Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – September 12, 2018

REPORTS

Item No. 18 Whistleblower Protection

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee recommended to Council:

1. That the Province of Manitoba be requested to extend statutory whistleblower protection under the *Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Amendment Act*, *concurrent with the proclamation of this Act*, to civic employees, members of the public appointed to City Boards and Commissions, Executive Assistants to Councillors and employees of the Mayor's Office.

2. That the Public Service prepare and implement a comprehensive internal communication strategy informing all employees of their rights and protections under this new legislation.

3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Pagtakhan,

That Rule 10(3) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007 be suspended in order that the following item, which was received less than four business days preceding the committee meeting, be considered by Committee.

Carried

Moved by Councillor Pagtakhan,

WHEREAS employees of the City of Winnipeg strive to provide high quality services that citizens rely on;

AND WHEREAS employees of the City of Winnipeg have a right to feel safe and protected when reporting incidents of wrongdoing in the workplace;

AND WHEREAS providing whistleblower protection to City of Winnipeg employees complements many other measures implemented by the current City Council to increase the level of openness and transparency at City Hall;

AND WHEREAS in February 2015 Council requested that the Province of Manitoba amend the City of Winnipeg Charter or Public Interest Disclosure Act to include statutory whistleblower protection for civic employees and members of the public appointed to City Boards and Commissions;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba recently passed the Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Amendment Act (the Act) which enables the Province, by regulation, to extend whistleblower protection to employees of municipalities;

AND WHEREAS the Act will come into force on December 4, 2018.

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Municipal Relations has asked the City of Winnipeg to advise via Council resolution by October 15, 2018 if the City wishes to be included in the Provincial whistleblower protection framework concurrent with the initial proclamation of the Act.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

City Council request that the Province of Manitoba extend statutory whistleblower protection under the *Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Amendment Act, concurrent with the proclamation of this Act*, to civic employees, members of the public appointed to City Boards and Commissions, Executive Assistants to Councillors and employees of the Mayor's Office.

AND THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Service prepare and implement a comprehensive internal communication strategy informing all employees of their rights and protections under this new legislation.

and the matter be forwarded to Council.

Carried