development since planning is really the lead on Public Art Projects even though that whack report's there. So I think there might be a little consultation that should happen with the Winnipeg arts Council on that and see what

they think would work well too. I think we would like to hear from them. This was a Motion that came up not from the Winnipeg Arts Council but from a member of the committee, it was a suggestion, so they haven't really been consulted on changing that reporting mechanism. That's what the Motion is all about. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Sorry. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I just wanted to speak...actually, the report is as it is, I sit on the Standing Committee. I appreciate and actually I will be supporting the amendment. It is correct there was never any intention on the part of our Standing Committee in voting for this Motion that we would somehow be deciding art projects and that sort of stuff there. The Winnipeg Art Council is set up for that purpose. Although, I guess in the budget process if we wanted to add extra in a capital program or something, I'd imagine that that would be a decision about throwing money into...because it is a worthy art project, Madam Speaker, but yes, it was just to try to bring everything together because we have different reports going to different places and it becomes quite confusing, actually. And I know we have integrated departments on many issues, even Parks Planning, we have Planning...we have Planners...very good Planners who we work with in terms of our various parks as you well know, Madam Speaker. In no way was there ever an intention and, you know, some of the bigger projects that may come to mind, maybe it was an error to say many are in the parks but there are a number of major art installations we have done in basically what you would consider a park settings, Madam Speaker, so that was done. But, if the Motion...if the report needs to be clarified, I think that's great, as long as we are just trying to consolidate where the reporting comes from because we...Madam Speaker, we received a report, an annual report from the Winnipeg Art Council and there was discussion from the ED, you know, so it can be easy to get sort of get misunderstand or whatever. And yes, anything to do with the budget in terms of the Winnipeg Arts Council is basically an EPC issue which there was...as it was dealt with in that way. So, anyway I will be voting for the amendment and of course, for the report. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Eadie. Councillor Mayes, you have the floor.

Councillor Mayes: Thank you Madam Chair. The only point I wanted to make was a point I had also made at EPC which is I think the Arts Councillor should be commended for moving public art. It's not just a downtown concept, they've done that pretty well at getting it out to different parts of the City. There was an opening on the day of our last Council meeting at Northeast Pioneer's Greenway got some on the Bishop Grandin Greenway and also in...in addition to that, of course, there is quite a big piece (inaudible) in the St. Vital Park which is actually the end point for Bike Winnipeg this year on their public art tour. It's useful to just remember this isn't just something that's going on downtown, it's going on across the whole City and I'm supportive of the amendment but we do seem to be getting a pretty good return here in getting more and more projects out across the City.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further speakers? Councillor Gerbasi to close.

Councillor Gerbasi: Thanks everyone for their comments and yeah it really is just a matter of clarification about the budget process. So, if the Winnipeg Arts Council generally reports to EPC about the budget then that's something EPC can consider whether they want to have this happen and that it goes to Standing Committee. I mean, the reality is, it's just to make sure we all understand and the Motion is a little bit clearer and it also gives us the chance to talk about public art and what a great program we have which is very important, it's really worth investing in. Thank you Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor do you wish to close or shall I ask the question? Call the question. We'll vote on Motion No. 1 the amending Motion All in favour? Contrary? Carried. I will now call the question on the main Item as amend. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Could I just ask those in the gallery to refrain from using cell phones while we are in session? Thank you.

Councillor Allard: Point of order Councillor Sharma. I'm just wondering if there is an official policy on cell phone use in this chamber. I have been known to use my cell phone myself. I'm just curious.

Madam Speaker: It's just disrupting the debate and for people that are listening but we can certainly check on that.

Councillor Allard: Are you saying just for speaking on cell phone?

Madam Speaker: There was just someone in the gallery on a cell phone and maybe you didn't notice.

Councillor Allard: No, I didn't notice.

Madam Speaker: Just drawing attention to that. But we can get back to you on the official policy.

Councillor Allard: Ok, thank you.

Councillor Schreyer: If I may, for clarification are you referring to people talking on the cell phone as opposed to texting? Because I know texting goes on all the time.

Madam Speaker: Yes, it was talking on the cell phone, Councillor Schreyer, yes. There is an official policy that the Clerk has pulled out if you could read it into the record Mr. Clerk.

Clerk: Procedure By-law 50/2007 (9.5) no member shall engage in private conversation in such manner as to disrupt the business of Council.

Madam Speaker: Thank you for that clarification. We will now move on to the next Item. Madam Clerk.

Item 8 – Funding Plan for Southwest Rapid Transitway (Stage 2) and Pembina Highway Underpass

Madam Speaker: Item No. 8, Mr. Mayor to introduce the Item.

Mayor Bowman: Thanks Madam Speaker. This report asks Council to rescind the 2015 operating budget recommendation that was approved March 23rd of 2015 and recommends an alternate solution reached by collaborative efforts between the City of Winnipeg and province of Manitoba. The original adopted solution established as a funding source for the City's share of construction of the southwest rapid transit way was to establish a new reserve using a one-time transit fare increase over and above the annual inflationary increases of 5 cents. It would generate $1.7 million annually. This proposed and dedicated increase was conditional upon Provincial approval to amend the transit funding agreement for the City of Winnipeg to retain the complete 5 cent increase. In the event the provincial approval was not obtained for the full 5 cent increase, only 2.5 cents would be obtained and then the property tax increase of .330 would increase to .36 annually to make up the difference. I want to thank the province of Manitoba for their ongoing collaboration to establish priorities with the City of Winnipeg and work with us to fund our share of the construction of strange two and for partnering on an alternate that frees up transit funding and offers new funding dollars that were previously ineligible shared expenses. I want to thank our Finance Chair, Councillor Morantz, our CAO Doug McNeil, our CFO Mike Ruta, and Dave Wardrop, our Transit Director for exceptional work to collaborate with our provincial partners to come up with a great solution that really took all parties coming to the table to achieve. Thank you Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, are there any further speakers on this Item? Councillor Morantz.

Councillor Morantz: Thank you Madam Speaker. I will just add that I was very pleased that we were able to come to a resolution of this matter with the province, to come up with a new and innovative way to ensure that we are able to make our payment for the southwest rapid transit in 2020 and to avoid having to bring in the additional nickel fare increase. I think all users of the transit service, I think will benefit from this decision. The City will benefit from the decision and it will help us move forward with our strategy to provide better and higher levels of service for transit in the city and I would also like to thank the Mayor and Corporate Finance and the staff and the Mayor's office in fact, for assisting us in moving this matter forward as well as the province so thank you.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Gillingham.

Councillor Gillingham: Thank you Madam Speaker. I am glad to hear this news as well. I would rise to express one maybe note of caution as I don't know the details of what the terms and conditions will be. It does say here in the Motion, subject to confirmation satisfactory of the Chief Administrative Officer on terms and conditions. I guess what I wouldn't want to see is a restriction that would prohibit this Council, if need be in the future, from levying something similar to a 5-cent one time increase on the fares, if that's needed. So I guess that's the one caution again. I don't think we know yet, the terms and conditions, all the details of that. But I just...again I wouldn't want us to be boxed into a corner. If there is need in the coming years to levy such a one-time increase, thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Gerbasi.

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you, Madam Speaker. And just very briefly, I just wanted to thank the Mayor and Councillor Morantz and the Province of Manitoba. I think when people do things that are good for us we ought to thank them, it shouldn't even be something we would question. This is really great for the residents of our city, the transit users and many transit users in Winnipeg are not, you know a lot of people...it's a big cost to pay for their transportation. And they're choosing a form of transportation that's better for the environment, that's reducing greenhouse gases, that's reducing congestion and wear and tear on our roads and they are making that choice, and I...I never believed that

