Agenda – Council – January 25, 2017

Report – Executive Policy Committee – January 11, 2017

Item No. 6 Soldiers' Taxation Relief for 2016

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 11, 2017, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the following to Council:

1. That the applications pursuant to The Soldiers' Taxation Relief Act be approved with the understanding that the requested amount will be recovered from the Province of Manitoba.

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

Report – Executive Policy Committee – January 11, 2017

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 11, 2017, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: **Soldiers' Taxation Relief for 2016**

Critical Path: **Executive Policy Committee - Council**

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
T. Austin	M. Chambers	M. Ruta	D. McNeil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Administration Report provides information regarding the successful applications for the Soldiers' Tax Relief Program which is administered and funded by the Province of Manitoba. The credit received is applied directly to the property tax account of the successful applicants.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That City Council approves the applications pursuant to The Soldiers' Taxation Relief Act with the understanding that the requested amount will be recovered from the Province of Manitoba.

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

REASON FOR THE REPORT

The Soldiers' Taxation Relief Act requires City Council to annually approve applications for tax assistance and the Public Service to forward the applications and a statement indicating the tax assistance amount to the Province of Manitoba for reimbursement.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The provision of the Soldiers' Taxation Relief is cost-neutral for the City of Winnipeg. This credit program is administered and funded by the Province of Manitoba. Any approved amount claimed is paid to the City of Winnipeg by the Province and, in turn, refunded back to the approved property owner.

HISTORY

The Soldiers' Taxation Relief Act provides for a partial exemption from property taxes of an amount not exceeding $50 in each year, for the property of:

- The pensioned surviving spouse of any soldier;
- The pensioned parent of any deceased soldier or of a totally disabled soldier confined in any military hospital for the treatment of mental diseases, or any sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis;
- Any soldier in receipt of a military pension by reason of being disabled to the extent of at least 75% of total disability;
- A totally disabled soldier confined in any hospital or in any sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis, or in any hospital for the treatment of mental diseases, while so confined therein for not less than a minimum period of three months in any one year.

The exemption is "income tested" and does not apply to the property of any such person who has income from sources other than the pension. The $50 exemption amount has remained unchanged for several years.

DISCUSSION:

The Director of Assessment and Taxation has received five applications for relief from taxation for the year 2016 under the provisions of *The Soldier' Taxation Relief Act*, and is satisfied as to the good faith and merit of the applications. The total amount of the relief granted is $250.00.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date:** December 13, 2016

Project Name: **First Year of Program** **2016**

Soldiers' Taxation Relief for 2016

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required					
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs					
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal					
Debt - External					
Grants (Enter Description Here)					
Reserves, Equity, Surplus					
Other - Enter Description Here					
Total Funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ 250				
Less: Reimbursement from Province of Manitoba	250				
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts					
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments:

The provision of the Soldiers' Taxation Relief is cost-neutral for the City of Winnipeg. This credit program is administered and funded by the Province of Manitoba. Any approved amount claimed is paid to the City of Winnipeg by the Province and refunded back to the approved property owner.

original signed by

Ramona Hodges
Manager of Finance (Campus)
Corporate Finance Department

CONSULTATION

In preparing this report there was consultation with:

Internal

External

- Individual veterans / widows for completion of application forms
- Veterans Affairs Canada, Manitoba District, Winnipeg Office

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

N/A

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Assessment and Taxation
Division: Taxation and Finance
Prepared by: T. Austin, Manager of Taxation and Finance Services
Date: December 13, 2016
File No. N/A