Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – September 12, 2018

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Item No. 8 Safety Review of the City of Winnipeg Outdoor Aquatic Facilities

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee, in its capacity as the Audit Committee, concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and recommended to Council:

1. That the Safety Review of the City of Winnipeg Outdoor Aquatic Facilities report be received as information.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Gillingham,

That the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service be concurred in and forwarded to Council.

Carried

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Safety Review of the City of Winnipeg Outdoor Aquatic Facilities

Critical Path: Audit Committee - Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
B. Mansky	B. Mansky City Auditor		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The objective of this audit was to evaluate the outdoor aquatic facilities safety processes and practices and report on the facilities adherence to Manitoba regulations and the Lifesaving Society best practices.

A summary of the key findings includes:

- The Lifesaving Society's aquatic safety audit presents eleven Priority Recommendations and twenty-five Primary Recommendations.[1]
- Priority Recommendations are the highest risk findings and represent, in the opinion of the Lifesaving Society, major safety risks to the public that require immediate action. These concerns are discussed by the auditors with the designated facility representative immediately following the facility inspection.
- Primary Recommendations are findings that should receive focused attention by facility management. These findings are not considered to have as high of a risk exposure and represent a lower risk to public safety as compared to the Priority Recommendations. Primary Recommendations identified situations that either did not meet a relevant Province of Manitoba regulation, or, in the opinion of the Lifesaving Society, did not constitute reasonable safe practice.
- The City of Winnipeg is required to comply with Manitoba Regulations; they are not required to comply with the Lifesaving Society's standards and guidelines.
- The Lifesaving Society considers an organization to be operating within their defined range of safe practice if the aquatic safety audit identifies no Priority Recommendations, and only Primary Recommendations which in the opinion of the Society represents a low risk to public safety.
- An organization is considered to be operating below the range of safe practice if any Priority Recommendations are identified, or if any Primary Recommendations address what the Lifesaving Society considers to be unreasonable risk to public safety.

[1] The Audit Department reviewed the recommendations of the Lifesaving Society and at the request of the Community Services Department combined some recommendations as they identified a similar issue and would be addressed by the same management implementation plan.

- It is the Lifesaving Society's opinion that at the time of the audit, the City of Winnipeg's outdoor aquatic facilities were operating below the Lifesaving Society's range of safe practice based on criteria that include:
    - Government of Manitoba statutes governing public swimming pools.
    - Recommendations from coroners' inquests.
    - Lifesaving Society standards concerning the operation of public swimming pools.
    - Lifesaving Society research into drowning's in swimming pools.
- All eleven Priority Recommendations and twenty-five Primary Recommendations, in the opinion of the Lifesaving Society, presented unreasonable risk to public safety.
- Recommendations identified as low risk by the Lifesaving Society, were presented to the management of Aquatic Services and Municipal Accommodations to be reviewed and considered for implementation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Safety Review of the City of Winnipeg Outdoor Aquatic Facilities report be received as information.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

The report is being submitted in accordance with the City Organization By-law 7100/97 section 4 19(d)(iv) that the Audit Committee will "Receive and review audit reports, and table such reports with its recommendations at a regular meeting of Executive Policy Committee."

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The most important component of an audit recommendation is its implementation. The Public Service is responsible for a response to the Lifesaving Society's report that states whether the recommendations of the audit will be implemented or not. The responses to the audit recommendations have been included in the attached audit report. In the event that the Public Service does not agree to implement the Lifesaving Society's recommendations, the City Auditor's responsibility is to report to Council on what the residual risk to the City is for not implementing the recommendations.

The Public Service has reviewed and responded to the Lifesaving Society's audit report. Of the eleven Priority recommendations, they have agreed to implement nine, and review the possible implementation and feasibility of two. The two recommendations where the Public Service did not commit to implementation are based on the Lifesaving Society's standards and guidelines.

Of the twenty-five Primary recommendations, they have agreed to implement nineteen, disagreed with two, and agreed to review the possible implementation of the remaining four. Of the two recommendations where the Public Service disagreed, one is based on the Lifesaving Society's standards and guidelines and one resulted from a difference in the approach to complying with the requirements of a Manitoba Regulation. Of the four recommendations where the Public Service did not commit to implementation of the recommendation but are reviewing the possibility of implementation, one resulted from a difference of opinion on the requirements of a Manitoba Regulation and three were based on the Lifesaving Society's standards and guidelines.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

On March 20, 2013, a Safety Review of the City of Winnipeg Indoor Aquatic Facilities was presented to Council, at which time a motion was approved to include a Safety Review of the City of Winnipeg Outdoor Aquatic Facilities to the Audit Plan.

A safety review of the City of Winnipeg Outdoor Aquatic Facilities was included in the City Auditors Audit Plan 2015 – 2018.

The Audit Department issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to identify experienced and capable proponents to conduct the review. In June 2017, a contract was awarded to the Lifesaving Society – Manitoba Branch Inc. The proposal was evaluated based on the experience of the proponent, the proposed project approach/methodology and a fixed-price quote.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date:** May 17, 2018

Project Name:

Safety Review of the City of Winnipeg Outdoor Aquatic Facilities

Comments:

There are no financial implications related to the recommendation of this report.

original signed by T.Yanchishyn

Tanis Yanchishyn
Manager of Finance (Campus)
Corporate Finance Department

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with:

Community Services Department

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

01-3 Prosperity - Direction 1 - Provide Efficient and Focused Civic Administration and Governance

This report supports the demonstration of accountability through reporting and to continuously pursue innovative, streamlined service delivery and decision-making processes.

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Audit
Prepared by: B. Mansky, City Auditor
Date: August 20, 2018

Attachment: Safety Review of the City of Winnipeg Outdoor Aquatic Facilities