they...because we are building a better rapid transit, we are building a rapid transit system and improving the service and getting it to where it probably should have been a long time ago that the users of transit should have to bear that cost. They already fund 50 percent of our transit system. So ongoing costs, they already pay costs. You get in your car and don't pay the City a bill for your license or anything else, which we probably should like other places do. And so transit users who in some cases can least afford it are getting a break here and I think I want to thank the Premier, I want to thank the Mayor for this insightful and co-operative and collaborative decision and it's very, very refreshing to be doing business in that fashion. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Gerbasi, next speaker is Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Thank you Madam Speaker. I wasn't going to speak to this but I need to, I guess, remind all of us on Council, I get these requests and I know that the Mayor himself gets requests for funding bus tickets so that poorer families can actually attend various functions and Christmas is actually coming up again and last year, Madam Speaker, we received a number of requests to help fund these families who, because of the funding arrangement or determination about what people may qualify to receive money to get bus tickets and so on, it's very difficult, Madam Speaker. So, it's always a great thing when we can limit the amount of money that we increase bus fares by. It's been an annual thing because of inflationary factors that there is actually been a 5-cent increase ever since I became a City Councillor, to offset inflationary factors and stuff that goes to the user that basically maintains that 50 percent share of the overall system, Madam Speaker. And I just…there is really two purposes for a good transit system. There is the...and it's the mass transportation business that we are in. We have a massive amount of people who live in this city and the more people who take the bus the better. Cost is one issue that does affect people's decisions about whether or not to take a bus. There are other convenience factors that we need to do. But so, there is the whole environmental factor. The more people we get on the transit system, the better it is for us in terms of wear and tear on our roads, better for the pollution we as the City of Winnipeg want to contribute to reducing the effects we have on climate change. But we also provide a mass transportation system for those people who cannot afford to run motor vehicles. They need to get to work every day. They need to get to their appointments. And so one of the main purposes of a transit system is to ensure that the people of Winnipeg have the ability in an affordable way to get the work and we know that there are actually some of our bus service isn't the greatest to some of our industrial areas, for example the industrial area all around the airport, very difficult to get a bus there, working those late hours after 7:00 p.m. and so on, Madam Speaker. And so, anything we can do to improve the efficiency, yes, if we do have to support it through property tax increases, it's the best. This is for the good of all Winnipeggers and it's a way of dealing with it so I want to applaud the Mayor, Councillor Morantz and the Province of Manitoba, definitely. I don't think in the terms, we are a partner, the Province of Manitoba is a very strong partner in the Winnipeg transit system. Very strong. Because at the end of the day, sometimes it fluctuates, but at the end of the day our partners, the Province of Manitoba covers off half of the costs that are not covered by the users of the system. And you know, that's a good deal to have, very important deal. Would be great to have it on the roads I'm sure, Councillor Morantz, and bridges and so on. I'm sure we would love to have that deal for everything that we operate in the City of Winnipeg and we know that's not the reality but on Winnipeg transit it is and so thanks to all on this and thanks for lowering the 5 cents. I had a real difficulty voting for the plan that saw us adding 5 cents to the users and now our partner has come up with a way to work with us so we that don't have to do it, and that is good. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Any further speakers? Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: I would just like to make the comment as we enter into a new era of developing a mass rapid transit system, that there will be those that are dependent on our public transportation system and our transit system, that will be for the most part not using rapid transit. And bear in mind that as we go forth in the years to come, that those people may be stuck with subsidizing, by virtue of paying for their bus fare, subsidizing our rapid transit system. And on that basis I am grateful for what I see today and bear in mind what this...what this bears for the future. That those who are dependent on our public transportation system and perhaps can barely afford and in some cases can't really afford a public transportation system, what it means for them in the future when it comes to they're subsidizing by their bus ticket the expansion of a transportation system that they may very well not be using. And I just like to leave that for members of Council as we go forth on this issue. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Schreyer. Any further speakers? Seeing none, back to you Mr. Mayor if you wish to close.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you Madam Speaker and through you I thank all members of Council for their ongoing input today but also on an ongoing basis on this important matter. I'm very pleased that we were able to negotiate $1.75 million a year, which does reduce the burden on, not only transit riders but also taxpayers and so, very pleased to bring this forward.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS – 2ND AND 3RD READING

Madam Speaker: Thank you. I will call the question on Item No. 8. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Now moving on to By-laws, EPC By-laws for 2nd and 3rd readings, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you Madam Speaker. I move that the By-law No. 96 be read a 2nd time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 96/2015.

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you Madam Speaker. I move the By-law No. 96/2015 be read a 3rd time and that the same be passed in order to be signed and sealed.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Third reading Mr. Mayor...or pardon me yes, EPC reading is for all three readings, right?. Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you Madam Speaker. I move that By-law No. 96 be read a third time and same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Madam Speaker: What number is that?

Mayor Bowman: Sorry if there was any confusion on my part, Madam Speaker. I move the following By-laws be read a first time. By-law No.112/2015, By-law No. 113/2015, By-law No. 114/2015.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 112/2015, By-law No. 113/2015, By-law No. 114/2015.

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: I move that By-law Nos. 112/2015 to 114/2015, both inclusive, be read a second time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law Nos. 112/2015 to 114/2015.

Mayor Bowman: I move that the rule be suspended and By-law Nos. 112/2015 to 114/2015 both inclusive be read a third time and that the same be passed in order to be signed and sealed.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
QUESTION PERIOD

Madam Speaker: All those in favour? Contrary? Carried. Now, we will now have question period for the Mayor. Councillor Gillingham.

Councillor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and through you to the Mayor, as the Mayor indicate several of us had the opportunity to go to Brandon, the last couple of days to attend the Association of Manitoba Municipalities meetings. And yesterday morning, the resolution, several resolutions were passed, one of them was a resolution

number four “Sustainable Taxation and Revenue” it was “therefore be it resolved the AMM lobby the Province of Manitoba to retool the traditional model property-based taxation to include alternate revenue sources that additional tax sharing agreements for the purposes of creating a sustainable tax model and revenue sources for municipalities.” I think the Mayor, I don’t know, may have had to left prior to the meeting, but I’m just wondering if, through you, Madam Speaker to the Mayor, if the Mayor supports this resolution and if so, what role the City of Winnipeg will play and lobby the province for this, the province part way for our new revenue funding model?

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor?

Mayor Bowman: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and through you to the Councillor, thanks for the question. I do agree with the resolution with that excellent dialogue with a number of stakeholders including the Association of Manitoba Municipalities. I would like to go further then what’s called for in the resolution for 2015 as members of Council and Winnipeggers will know, I campaigned on leading a discussion with stakeholders and ultimately to secure provincial support for a new modern funding model that would in fact replace property taxes, one that is really focused on economic growth, so that as our economy grows, so to do revenues for the City of Winnipeg and our ability to meet the expectations and the needs of a growing city. So we will have much more to say in the lead up to the provincial campaign, to really have a really healthy discussions with all of the provincial parties and all of the leaders of the three main parties. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Any further questions? Councillor Gerbasi?

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you, Madam Speaker and I appreciate also at the AMM there was another motion at that same meeting for a PST rebate, which is clearly a small piece, it’s a money that we could get that would be very helpful, a smaller amount, but this is with the GST rebate kind of idea, that’s where that’s coming from. But my question is more about the larger overall plan and I agree with the direction that you’re taking and we must establish one. I guess when you’re talking about the property tax, obviously we’re trying to find other revenue sources instead of relying as heavily as we are on the property tax, but I guess I just want to ask if there’s a concern about, you know, are you talking about completely eliminating that or just developing reducing our reliance of it? Because, I guess, one of the benefits of a base of some property tax revenue is that it’s stable and it’s always there; and we need to balance our budgets and you only have to look at some of the provinces right now, whose revenue has gone into the tank, like Alberta. You know, so there is something to have a stable base and then build on these new revenue sources; and I just wonder if that’s being considered as well for discussion.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor?

Mayor Bowman: Thank you, Madam Speaker, through you thanks to the Councillor for the question. The important point is we are discussing big picture things that are really going to make the change. One of the things, Madam Speaker that I have spoken about is the need not to sink the [inaudible] with, you know, with handouts from the provincial government. The City of Winnipeg and our citizens expect us to be able to set our priorities as a Council. We are directly accountable to the citizens of Winnipeg. We do need a funding model that is reflective of modern cities and the provincial governments and federal governments have long abandoned property taxes as a model for good reason; and I don’t see them really talking to introduce property taxes in, although there are education taxes that we collect on their behalf. The important focus that we will be having is on having a healthy discussion that is built on a sound policy, sound policy discussion. And so, there’s a number of stakeholders that I have been meeting with and I know our Finance Chair has been meeting with to get the discussion going and I would invite all Winnipeggers, in fact all members of Council to add their voice in due course about what we can achieve, collectively with our provincial partners who, ultimately will be at the level of government that sets the framework by which we may collect revenues. What we do know is the current revenue model is not sustainable, it’s not sustainable to protect our core services, it’s not sustainable to grow our way of out the massive infrastructure deficit that we have inherited. And much work has to be done by a number of organizations. I’m pleased to hear the Councillor speak about balance budget legislation because we have provincially mandated balance budget legislation that I agree with. We have, in fact, our first budget we balanced, we will balance the next budget. We also have, unlike other levels of government in Canada, Madam Speaker, we have a voluntarily, we voluntarily imposed a debt ceiling and I think that is also sound fiscal management on the part of previous Councils as well as this Council to insure that we have those parameters by which we can make budgetary decisions and I’m sure our Finance Chair may have more to say in his question period if members of Council wish to discuss it further. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Second question, Councillor Gerbasi?

Councillor Gerbasi: Yes, and I was really referring to the fact that the municipal level of government has to balance it’s budget, I wasn’t necessarily endorsing provincial or federal. But Paul, that’s funny, but what I wanted to also, first of all I,

and I'll be very brief, appreciate that it's open for discussion in terms of the strategy going forward for everyone and I appreciate that collaborative approach, but also, you know there's our talks [inaudible 11:07:55 a.m.] the province. There's also the FCM.

Madam Speaker: Is there a question, Councillor?

Councillor Gerbasi: Yes, my question is the FCM is working hard on it, as you're well aware as part of the Big Cities Mayor Caucus that we're working hard on strategy for deal, you know, the financial stability of cities. So maybe you could comment on that, in terms of, I know it's the same discussions that are happening everywhere with the new government, so we're not going to have the answers today. But just sort of, what is the approach in working with all levels of government to try to come to a better [inaudible 11:08:25 a.m.]. Because I realize that none of the answers with the new government just brought in right now.

Mayor Bowman: Madam Speaker, I've had good discussions in the early days of our new federal partners term in office. I have met with a number of Members of Parliament, including Member of Parliament, Jim Carr, I have had discussions with Robert-Falcon Ouellette, with MaryAnn Mihychuk, with Terry Duguid, a number of newly elected members of government, and have indicated that this is a matter of priority for us. They have shown a willingness to have that discussion and discussion on a variety of issues; and we will continue to work as collaboratively as possible with both senior levels of government. FCM has much to offer, they've done great work on a number of policy fronts and we will also continue to have that dialogue with FCM, as well as a number of other more local stakeholders including the groups such as the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce, CUPE, and Manitoba Heavy Construction Association. All of which, I've had discussions with already today as I understand our Finance Chair has talked to many of them on the need for a funding model that works as our community grows and will continue to have as many discussions with stakeholders whom we can benefit from having those discussions and we can benefit from their advocacy work as we move forward. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Councillor Mayes?

