EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

MOTIONS

Minute No. 107
Moved by Councillor Wyatt,
Seconded by Councillor Eadie,

WHEREAS since Council adopted the motion of Building Canada Fund priorities on March 25, 2015, major changes have occurred with regard to the issues of Railway Relocation and with the election of a new government in Ottawa;

AND WHEREAS for the first time the Province of Manitoba has announced a new Railway Relocation Task Force to be headed by a former Premier of Quebec and a former leader of the Federal Progressive Conservative Party, the Honourable Jean Charest;

AND WHEREAS as presently contemplated, the cost for new infrastructure due to railway crossings, shall cost the taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars and may only fix one or two crossings at the most;

AND WHEREAS the benefit of relocating railways from inside the City of Winnipeg to outside the City of Winnipeg, or by combining and sharing an existing railway Right-Of-Way, by two or more railways, has huge cost benefits to the people of Winnipeg, both in terms of lost time due to traffic congestion and pedestrian and homeowner safety, but also in terms of the long-term maintenance costs related to the new grade separations;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg is setting a dangerous precedent of agreeing to repay a railway for their share of the rail crossing/grade separation costs (RE: Canadian Transportation Agency regulations for the apportionment of costs of grade separations) in the event the railway is later relocated (Report of EPC, January 20, 2016, Item No. 10, City of Winnipeg Council Meeting, January 27, 2016) therefore creating a major new financial liability for the City of Winnipeg that never existed before;

AND WHEREAS for the first time in a generation, the opportunity now exists to make historic change with regard to railway relocation inside Winnipeg and with this new sense of optimism, it is premature to build further grade separations involving railways and hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars until the Charest Taskforce has an opportunity to conduct its work;

Executive Policy Committee – Motions (continued):

AND WHEREAS railway relocation also presents the City of Winnipeg with an historic opportunity, that with the acquisition of former railway Right-Of- Ways, new and exciting initiatives for Rapid Transit, Active Transportation, and Neighborhood Renewal and Revitalization, just to name a few, becomes a real possibility;

AND WHEREAS the on the day of the announcement, January 14, 2016, Jean Charest stated, "This Project has the ability to change and will change the City of Winnipeg";

AND WHEREAS the Mayor of the City of Winnipeg, Brian Bowman, on January 14, 2016, the day of the announcement, in the presence of the Premier of Manitoba and Jean Charest, stated the following, "What we do need is we need to have the full picture and I for one and I think all of us here agree that there's a lot more information analysis that can and should occur and once that occurs we will be in a better position to make better decisions and so the cost of proceeding with rail relocation, the cost not to, that's the type of thing we need to get these figures so we can have an informed discussion and debate".

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council Meeting of March 25th, 2015 Decision of Minute No. 245, Report of the Executive Policy Committee – March 24, 2015, be amended by deleting clause 1 and replacing it with the following:

1. That the priorities for the Building Canada Fund applications be set as follows:

    1) Chief Peguis Trail — Main Street to Route 90
    2) Kenaston Boulevard Widening
    3) Waverley Street Underpass
    4) Marion Street Widening/Grade Separation and Improvements – Archibald Street to Lagimodiere Boulevard

The Speaker advised that the motion would Stand as Notice.

Moved by Councillor Orlikow,

That the rule be suspended to consider the motion at this time.

The motion to suspend the rule was put.

Councillor Wyatt called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Executive Policy Committee – Motions (continued):

Yea: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Gerbasi, Gillingham, Gilroy, Lukes, Mayes, Morantz, Orlikow, Pagtakhan and Schreyer 12

Nay: Councillors Dobson, Eadie, Wyatt and Sharma 4

and the motion to suspend the rule was declared carried.

The motion moved by Councillors Wyatt and Eadie was put.

Councillor Wyatt called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Yea: Councillors Eadie, Wyatt and Sharma. 3

Nay: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Dobson, Gerbasi, Gillingham, Gilroy, Lukes, Mayes, Morantz, Orlikow, Pagtakhan, and Schreyer 13

and the motion proposed by Councillors Wyatt and Eadie was declared lost.