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

QUESTION PERIOD

Minute No. 586
Councillor Wyatt asked how the costs of the North End Sewage Treatment Plant had inflated; to which Councillor Mayes replied that the cost escalation has been discussed at the Standing Policy Committee on Finance, however, he welcomed a debate on the floor of Council to provide the Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment's position on the matter.

Councillor Wyatt cited the merger of the budget sheets of the Bio solid Program and the North End Sewage Treatment Plant upgrade into one page and asked if it would be better accountability to have the two separated; to which Councillor Mayes replied he did not think having 2 separate pages would increase accountability nor transparency.

Councillor Wyatt asked when Council would know the rate impact to the citizens of Winnipeg; to which Councillor Mayes replied this had been debated earlier in the year in terms of the three year plan, however, with the enormity of the project, it was worth further debate.

Councillor Gillingham, with regard to the North End Sewage Treatment Plant upgrade, asked if Councillor Mayes was aware that the majority of the costs were related to effluent nutrient and meeting Provincial requirements; to which Councillor Mayes replied in the affirmative.

Councillor Lukes asked about the anticipated cost to taxpayers for the new garbage and recycling contractors; to which Councillor Mayes replied that cost implications, if any, would be had during the upcoming budget process.

Councillor Wyatt inquired if the Chair was aware that nutrients from all the water treatment plans built by The City of Winnipeg could be removed, such as what was done at Netley Creek Marsh; to which Councillor Mayes replied he was not, however, he looked forward to learning more about that project.