Councillor Mayes: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I think this is more of an are you aware question, perhaps might be better addressed by Councillor Gillingham, but unfortunately we don't have a mechanism to ask questions of Police Board Chair's, so perhaps the Mayor can defer the response to Councillor Gillingham. We had a long discussion here last time, thanking various Members of Parliament for their service. I think we overlooked the fact that Shelly Glover had wrapped up her several years, couple of terms as an MP. But there's a second part of the story, which I think is complimentary to Shelly Glover and to our police force and our Police Chief, which is Shelly Glover is coming back to work for the City of Winnipeg and Winnipeg police force and I think it's a credit that we have a female, bilingual, strong figure who is interested in coming back and working at the Police force. I know we don't have jurisdiction, pure and simple over operations at the Police, as we used to, but that's the Police Board, and I think Councillor Gillingham, who may speak after me or perhaps can address this, talk about plans there might be. But yeah, I think it's worth noting the way of someone who wants to come back and be part of our police force, which is a credit to Mrs. Glover as well as to our force.

Madam Speaker: And the question, Councillor Mayes, is?

Councillor Mayes: What, that's a fair point, what is the, Councillor Gillingham and I have had [inaudible], what is the role that is planned as this stage, if that has been specifically planned given there's various conflict of interest, guidelines that might pertain. Is he able to comment, perhaps the Mayor can defer to Councillor Gillingham on what role is being foreseen for Madam Glover?

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Mr. Mayor?

Mayor Bowman: I will gladly defer to our Police Board Chair to provide additional information, the Councillor in due course. I will also take this opportunity to thank Shelly Glover for her outstanding commitment to building a stronger Winnipeg and Canada. She served us very well with honour and I am looking forward to welcoming her to once again take her place with the Winnipeg Police Service. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Any further questions of the Mayor. Councillor Gillingham?

Councillor Gillingham: I've tempted with that to just to thank the Mayor and to just, I guess, ask all members of Council if they, or ask the Mayor if he's aware that, of course we as Police Board, well first of all, can't be asked questions directly, so I should I just sit down. But no, but the Police Board does not have a role over the operational decisions of the Police Service. You know, I was wondering, I like the Mayor is aware of that, but it's just ask are you aware question.

But just to say at this point, then we to would echo Councillor Mayes' comments that the Service, it's a boom for the Service to have someone with such experience returning to the Service and so, we're looking forward to wherever it's determined that Ms Glover will land within the Service and work. It will be good for the Service. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Is that more of a comment then a question?

Councillor Gillingham: It's a comment slash question. Yes, that's correct.

Madam Speaker: Okay, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: To answer the question, I am aware and I would ask all members of Council to take the opportunity in the coming weeks to reach out to Shelly Glover, to welcome her back and she'll be working as a Patrol Sergeant and I would like to ask all members of Council, if they can reach out to her and welcome her back to the City of Winnipeg.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further questions for the Mayor? Seeing none, we will move on to the last formal report we will be having on the Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage, and Riverbank Management. Councillor Mayes on the report dated November 2, 2015, as we already dealt with the item under October 5th.

**REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT, HERITAGE AND RIVERBANK MANAGEMENT
DATED NOVEMBER 2, 2015**

Councillor Mayes: It's one Item, so I'll move Item No. 1 on, as you say, the final report from that Committee.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Moving on to the next committee, Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development. Councillor Orlikow on the report dated November 10.

**REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON
PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT, HERITAGE AND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
DATED NOVEMBER 10, 2015**

Councillor Orlikow: Thank you, Madam Chair, I would like to move Item Nos. 1 through 6.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. I will now direct your attention to Motion No. 3. This is a Motion from Councillor Allard and seconded by Councillor Mayes recording free Wi-Fi. It's an automatic referral to the Committee on Property and Development.

**STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT, HERITAGE AND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
MOTIONS**

**Motion No. 3
Moved by Councillor Allard,
Seconded by Councillor Mayes,**

WHEREAS in a thriving modern city, municipal facilities need to be leaders in meeting the public's expectation of modern services being available in our facilities;

AND WHEREAS the opportunity exists to offer free Wi-Fi Internet to the public in hundreds of municipal facilities at little cost to the city of Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS private Wi-Fi services are currently offered in many city facilities but in many cases, these services are not available to the public;

AND WHEREAS there are currently hundreds of Wi-Fi access points in City owned facilities where internet service providers pay a modest fee to the city for these Access Points;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg has been approached to allow for the provision of free public wifi in City of Winnipeg Facilities in lieu of payment for these fees;

AND WHEREAS Council approval may be required to pursue this exciting opportunity;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the administration report in 90 days on the implementation of free wifi services to the public in City of Winnipeg facilities

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We have no By-laws, so now we'll have question period for the Chair. Any questions for Councillor Orlikow? Seeing none, we'll move on to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and Parks. We have no report, no Motion and no By-laws today. Any questions for the new Chair, Councillor Pagtakhan? We'll now move on to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works. There's no report today, and we do have a Motion, Motion No. 2. And that is moved by Councillor Eadie, seconded by Councillor Schreyer, regarding savings for snow clearing, and it will be an automatic referral to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS
MOTIONS

Motion No. 2
Moved by Councillor Eadie,
Seconded by Councillor Schreyer,

WHEREAS Council requested a report on having the Know Your Snow Zones cleared by the city itself versus the private sector ending up in a report comparing costs for snow clearing and ice control only;

AND WHEREAS CUPE 500 had a former Fleet Management chief operating officer write a report on taking over the snow clearing and ice control currently provided by the Know Your Snow Zones private contractors, ending up in a report that utilized the personnel and some equipment for more than just snow clearing and ice control during street maintenance season resulting in a three million dollar potential savings or efficiency;

AND WHEREAS the private snow zone contracts, which were increased to pay for snow clearing equipment, are ending in 2017;

AND WHEREAS in 2017, City Council is projecting a $115,214,959.00 short fall to pay for all expenditures;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg financial woes can be partially resolved through cooperation and good faith efforts with city labour unions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Winnipeg Public Service work with the City of Winnipeg's CUPE 500 representatives to provide a report on implementing cost saving measures identified in the CUPE 500 report describing a potential savings of $3,000,000.00.

Madam Speaker: We'll now have question period for the Chair. Any questions for Councillor Lukes? Seeing none, move on to the Standing Policy Committee on Finance. The report dated November 12, 2015, Councillor Morantz

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
DATED NOVEMBER 12, 2015

Councillor Morantz: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to introduce the report. I have some extensive remarks with respect to the report at Finance Committee last of week. The report is forecasting, as of September 30, $8.7 million surplus and as we're...

Madam Speaker: Introducing...are you introducing Item No. 1? Yes, okay. So you would like to pull the Item? Would you like to speak to it?

Councillor Morantz: I'd like to speak to it.

Madam Speaker: Yes, ok, so we will have the Clerk read it into the record first, thank you.

Item 1 – Financial Status Report and Forecast to September 30, 2015

Madam Speaker: Sorry, go ahead now Councillor Morantz. Process procedure.

Councillor Morantz: My apologies Madam Speaker, it's so rare that I actually have a report so I wasn't clear…learn through experience. I did have extensive comments with respect to this report at the Finance Committee meeting forecast, an $8.7 million surplus, that's as of September 30th. Historically, the report speaks to this fiscal position of the City tends to improve over the course of the year and of course I think we would all say we are always glad to see a surplus rather than a deficit. I have simply been saying that I think really...and the word I have been using is that the surplus is really artificial. And it's...the reason I view it that way is that when you plan a budget, it's really your best estimate or guess at the beginning of the year as to how...how much revenue you are going to require over the next 12 months...over that 12 month period, to meet our...your expenditure requirements. We don't know, we don't have a crystal ball, we take the best information we can while we're going through the budget process and we just provide, essentially what the budget is an estimated forecast. And so...and the $994 million budget which is what the 2015 operating budget was, you're never be exactly right, there is always going to be some variance and it might be a little bit...you may be a little bit in a deficit position, you may be a little bit in a surplus position. Last year, I remember we exceeded our snow clearing budget by over $20 million and ended up, even with that a $724,000 surplus at the end of the year. But the reason I say it's artificial is because the City simply doesn't have sufficient recurring revenue sources to meet its ongoing obligations and the Mayor alluded to this earlier, Madam Speaker. Essentially, the City does really operate in the red, saved only by unsustainable, one-time cash infusions. Those one-time revenues are simply no longer sufficient to fund a growing and modern city. And when I talk about one-time revenues and I have the list here. when we were doing our budget, for example, because we knew we didn't have enough revenue to meet our expenses we took $9.2 million, Madam Speaker out of our stabilization reserve and, in fact, in order to do that, in order to achieve that number we had to actually reduce the floor on our stabilization reserve from eight to six percent of expenditure so that we could actually use that money. Had we known at that time that we were going to be having a surplus, $8.7 million or perhaps more, we would have likely decided not to do that. We would have left that money in the stabilization reserve where it should be to protect the City in the event that there are very serious and dire fiscal challenges. So I'm simply saying that even though the forecast is for a surplus, Madam Speaker, it is really built on unsustainable, one-time revenue sources. I just also want to take the opportunity to say, Madam Speaker, that this situation really drives the conversation around a new modern funding model that works towards eliminating the archaic and insufficient property tax with a new growth based source of revenue and I was very, very pleased to see the resolution that Councillor Gillingham spoke to earlier regarding the...from the AMM, where they ask for the Province of Manitoba to retool...they use the word retool which is actually a good word, I think I'll actually start using that word, the traditional model, property based taxation to include alternative revenue sources and additional tax sharing agreements for the purposes of creating a sustainable tax model, Madam Speaker, which is what we don't currently have. And I would say on the budget process, I have to say, I agree, Madam Speaker with Councillor Dobson. He makes very, very good points. A couple of Council meetings he talked about the fact that we shouldn't be using one-time revenues and I agree with him. One-time revenues should be going into the capital budget if we're going to use them. Money from land sales, that's another thing we took to balance the budget, over $7 million from land sales we used for operating, Madam Speaker. And that should be going into the capital budget. And I agree with Councillor Dobson that we have to find a better way to bring all of Council into this process. Now, my perspective is, we have made a very important step forward by having two Councillors on the budget working group that are not members of EPC. The reality is, I think there is an inherent conflict between budget planning and the overall principal of openness and transparency and historically when you're make a budget you do need what I call a quiet space where you can seriously and with deliberation decide on the important issues that affect the citizens, that will be affected by the decisions you make in the budget. Unfortunately, last year we got off on the wrong foot and we tried to include other Councillors and on one particular issue having to do with...just I refuse to use the words but it's a little kind of manmade pond that you swim in, I just can't bring myself to even utter the word any more but that was an example of how we did try and maybe we didn't do it quite the right way. We were new, and we were trying but it didn't really work out. I think it is a two way street and if all Councillors want to be involved in the budget process we need to all work together to be able to have serious, deliberative conversations without sensationalizing them, but really have to accept the serious responsibility of budgeting for the citizens of Winnipeg. So I just wanted to add that comment to the record, Madam Speaker. Just circling back once more to the issue of the new funding model, I was meeting with a constituent recently and he said something which I thought was really quite poignant. He said, essentially, when it comes to how we raise revenue for the City, in this country, the federal

