Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – June 13, 2018

Report – Governance Committee of Council – May 2, 2018

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

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Governance Committee of Council and submitted the following to Council:

1. 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.

2. That the proper officers of The City of Winnipeg do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Report – Governance Committee of Council – May 2, 2018

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Gilroy,

That the recommendation of the Governance Committee of Council be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Carried

His Worship Mayor Bowman, and Councillors Orlikow and Gillingham asked to be recorded as having voted against the above motion, in accordance with Rule 47(7) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007.

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;

Report – Governance Committee of Council – May 2, 2018

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

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;

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.