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

NOTICE OF MOTION

Minute No. 314
Moved by Councillor Schreyer,
Seconded by Councillor Dobson,

WHEREAS the City's sewage treatment system has allowed millions of litres of raw sewage to enter into Winnipeg's rivers in recent years;

AND WHEREAS the City acknowledges that the Province has ordered the City to upgrade the North End Water Control Centre, along with other city wide upgrades to the water and waste systems;

AND WHEREAS the increase in water rates has been justified by City officials due to the necessity of the City to upgrade its North End sewage plant and to implement its entire Capital Program;

AND WHEREAS the City's water utility is proposing a substantial increase its water rates over the next three years;

AND WHEREAS the percentage rebate/dividend that is paid to the City of Winnipeg general revenue stream by the Water and Waste Utility of the City was increased from 8 percent to 12 percent in 2015;

AND WHEREAS it is projected that $32 million, a historic high amount, will be paid to the City of Winnipeg by the City's Water and Waste Utility and their customers;

AND WHEREAS even Manitoba Hydro has been subject to public hearings in recent years, implemented by the Manitoba Public Utilities Board, over Manitoba Hydro's request to raise hydro rates.

AND WHEREAS Councillors' concerns raised on the idea of the Manitoba Public Utilities Board conducting the such hearings was that it undermined the independence of the City Administration to conduct its own business;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct the Administration to call public hearings on the proposed Water and Sewer Rate Increases of 2017 and 2018.

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,

That the motion moved by Councillor Schreyer and seconded by Councillor Dobson be referred to the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment.

Carried