government has all the revenue, the province has all the authority and the city has all the problems. I like that, so I thought I would put that on the record. So we do have all the problems, we have very little authority and very little revenue and, Madam Speaker, as long as the Mayor is kind enough to let me sit in this Finance Chair, I will work every day to fix this problem. I don't want to be forecasting these deficits anymore. I want to be forecasting balanced budgets, and that's what we're going to work for, work towards and I'm hoping that all Council will come forward with their ideas and suggestions as to how we can move forward in that direction in a sensible way. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker is Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Thank you. Madam Speaker. The introduction of this report was quite eloquent and described well. One thing I have learned in business school, which we are not actually a business, Madam Speaker, but it's context, you hear a number of dollar values, a projected or forecasted surplus of 8 million is not written in cement. It looks good and I know that our financial people, Madam Speaker, that work for the City of Winnipeg are quite good and diligent in the work that they do and so that forecast is probably pretty close. In terms of the whole budgeting process, if you really think our Finance Chairperson explained that our operating budget was almost a billion dollars. This 8 million, whatever dollars, Madame Speaker, represents less than 1 percent of the operating budget that was passed. So, 1 percent, that's cutting it awfully close. It could be 1 percent the other way and 1 percent the other way in budgeting is actually very good budgeting although yes, how we got to the budget is bad. The one-timers I whole heartedly agree, Madam Speaker that that is unsustainable, they should be as Councillor Dobson and as I have always said and as I was taught in business administration at Red River College, one-time money should be focused at capital expenditures, that's what businesses would be if they are using one-timers to cover off operating expenses like the federal government was doing, well, the past federal government was doing was doing one-timers to say we don't have deficits. It's an interesting concept, Madam Speaker. Every time I heard that I thought these prudent financial managers and I am thinking my goodness that's not what I was taught by expert teachers who are very knowledgeable about finances and how things should work. But anyway, I just wanted to say, Madam Speaker, it's good that we are forecasting this because we did reduce our contingency fund which is not necessarily good because we don't know what's going to happen and that was one point I just wanted to make. The forecast is...December 31 is still a ways off. I don't know what the cost of a...trying to think of our biggest blizzard that I lived through, the 1966 blizzard or a 1980...I can't remember the year. 86 was it? Anyway, what the cost of that would be huge. Like if would he ever got one much those huge blizzards before the end of the year, I don't know, that would be a lot of money, Madam Speaker. And you know, it's on the table, it was spoken as introduced with this report. I just wanted to say there are ways of budgeting to involve all the cities and Council there's different ideas. As a matter of fact, some of the ideas that I proposed, Madam Speaker, are totally opposite of what campaign promises were. So some of the ideas that...to make sure that we don't have to cut the fall sweep, for example, or cut certain services, there are ways of maintaining it but if you want it keep a promise and create more of a problem, it's easy to do. It's easy to create an austerity situation, definitely, and going to property taxes is a difficult thing. I would point out, Madam Speaker, property taxes, while they are not the most progressive way, I'll tell you one thing, they're a lot more stable than income. If Winnipeg ever did get hit with a serious recession where thousands of people started to get laid off and good thing we are very diversified in this city, Madam Speaker, and diversification is earned through the City of Winnipeg and what we have done and what the Province of Manitoba has done to ensure that we continue diverse. But anyway I don't want to get into a whole theoretical or practical discussion about different taxes. We do need some kind of growth tax, I definitely agree with that, but I don't know that we will ever see the property tax disappear. It is quite stable. In terms of process involving, there is a way to model this so each Councillor can be involved in the budget discussions versus a quiet time. If the Standing Committees themselves with their Chairpersons were responsible with working with the various departments, whatever falls under their budget categories, if we were involved, every member of Council around here could be involved in the budget process. Not in every department and you know what, I know that our Chairperson of Finance would tell you, this is a huge city to be involved in all those discussions, it's quite immense. And that would be a great way to diversify and bring together and allow some of us to do a little more work and try to help figure out budgets, the Head of the Finance, the Chair of the Finance would still set direction as direction letters go out. You look at these things and you try to figure out the best way to deal with the situations that we have, Madam Speaker. To allow the involvement of, for example, Councillor Dobson who also made some promises when he was elected to office. The...so, it's all in how you remodel or distribute that, and that is within, Madam Speaker, within the power of the Mayor to do so. We created a new Committee, the Water and Waste and it was a great idea. We created a new Committee for Innovation, great idea. These are good things, and actually, it's interesting about Innovation, they are mostly dealing with financial ability. Innovation to relate...related to helping us do things more effectively and efficiently within the City, Madam Speaker. So anyway, this report, again, is a report that has a forecast. It doesn't have an actual surplus in it, and a surplus, whether you want to call it a real surplus or whatever, it is a surplus. It is what it is. It is a surplus if it ever does end up happening because we had one-time money and that on-time money, Madam Speaker, if we do end up with a surplus, should go back into the one-time reserves that we pulled it out of. Thank you Madam Speaker, because a 1 percent surplus is not a lot of money and to say we charge too much in property tax or anything it would be wrong to say. It is right to say is there is a lot of one-time money that went in there

and one-time money should go back if there is a surplus, back into where it came from so that we can try to deal with the following year's budget. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker is Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I just...it's just a question I guess I have that I'm hoping Councillor Morantz can address in his closing comments. I'm wondering, at page four of the report says, paragraph...well towards the end of the page; actual year-end scenario general revenue funds surplus annual operating general revenue funds surpluses automatically transfer to the financial stabilization reserve fund. Should the actual year end general revenue fund 2015 operations result in a surplus the public service is instead recommending that the surplus be transferred to the general purpose reserve fund for future use to be approved by City Council. I'm just wondering if you can comment on why that is and that's really the one question I have regarding this report. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker, Councillor Gerbasi and then we'll hear from Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you, Madam Speaker. And I appreciate...I think this is a good opportunity to have a bit of a discussion about the financial state of the City and that's what we are here for is to talk to each other about these things. I think it's…really appreciate everybody's comments so far. There's a couple of aspects to this I think could be clarified a little. There's a couple of different parts to the budget process. There is when we're actually just…there's an initial draft being put together and then there is the roll out of the participation from the public, and the different amount of consultation that goes forward is a whole different process that could be evolved over time. I think you know, we might like to go from zero to a hundred. I think we were kind of at zero in terms of our rating as a budget process up until recently so I don't know that we are going to get to a hundred that quickly but we are making progress and I think we should acknowledge that. I have been at zero for a while in terms of my view of what our budget process has been like here from the previous years and it's been very frustrating so I understand Councillors frustrations about it. I have spent years and years expressing hope for a better budget process. So I think there is something to what Councillor Morantz said about the budget being put together in a room without going out to the public and sensationalizing things but just having things figured out and then once it is figured out to something that can be brought forward to discuss, like, here's what someone is suggesting doing. I guess the question is who suggests that? In other cities it's very common that the administration and we used to do this a long time ago when we had the Board of Commissioners and it was different, the administration would say here is a budget and Council would also, as in other cities, set parameters that it has to be balanced for the next three years going forward and it has to make sense and then administration would bring something forward and then it would go through the consultation process with all the Councillors and with everybody. And that's...I would like to see us someday get there but we can move towards that hundred, I think, by some of the changes, that I know that there is a will to try to do belter with this. One of the problems with the budget process for members of Council who aren't on EPC is you are usually squeezed for time. You have this quick budget released the same time as the media hears about it a couple of hours later and it does feel insulting if you are not part of the process. I think there are tweaks we can make to the process just with timing and how everyone's included, that would make people actually be included in better timing. I think that's something we can consider with our policy office, how we can do that. And also, I just wanted to briefly go back to the topic that was raised again about the new deal that we are looking for and I would point out on the issue, I feel pretty strongly about the issue of using words like eliminating the property tax. I think you really need to be careful what you are wishing for. I think we want a new funding model, I absolutely agree with those words, I absolutely agree with diversifying our funding, with expanding our funding opportunities, with looking for creative and innovative ways to fund what the City needs, I absolutely agree with the difficult position we are in. We should have a balanced budget in the document in those three years going forward. We shouldn't be using the one-time money, all the things that Councillor Morantz spoke about, I agree with him. You would be surprised about how much we agree. I guess my point there is that we do need that but I think we have to be a bit careful. We want to collaborate with other municipal levels...the AMM, the FCM…and other municipal leaders may not be in agreement with getting rid of the property tax and I just want to make sure we are really careful about saying we want to eliminate it as a definitive statement. I think we want to find a better model, we can all agree on that and we can all agree that it needs to be more diverse, it needs to have growth revenues included in it in a very significant way. So I think on most things we agree more than we disagree but I think it is a really important, fundamental point which is why I'm rising to say it again because the stability of it...and we do have to balance our budgets currently and that's how it's always been and that's how it's going to continue. So we need to have that stability regardless of the economy. I also do think that some of the changes from zero to 100...and I'm not going to say where we are on that scale, but it has been significant to have two non-EPC Councillors, and I know I'm one of them, so, you know, it feels pretty good to be in there but it is good to have two non-EPC Councillors in that first phase of developing the budget. That is something that is new that is much better than the zero position that we were in before because that input is getting in there and it's a more diverse input than only EPC working on the budget at that stage. But I would encourage…we don't yet know what the 2nd phase is going to look like. I know there has been a commitment, and it's in the works in terms of consultation with the public. I think that's great. Dialogue partners we had before had some really good work that was started and I would

