Minute No. 381
Report – Governance Committee of Council – May 2, 2018

Item No. 3 Amendment to the Code of Conduct for Members of Council

On May 15, 2018, the Executive Policy Committee laid over the matter for 30 days.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On May 15, 2018, the Executive Policy Committee laid over the matter for 30 days.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On May 2, 2018, the Governance Committee of Council passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS at its meeting of February 22, 2018, Council adopted Recommendation No. 1 of Item No. 1 of the Report of the Governance Committee of Council dated January 23, 2018, regarding adoption of a new Code of Conduct for Members of Council;

AND WHEREAS the new Code of Conduct for Members of Council brought forward by the Integrity Commissionaire for consideration by Council required that any gifts valued at $50 or greater be declared;

AND WHEREAS Council chose to amend this part of the Code of Conduct to reduce the threshold for reporting gifts to $0;

AND WHEREAS while the intent of the amendment was likely well intended of having all gifts be declared, the end result has been an increase in administrative work and expenses for the Integrity Commissioner and the Winnipeg Public Service in tracking very small gifts such as a cup of coffee at a meeting;

AND WHEREAS having the limit set at $50 will still ensure that any and all significant gifts received will be reported, ensuring openness and transparency for citizens, the raising of the limit to $50 will also significantly reduce the current red tape and expenses currently being incurred to track small items such as cups of coffee;

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Code of Conduct for Members of Council be amended by changing section E.3.e to require only gifts or benefits valued at $50 or greater to be disclosed, rather than all gifts or benefits.

and submitted the matter to Executive Policy Committee and Council.