love to see more of that kind of thing. I just think that we are on the right track and I actually…I know I am a nerd but I am actually really excited about budget because we have a chance to change the direction of our city to really be sustainable and get ourselves into a position where we can really achieve the dreams that we are trying to achieve because we won't be struggling with this one-time money crisis and all these other things. So these are things we have to figure out together and I know that…I am very convinced that the Mayor and the Finance Chair, in working with them over this first year that they really are trying to do that as we all are, is trying to achieve that where we are all included. I know some members of Council don't feel that way but I think we have to have a little faith, work together longer over the next several months as this budget process...I don't know when it's going to end either I don't even know when this is going to happen or how long it's going to be, but sometimes you have to have a little faith in people, give them a little time and maybe in the term of this Council or in the next Winnipeg will see us get to 100 as one of the best budget processes in Canada but, you know, we are making progress I think we need to emphasize that. Thank you Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you Councillor Gerbasi. Next is Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: I will try to be brief, Madam Speaker. The debate is important and the terminology in the debate is important and I want to commend frankly both Councillor Morantz and Councillor Eadie for using some terms correctly because in the past I have sat here and criticized budgets that Councillor Fielding was fond of starting with, "we all know property taxes are the most regressive form of taxation", and I would get up and say, actually, no regressive property tax would be one with if someone has a million dollar house and I have a $300,000 house and I pay more property tax that would be regressive as opposed to say, progressive income tax which structures what we have. The more you earn the higher the rate that counts on your income. So Councillor Morantz, commendably have not used that. He has used the term archaic and insufficient which I think is a more accurate characterization and Councillor Eadie has also accurately said it's not the most progressive form of taxation, but that's correct as well. It's a flat rate. If you have the $300,000 house or the million dollars house the mill rate stays the same. A more progressive, and I think Councillor Eadie would agree with me, a more progressive property tax regime would be one where the mill rate would be higher, the higher the value of your house. So, while we might not agree exactly where the debate should end up, I think we have come a long way in the terms of the way we are talking about it. To say it was a regressive property tax is (inaudible) is not to use the term correctly. I think what Councillor Morantz is saying makes the debate a little more clear. If we are going to undertake some of these big capital expenditures we have insufficient levers to do that and we need something else, should it be the gas tax? Should it be something else? That's the larger debate that we should have with the province and the federal government but, to commend my colleagues, we are making some steps forward here, I think, in terms of clarifying the terms and clarifying the way we view some of these terms like progressive, they're not always used correctly but today we have seen where the debate should be. Look, it's not, the property tax does not go backwards you don't pay a higher rate, the less value your house but, Councillor Eadie is right in his respect as well, which is, this is not as progressive as it could be, thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you Madam Speaker. I am truly pleased with this debate. It has been a number of months since we've had a debate on the budgets. The budget is approaching and it's time for the Chair of our Finance Committee to, well, I guess begin that process of greater accountability and so it starts today in the chamber after an absence of a number of months. Specifically, I would like to just make the point on Councillor Mayes' point, definition of regressive and I appreciate it. So, I have used the term regressive on the record, meaning not progressive. So I appreciate Councillor Mayes' stipulation in terms of what regressive means. Therefore, I would like to clarify some comments including made in the last regular session of Council because we did talk about changes in property taxes over the last ten to 14 years. And I would like to make the point in the respect to the use of regressive on that basis. Because, we made the point...I made the point referring to Councillor Eadie's research and specifics in terms of what has happened over the last dozen years in Winnipeg where in middle and lower income neighbourhoods, the property taxes have increased over 30...over 40 percent whereby in higher income neighbourhoods and perhaps...like, as an example, Madam Speaker, a house costing around $150,000, the property tax increase has been very substantial, over 35 percent over 40 percent. Whereas a house at maybe a million dollars had specifically a lower percentage tax increase, perhaps something like 5 percent, Madam Speaker. So, what I would like to say in terms of addressing Councillor Mayes' stipulation on the term 'regressive' as it applies to forms of taxation, I would then say that at least the rate of change of property tax in Winnipeg over the last dozen years, the rate of change I would call that regressive and I just want to make that point for the sake of this conversation as we move forward. Thank you Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Are there any further speakers? Ok, seeing none, Councillor Morantz do you wish to close?

Councillor Morantz: Thank you Madam Speaker. It's been a very, very healthy debate and I do want to say how much I really appreciated having Councillors Gerbasi and Gillingham with me for many, many hours deliberating over the budget and I do want to say, just to clarify my earlier point, I think we need to be striving to making the budget process as open and transparent as we can. And, at the same time, make sure that we have, what I call, as I said, a quiet space where we can sit and have serious deliberations over the important issues of the day. I also think it's important to put on the record, Madam Speaker as I did in the Finance Committee meeting, I want to expound a little bit on the issue of the one-time revenues just so that the public can really understand the scope of the problem. So, in the 2015 budget, that $994 million budget or as Councillor Eadie said, essentially a billion dollars budget, we used over $27 million of one-time revenues and we did things, for example, like we took $5.5 million out of the capital budget through capital...what they call the capital closure process. Money that really should have stayed in the capital budget and been reallocated to build roads and bridges and important dealing with our infrastructure…important to deal with our infrastructure deficit. And we took all these things I hate Madam Speaker, I have to say, we took $7.4 million out of the land operating reserve in 2015 to balance our 15 budget. Can you imagine, Madam Speaker, the City of Winnipeg takes the money it receives from selling its land, selling precious assets and uses it to pay salaries. That's a terrible practice, it's one that I have said we need to change and I'm hoping we can change it and use that land operating reserve as a financing source in our capital budgets as we move forward. With respect to Councillor Allard's question, a very, very good question, and as I understand it historically, and I don't know exactly when it occurred but Council made the decision that in the event there is a surplus at the end of the year and Councillor Eadie is correct, this is just a forecast, we may not have a surplus. This is our best guess and again, it's not the end of the year yet and this forecast is from September 30. But in the event and historically if there was a surplus it was mandated to go into the fiscal stabilization reserve. And I think, if I had to guess, likely that's how the stabilization reserve was capitalized over the years until it got to the balance we have today which is, I think, in the order of between 70 and $80 million. So, having said that, I think it would be reasonable to say that Council when there is a surplus would like to have a healthy debate around what we ought to do with the surplus and Councillor Eadie, I agree 100% with Councillor Eadie, my position would be that it should go back to where we took it from. We took money out of the capital budget it should go back there. If we took money out of the stabilization reserve it should go back there. But other Councillors may have other ideas as to what we should do with the surplus and we need to give that careful consideration and have that debate. So the practice on a perennial basis is to make this alternative recommendation that instead of putting the money directly into the stabilization reserve that we put it firstly in the general purpose reserve so that we can have that debate and have a discussion as to actually where we want the surplus to wind up. So that's the reason for this particular recommendation. Those would be my closing comments on this report and I would move that we accept the report. Thank you Madam Speaker.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
QUESTION PERIOD

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Call to question on item number one. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Okay, next is the Standing Policy Committee on Water. I thought we had question period? Question period for the Chair. Councillor Gilroy?

Councillor Gilroy: I just was just wondering if the Chair of Finance could give us an update on the consultations that are supposed to be happening, the budget consultations?

Madam Speaker: Councillor Morantz?

Councillor Morantz: Thank you, Madam Speaker, through you I'd like to thank the Councillor for her question. I am advised by the Mayor's Office that they're diligently working towards rolling out a robust public consultation process and I think we'll be hearing about that very, very soon. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Schreyer?

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. We are talking about finding alternative forms of revenue generation on the municipal basis for the City of Winnipeg, and I'd like to ask our Chair of the Finance Committee, if in this process of looking at this if he, that it if it is understanding that dozens if not hundreds of municipalities throughout the province and the country are endeavoring to do this very same thing, if not working together through the AMM, the Association of Manitoba Municipalities, as well as the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. I'd like to know if the Minister of the Chair of the Finance Committee, what he can tell us about this?

Madam Speaker: Councillor Morantz?

Councillor Morantz: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd like to thank the Councillor for his question. I was not able to attend the Association of Manitoba Municipalities meeting. But I was following it very closely and I was very happy to see some of the resolutions coming out of that meeting, Madam Speaker, and as we alluded to earlier, there's the AMM resolution number four 2015, which essentially answers that question and I am very, very pleased to see this resolution now. We need to be working together with all municipalities to lobby the level of government with all the authority, to lobby the level of government with all the revenue, to help the city solve it's problems. And I thank the Councillor for his question and I certainly will be very interested in moving forward with this discussion and with all municipalities and the province, and with the province itself. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Second question, Councillor Schreyer?

Councillor Schreyer: At this point and you know what I'm in no mood to rush the process, I'm just glad that this process is taking place. It's a serious, serious issue, looking at changing the revenue model for a municipality.

Madam Speaker: Your question?

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for reminding me to get to the point. And that is, I'd like to know if there's any municipality at this point in the research, if there's any municipality in Canada that has the best model for the, in the opinion of our Chair of Finance Committee?

Madam Speaker: Councillor Morantz?

Councillor Morantz: I think that we are, this is my view, entering kind of a brave new world where we're seeing municipalities all over the country, finally standing up and coalescing. I know the Mayor had conversations at the Big City Mayor Conference about this issue and he has spoken about that. This is becoming a recognized issue across many municipalities and I don't know that I could say or that I'm aware of another municipality that is really achieved the goal of growth-based revenue source for funding municipal services but I look forward and I'm excited about in fact being part of the conversation as we move forward because it will be a benefit to the City of Winnipeg and its citizens. So you know, I think the resolution itself with the AMM kind of speaks for itself. So it uses the words "retool the traditional model". I think that may be my new mantra because I, people may be getting tired of hearing me say structural deficit or that the surplus is artificial, so maybe I'll start going with that. That will be my new mantra. But anyway, I think we should be retooling the traditional model and I will continue to work with anyone that I can to move that forward.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Third question, Councillor Schreyer?

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and briefly does the Chair of the Finance Committee believe that there's any province in particular that is moved in a specific direction that is distinct and favourable for some people's intentions as to what a more progressive taxation level would be more a municipality?

Madam Speaker: Councillor Morantz?

Councillor Morantz: Thank you for the question, through you, Madam Speaker to the Councillor. I think I can't say I've been here for a year and I've really been focused on trying to figure out how the City's finances work and I haven't really been looking at the models of other provinces. So I just got the general idea for what I see in the news and what I hear in my travels through this new career. And essentially the issue is really that the federal, as I said the Federal government has most of the taxation authority, the Province has most of the legislative power, and the City really has all the problems. I think really, what you see in most provinces and municipalities is municipalities having to go always hat in hand saying, "Please sir, can we have some more?" over and over and it's very sad frankly, Madam Speaker, because the reality is that most people in the cities and the way that society raises it's revenue and funds municipalities is really piecemeal and really a hodgepodge; essentially other levels of government coming in and saying, "Oh, here's a $100 million for this underpass," or "Here is $200 million for this bridge," and you know, whether we can afford it or not, Madam Speaker, we have to come up with our share. And really, the tail does wag the dog and you know, I just would say, although this isn't, you know, I have to say I guess the answer to the question and I don't really know exactly what's going on in every province, but my understanding is this is essentially what goes on everywhere, every city basically goes hat in hand saying, "Please sir, can we have some more?" and it is very sad and it's something that really has to stop and I am, as I said, excited about working with our new Mayor and this new Council and really anyone else who will really recognize this is a fundamental issue. Put it on the landscape. I understand it's being debated as we speak in Brandon, this very issue by the leaders of the main political parties. So this is the time to start talking about this. I'm glad we're talking about it, and I want to thank everybody actually for their comments around the issue.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further questions for the Chair? Councillor Schreyer?

Councillor Schreyer: A new line of questioning, thank you. Regarding the discussion on revenue infusions as it applies to the stabilization reserve access in the stabilization reserve. Councillor Morantz mentioned, I guess of implied that or did say, sorry, that we have to change our the revenue to reserve ratio in order to access further funds from the stabilization fund. Now I would like to know if the Finance Chair is saying that therefore it's just an inadequate process by which we used funds when we need it on an emergency or short-term basis, or whether, you know, I'm asking whether he should, we should be considering increasing our stabilization funds if that's out of the picture or how that's being considered? I haven't heard about that yet today.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Morantz?

Councillor Schreyer: Reserve, enhancing our financial reserve.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Morantz?

Councillor Morantz: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and again thank you to the Councillor, for a very, very good question. So, many Councillors may recall that, you know, last year, you know, talking about how difficult the budget process was and how we needed to come up with sufficient revenues in order to meet our forecast expenditures and I talked about how we drew $9.2 million out of the stabilization reserve and it might be worth just an explanation as to how we did that. So the rules around our stabilization were, until we passed the last budget, that we had to maintain essentially a reserve of, and essentially a bank account some equivalent to eight percent of our operating expenditures. Because last year, our operating expenditures were $994 million, it's kind of easy to round the math to a billion and say okay eight percent of $1 billion is $80 million. Last year we simply, we did not have sufficient funds to balance our operating budget, so the fund had a, my numbers may be a little bit off, but they're probably close, roughly $84.2 million. So we had $4.2 million that was above the ceiling at that point in time that we were permitted to draw down to the eight percent floor, and then we still needed another $5 million, so embarked on a plan, and this was in the 2015 budget that was passed 14-2, that we decided as a matter of policy to reduce the floor on the stabilization reserve from eight to six percent, so that the required sum that we would have to maintain for to stabilize our fiscal position would be six percent of, call it $1 billion or 68 million, and when we did that, when we changed that policy we freed up room in the stabilization reserve to draw down an additional $5 million. So Madam Speaker, that is how we got to the $9.2 million in our stabilization reserve. Now I have stated and I believe that really, we should not be doing that. That the stabilization reserve is really there to protect citizens of Winnipeg from property tax increases or increases of other fees and charges that would be essentially above the norm that might destabilize their financial situation, which is why we call it the stabilization reserve. So that we're faced with a fiscal problem we can use it to stabilize our property tax increases. So that's really what the stabilization reserve is for. I, my personal view and I agree with what Councillor Eadie said before is that we took money from the stabilization reserve and we're having a surplus, which is my view is artificial because we used money from the stabilization reserve that's where it should go, it should go back there, and we should find other ways to balance our budget and you know, that's a debate that we will have once the budget is tabled and we'll determine that as we go. I'm not sure if that completely answers the Councillor's questions, but that would be my response.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Second question, Councillor Schreyer?

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. It certainly does to a certain degree address my question. But I'd like a little more clarification. I understand know that it's meant to go back to the stabilization reserve, but is there any specific intention declared by which we're saying that we want to reverse the ratio and return back to eight percent? Anything specifically declared on that?

Madam Speaker: Councillor Morantz?

Councillor Morantz: Madam Speaker, I want to thank the Councillor again. It's a very, very good question, you know what, once that something that our [inaudible] agencies are of some concern with this. What should our liquidation be, and you know, we did decide in the last budget that to reduce it to six percent and keep in mind that every year our operating expenditures increase. So the actual amount money increases because it's a percentage, it's not a static number. Whether it's eight percent, or six percent, every time our expenditures go up, the floor of the stabilization reserve goes up. So for example, if our operating expenditures were $2 billion, the floor of six percent of our stabilization reserve would be $120 million, so it does go up. But it's worthwhile having the debate and I want to say, I would invite the Councillor to bring forward any ideas he has, just like this one, for discussion. Because it's a very important discussion that we have as to how we're going to get our fiscal house in order and make sure that we are acting in a responsible way as we move forward to try and iron out these really daunting deficits that we are projecting. So anyway,

that matter in terms of the floor of the stabilization reserve is something that we are always open to discuss and debate. You know, of course everything works together, you know we originally took the money out of the stabilization reserve because we wanted to make sure we weren't imposing serious tax increases on the public. So every action has an equal and opposite reaction as they say, so have to make sure that we're balancing our decisions with good public policy. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Final question, Councillor Schreyer?

Councillor Schreyer: Madam Speaker, will the Chair of the Finance Committee…

Madam Speaker: That actually ends question period for the Chair. Would someone like to move suspension? I think everyone had an opportunity to speak, unless someone would like to move suspension? Okay, seeing none we will move on to, now is it the will of Council to work through lunch? We just have three short committees left. Can someone move a motion please? Moved by Councillor Lukes that we continue through the lunch break. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Now we have our two new standing policy committees. First up is Water and Waste, Riverbank Management, and the Environment, there are no reports, no by-laws. We do have a motion, Motion No. 4 before us. Moved by Councillor Eadie, seconded by Councillor Dobson regarding Aqueduct Safety, it will be automatic referral.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON WATER AND WASTE, RIVERBANK MANAGEMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT
MOTIONS

Motion No. 4
Moved by Councillor Eadie,
Seconded by Councillor Dobson,

WHEREAS TransCanada Pipeline had a seminar called Energy East Safety Days – Manitoba on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at the St. Norbert Community Centre to describe their activities towards converting gas pipeline into a liquid pipeline;

AND WHEREAS described activities for the conversion and ongoing operation of the liquid pipeline are impressive in terms of dealing with safety and spills;

AND WHEREAS described activities towards emergency plans were vague and not considerate enough of the City of Winnipeg's sole source of water aqueduct;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg's aqueduct is similar to a pipeline with various valves and pumping stations;

AND WHEREAS City Council and the SPC On Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and Environment needs to be aware of any potential dangers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Winnipeg Public Service provide a report to the SPC On Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and Environment about how a potential breach and contamination of the aqueduct can be dealt with to ensure the City of Winnipeg suffers limited damages;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this report describe the potential damages to the City of Winnipeg given a disastrous event where the six pipe line right of way intersects with the aqueduct.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON WATER AND WASTE, RIVERBANK MANAGEMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT
QUESTION PERIOD

Madam Speaker: Question period for our new Chair, Councillor Mayes. Councillor Gilroy?

Councillor Gilroy: Yes, through you Madam Chair, I was just wondering the loss of our street sweeping program has greatly impacted many areas with large tree canopies, and I was just wondering if the cut from one department has affected the other department in Water and Waste. I was wondering if they experience more overtime with employees as

well as more issues pertaining to our sewer systems. So I was just wondering, I understand the Chair probably won't know that answer right away, but I just wanted to make sure that I get that answer forwarded to me. Thanks.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Mayes?

Councillor Mayes: Yeah indeed, we can take a look and see what information we can come up with for Councillor Gilroy. I don't have any of that information ready to go today.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further questions for the Chair? Okay, seeing none, we'll move on the Standing Policy Committee on Innovation. There's no report today, no motions, no by-laws. Any questions for Councillor Browaty? Okay, seeing none, we'll move on to the last committee, the Governance Committee of Council. Councillor Gerbasi will move the report of Governance dated November 5, 2015 on my behalf?

REPORT OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL DATED NOVEMBER 5, 2015

Madam Speaker: Madam Clerk to introduce the Item.

Item 1 – 2016 Council and Committee Schedule of Meetings

Madam Speaker: Councillor Gerbasi.

Councillor Gerbasi: Yes, the Item that has been pulled off is the 2016 Council on committee schedule of meetings so I guess we will just wait and see what the comments are.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, thanks Madam Speaker. I just simply want to make...I just wanted to say that there is a lot of scheduling here and it takes a lot to do and that's wonderful, I just wanted to speak just quickly. I noticed there is three Council meetings, there is probably various reasons why we have done it but I think it's May there are some that are much earlier in the month than has been in the past that I had concerns about but specifically, the way it moves and committee schedules, we kind of balance the schedule out, but there are other things going on besides just our formal meetings that we have Madam Speaker and we all know that as Councillors and the Mayor, there are many, many other appointments, meetings, responsibilities that we have that take time and need to be scheduled out, Madam Speaker. And just specifically to July, which is a time I have extraordinary things that I have to do and I am not trying to be self-serving here but I noted that we are saying the prorogue is still August and it gives a date to a date that shrinks it, however, Council is meeting on July the 13th. And I understand...well I don't understand actually. It's very difficult having that July 13th meeting there when there are other things to prepare and you are packing things in. And I know that I try to...the two Motions for example, Madam Speaker that are brought today and we had plenty of time actually because it's November the 25th today and the...I was able to get two Motions done but they were submitted this morning. I would like to actually, Madam Speaker, be able like, in conversation with our Mayor, I would like to get these Motions out, actually, as soon as possible to whoever I can because they are important and they are public issue that need to be dealt with. So it's difficult to prepare when you got a July 13th meeting, I don't know what's coming down the pipe in 2016, who knows what information we are going to have to deal with. I noticed we've got a Council meeting right close to an FCM weekend that we are hosting here in the City of Winnipeg. I don't know if that's convenient or appropriate or what have you but that's going to make things difficult because as the host we are going to be spend even more time I'm sure trying to ensure that our...should I say our comrades or colleagues from all across the country, and we are great welcomers, Madam Speaker. If Council meeting is on July 13th, there is only one other meeting after that, that would be for appeals, really, technically there is no real formal business that I can see in the schedule for the last...from the 13th on other than the standing committee responsible for doing appeal hearings. So technically, for all intents and purposes the prorogue period is longer, although I know that people can call special meetings after that meeting. So I just wanted to say while I will be voting for this, Madam Speaker, I really…I don't...anyway I don't understand the need to have a July 13th meeting, which is, what is that, two weeks into July. Thanks

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker is Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: I would like to move an amendment, seconded, and I don't know if I need a seconder, Madam Speaker ,but Councillor Gillingham has agreed to second and it's to move the July 13th meeting to July 20th and thus to move the June 15th Council Meeting to June 22nd and move the May 18th meeting to May 25th.

Madam Speaker: Do you have that Motion in writing?

Councillor Mayes: I don't.

Madam Speaker: I believe we need it in writing.

Councillor Mayes: Alright, do you want me to speak to it and then I'll provide it in writing?

Madam Speaker: I'm going to defer to the Clerk on process here.

Clerk: Required in writing.

Councillor Gerbasi : Well you can have a vote on that.

Madam Speaker: We will vote on not having the Motion in writing all in favour? Contrary....Ok, this is not very clear. We will have to have a recorded vote. Pardon me? We are going to have a recorded vote on suspending the rules.

Councillor Mayes: In what form do you need that written, Madam Speaker? It's about two thirds of the way through…I know it's not that hard to understand but I'm more than happy to write it out again.

Madam Speaker: Can you tell us the dates again? A lot of thought went into the schedule. I want to make sure that everything matches here.

Councillor Morantz: July 13th, well, and this is third time I've spoken to this at different committees, July 13th to 20th, Council. Move…what Councillor he was talking about, thank you…move June 15th to 22nd and move May 18th to 25th.

Madam Speaker: So, move the May 18th meeting to the May 25th, June 15th to June 22nd and July 13th to July 20th. Okay, so you can speak to it now Councillor Mayes.

Motion No. 5
Moved by Councillor Mayes,

That 2016 Council and Committee Schedule of Meetings outlined on Appendices "A" and "B" be amended by changing the dates of the Council Meetings as follows:

From July 13, 2016 to July 20, 2016
From June 15, 2016 to June 22, 2016
From May 18, 2016 to May 25, 2016

Councillor Mayes: Thank you. I spoke to this both at Governance and at EPC, maybe I picked up Councillor Eadie's support along the way it sounds like. Thank you to Councillor Gillingham for agreeing to second this. It's largely some of the reasons given by Councillor Eadie, we do seem to have created a schedule where we've compressed to a three week gap from the usual four week gap the May meeting and then we have done that in order to allow us to have a four week gap to June and a four week gap to July, that's getting us out of here by July 13th. The City Clerks has prepared a very detailed summary of perhaps the last 20 years of Council meetings. They don't usually happen on that second Wednesday, they usually happen on the third Wednesday in July trying to keep with that historical practice, you will see by doing the way we have proposed it has fewer EPC meetings feeding in if you go with the amendment there is no conflict with the EPC schedule. Additionally, what we have run into is if we compress things too much, for instance, we're back in two weeks, we have already the Water Waste, Riverbank and Environment Committee hearing before this meeting so nothing from this meeting can be referred, be considered by my committee by the next meeting because we are so tied up for time with the two week gap. I appreciate there are reasons why....I noticed you put a lot of work in, Madam Speaker, on trying to schedule the July meeting a bit earlier for the move. I am not convinced the move will happen in a timely fashion but perhaps I will be pleasantly surprised with the move of offices, that is, and Councillor Orlikow has spoken on this on a couple of occasions, I think quite eloquently. And it's a separate issue but Councillor Orlikow has pointed out he has been, I think, unfairly criticized for having a July community committee meeting and people were away on holiday and this was suppressing their voice. So, in short, we are being criticized for meeting in July and we are being criticized for not meeting late enough in July but at the same time it's a fair comment by Councillor

Orlikow. Perhaps we can come back and look at those July community committee meetings and perhaps we need to move those earlier in the month or into late June, I don't know. But it's certainly a fair point he's made about scheduling. It's fairly simple change, it means we are meeting one week later than proposed in July but I think makes the schedule between the meetings more uniform and means we can get a better a little flow of the work. Some people have said, well if you do that, then it delays getting to the business. That's the best of a 50/50 proposition because if we have them earlier…some Items just don't make it on time such as Councillor Eadie's Motion today is going to have to wait until the next Water and Waste Committee Meeting in January, it's not going to be considered at the next Council, it's going to have to wait a whole rotation. So, moving it earlier you get to some business early, yes, you miss some business, yes. My point is, I think, this meeting is crept a little earlier in the schedule than has been our tradition and that's why I would like to move the July meeting and it makes sense if you do that move to the June and the May meetings. Thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker is Councillor Orlikow.

Councillor Orlikow: Thank you Madam Chair. And again before anybody goes out there and says, you Councillors taking off six weeks of holidays, well that's just not accurate. I think last summer I had about three days and many of us do. We work all summer. This City is huge, we have enormous boards and we do deserve the time off, we do know that. So again, we do have the time in August. My point though is, by moving the proposal that's in front of us right now and move it one week all through the system again, the problem will be, I'm not sure of what the ricochet will be for example, are you going to take the Property Development Heritage Downtown Committee and move it from the 5th to the 12th? Does everything move or and over a week like that? Well again, then now you have a real big problem. I already have a big problem with…then again, I will have to suffer through it a little bit, it's the 21st, the appeals. People are just...in Winnipeg in the summer time people are not here. We have always been criticized for ramming stuff through in the middle of summer to try to get around the public. Again, that's their frustration because they do want to participate but they can't because they are actually taking some time off with their families sometime in July and August. Again, so my concern is if we do this, and this happens, what happens to all the other committee meetings, the standing committee? Because the whole thing re-jigs not just these one meetings, the whole thing changes. So again, are we going to be moving some of the standing committees to later in the summer time? We already have the appeals. Where are the community committee going to show up? Are they going to be…now we're going to have an early meeting in July for community committee and have a rezoning go through there and pound it through and try to get it on to the Council agenda in three weeks? So, we put the whole thing through one agenda cycle when no one is here. I did have a horrible experience and I respect my neighbourhood when they talk about the fact that you know what, people are gone. People are gone in July and august. It had a very negative impact on that neighbourhood on their belief and their understanding that City Council wants to facilitate a schedule that will listen to them. I believe by doing this we do...we do maybe allow some other foreign business to come through but again, my major concern is still this, on this model is we have to make sure that our calendars line up, especially on public hearings where people have a chance to come speak. And if we keep moving these meetings later into the summer time, then I am concerned that people won't have that opportunity. So again, I am fine with the way it is, I'm not sure about the Council move, I think we can adjust to that, But again, I'm not sure about the ricochet effect, what happens with those committee meetings. I am also very concerned if we keep pushing it down, maybe let's do the 27th then, why not? Then we can have arguments there, too. Just put it on the 27th…the last Wednesday of the month. We could do that. Again, then we would get a lot more business done in July. Again, I believe that we want to have the opportunity to make sure that we are not putting barriers up for the public to come to public hearings, and by keep moving it further into the summer it is a barrier.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Next speaker, Councillor Browaty.

Councillor Browaty: Thank you Madam Chair. As a past Chair of the Property and Development Committee, I think that's the committee that probably, in my opinion at least, has the most challenges when you don't have meetings during the prorogue period. We want to see our city thrive and continue but when Council shuts down a lot of business has to stop unfortunately. So I think a shorter break is actually probably a good thing. That said, I mean, this is kind of impromptu and we really haven't had a good chance to look at this, I would lean towards, if it's ok with the Clerk and Council, I wouldn't mind even laying this over to a meeting...we are meeting again here in this chamber in two weeks. Let's everybody go back and check the schedule to make sure this is going to work for everyone....Sorry. Oh I see. Anyways, perhaps we can move a Motion to do something similar or just receive this as information and try again in two weeks. The other thing I'd like to note too is, I know next summer they are planning extensive renovations in this building. Is that going to hamper the scheduling, the timing and, more importantly, the costs with that? If that's a problem we need to know that information as well. If this is really setting off a whole chain reaction of events, perhaps this is a little hasty but I do agree that summer break, going down to the second week of July is too early.

Madam Speaker: Any further speakers? Councillor Mayes you can close on your amendment.

Councillor Mayes: The suggestion to layover, can that be deemed a friendly amendment to mine? Well thank you for your opinion but I thought I'd ask the Speaker here.

Madam Speaker: This is getting very muddled, Mr. Clerk. Mr. Clerk, can you answer Councillor Mayes' question first?

Councillor Eadie: I have a question and a point of order. This is an amending Motion. I spoke to the original report, I am not moving an amending Motion, am I able to rise and move referral?

Madam Speaker: You already spoke Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: So I can't move referral of this, this?

Madam Speaker: Councillor Allard would like to move…Councillor Gerbasi you have a question?

Councillor Gerbasi: I just don't believe that this referral has to happen before people speak. Everyone has now spoken, we are now at the stage…I just trying to assist here. We are at the stage where he is closing on his amendment and then I'm closing on the clause and I know people are trying to keep us going…

Madam Speaker: You are correct and I didn't see any hands up previous to that so Councillor Mayes could you please close on your amendment. Thank you.

Councillor Mayes: I'm impressed Councillor Allard wanted to speak.

Madam Speaker: I think you prompted him to speak perhaps. Would you like to close on your amendment?

Councillor Mayes: I would be quite happy to see this referred two weeks, if not, I guess I am speaking in favour of the amendment. I think it makes sense to move the meetings a week later, Councillor Browaty spoke to it, it doesn't impact on the other meetings that are scheduled here so everyone has now had a chance to speak. It doesn't affect EPC schedule as indicated, Councillor Orlikow is quite correct in saying this doesn't mean a seven week vacation becomes a six week vacation, there is no suggestion of that. In fact, I have spoken at Governance and at EPC on this saying people work all summer, people take some time off. The fact that people have made Motions here before saying we are taking eight weeks or seven weeks off, they are confusing the Council based on the prorogue dates. So there is no suggestion that we're now taking seven weeks or six weeks off. I know people work hard, I do a lot of door knocking and I know other people do a lot of community work as well. I think the Mayor hit every single Folklorama Pavilion. You get out in the community, you do your job. So I'm not suggesting that somehow we are seeking an extra week of vacation, I am saying look, this traditionally has been in the third week of July and that's where we should keep it.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Gerbasi to close.

Councillor Gerbasi: Thank you Madam Speaker. I think it's been a good discussion but I'd also like to point out there's been a lot of previous discussion on this issue, it has gone…been e-mailed to Councillors and several incarnations it's been to Governance Committee several times. People have made suggestions about concerns for changes, some of which were not agreed to by the majority of the Governance Committee. So we landed on this schedule towards very close to the end of the year, they need to start planning the meetings for next year. There is a chain reaction when you change some of these and I think amending something like this on the fly without consulting the City Clerks is not a wise idea. The work has been done to come up with a schedule, it's never going to be absolutely perfect for everyone and there isn't complete unanimous agreement about the July meeting but the majority of the Governance Committee, which each person represents one community committee, the majority was to leave the July meeting as is. I think part of the issue around that was there was a concern that the public would view us as sitting around all summer not having enough time…not working hard enough and I think we need to change that dialogue because it's really untrue as Councillor Orlikow pointed out. Many of us work very hard throughout the summer and we do need to have a few weeks off in August and I don't think anyone is really complaining about that. We could have special meetings right up to the end of July so no one's taking…if there's an important property matter, and that has certainly happened, I believe the sale of Hydro happened in July after the last Council Meeting. So there is opportunity if something important comes up but I think John…Councillor Orlikow has a good point about people do complain a lot at City Centre and our meetings if there is too much business carried over the summer because so many people are on holidays. But we will...there would be a chain reaction...and then on the redevelopment...that actually is real. We have been working at the Governance Committee on behalf of Madam Speaker...we have been working on the building move and the date we currently have is that they need us out of here by...our offices by July 15th. So, are we saying we don't want that to commence if they are ready to commence? We don't know for sure I guess, but that's the date we have so if don't plan for that, we could be out of our offices moving in the midst of a Council meeting a week later. We are essentially delaying the redevelopment

project by making a decision on a schedule on the fly without talking to Clerks or talking to the building people project and finding out if there are chain reactions and impacts. So it could be true that there is no harm in this but there's a whole bunch of factors where it seems like there really could be and we don't know that and even so, aside from all that, we have had these discussions already with in a democratic process, through the committee, all the meetings are online and in public and everyone had a chance to read the schedule over and over...I myself put in about three or four changes because of FCM events and things and they were changed and every member of Council could have changed things if they had the majority support of the Governance Committee or even on this Council. You put forward a Motion and perhaps you will have the majority and you'll be able to change that but I guess what I'm trying to say is there is already been a lot of time to have your input and it's appreciated. But I do think there is some risk with doing this this way because I assure you there are impacts and the FCM meetings have been considered, the AMM meetings have been considered and many other factors have been considered on all of your behalf, through the work of the Governance Committee, and through each of your offices when you received several copies of the schedule once or twice at least, more than twice, or at least twice to review the updated schedule and it was public when it went to Governance Committee. So I'm just trying to say that it's really risky to start changing things on the fly like this, it affects a lot more things than we might realize. I can see City Clerks over there, I believe I see bricks sweating off of their foreheads as we talk about flipping these dates around without knowing the impact. And so I just urge you to just allow...respect the work of the Governance Committee enough to trust we've done our best with everybody's input so I'm really pleading with you to just not create problems that we haven't foreseen, perhaps people haven't foreseen. We all work hard, I don't want to pander to the public perception that we don't work hard, because that's what we're doing by changing that too, which I think is wrong, that's one of the reasons I don't want to do that. Thank you Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: I will call the question.

Councillor Allard: Can I just ask like rise on a matter of privilege? Is there any way that we can defer this with a procedures By-law?

Madam Speaker: Mr. Clerk…yah, you can bring a Motion forward at a later date.

Councillor Allard: At a later date?

Madam Speaker: You can do that on any Item. I will call the question on the amendment. A recorded vote. Call the question on the amendment. All in favour please rise.

A RECORDED VOTE was taken the result being as follows:

Yeas

Councillors Allard, Eadie, Gillingham, Mayes.

Madam Speaker: All opposed please rise.

Nays

His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Dobson, Gerbasi, Gilroy, Lukes, Morantz, Orlikow, Pagtakhan, Schreyer, Browaty and Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma.

Clerk: The vote Madam Speaker, Yeas 4, Nays 11.

Madam Speaker: The amendment is lost. We will vote on the main clause. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Okay Councillor Allard will you move adjournment. All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Madam Speaker: Roll call please.

ROLL CALL

Clerk: Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma, His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Dobson, Eadie, Gerbasi, Gillingham, Gilroy, Lukes, Mayes, Morantz, Orlikow, Pagtakhan and Schreyer.

Council adjourned at 12:35 p.m.