COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG
Friday, March 20, 2020

The Council met at 3:05 p.m.

The Clerk advised the Speaker that a quorum was present.

The Speaker called the meeting to order.

The opening prayer was read by Councillor Gillingham.

ROLL CALL

Clerk: Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma, His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Eadie, Gillingham, Gilroy, Klein, Lukes, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos and Schreyer.

MOTIONS

Madam Speaker: Thank you. We have a leave of absence motion for Councillor Chambers. Madam Clerk, would you please read it?

Moved by Councillor Allard,
Seconded by Councillor Mayes,

THAT Councillor Chambers be granted a leave of absence from today's meeting due to a personal family matter.

Madam Speaker: And also a leave of absence motion for Councillor Nason.

Moved by Councillor Klein,
Seconded by Councillor Browaty,

THAT Councillor Nason be granted a leave of absence from today's meeting due to a personal family matter.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. And also for Councillor Chambers, all in favour? Contrary? Carried. And Madam Clerk, if you would please read the notice calling the special meeting today.

Pursuant to Section 79(1) of The City of Winnipeg *Charter, The City Clerk was directed by His Worship Mayor Bowman to arrange a Special Meeting of Council on Friday, March 20, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. Notice of the meeting including a list of all items to be considered was emailed to all members of Council.*

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Mayes, I believe you have a motion to suspend the rules, so we can deal with today's meeting as a consent agenda rather than calling out each item separately. Councillor Mayes, you move that? So is that understood? We have…it's a special meeting that's been called today by the Mayor so that would mean we would read out each item individually, the Clerk would, that's normal procedures. Councillor Mayes has moved suspending the rules so that we can deal with it as Consent Agenda and deal through committees as we normally do every month, use that same process through the committee structure, okay? All in favour?

Mayor Bowman: I'm sorry. I just need that read back so I understand.

Madam Speaker: Mr. Clerk, could you clarify and that way, it will be another voice.

City Clerk: For all special meetings, each item has to be dealt with item by item. This would mean that we would go through each item, read it, introduce and vote on each item separately. However, this special meeting is meant to replace a meeting…a regular meeting of March the 26th, so we want to use the Consent Agenda similar to that so then by suspending the rules, each chair will be able to move the Consent Agenda and members of council can pull the items they wish to speak to.

Madam Speaker: As we do every month during our regular process. Councillor Mayes, with the motion to suspend the rules to allow for Consent Agenda to be used, all in favour? Contrary? Carried. Mr. Mayor, we'll start on to you for the report of the Executive Policy Committee dated March 10, 2020.

**REPORT OF THE
EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE
DATED MARCH 10, 2020**

Mayor Bowman: Do we have opening statements if we move to Consent Agenda? There are none? Okay. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I introduce the report and move adoption of the Consent Agenda Item 1.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Schreyer pulled one. Madam Clerk.

Item 1 – Forks Railside Phase 1 Tax Increment Financing Zone

Madam Speaker: Mr. Mayor, to introduce Item 1.

Mayor Bowman: I'll wait to hear from council colleagues, thank you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Schreyer.

Councillor Schreyer: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm just wary of this. Perhaps other council members will recall I vote against conversion of any amount of the common lands of The Forks being converted into residential. My reasoning being, we all own The Forks or none of us do. The idea that you know over the years The Forks have been promised free parking, ample free parking now we'll be having parking live at The Forks and they…hold it in the name of encouraging the use of public transit, it being at the hub of a major hub of downtown public transit yet, those suites would all have private parking. So I have my concerns and voted against it. In this case, I'm just wary about it because I…two things. One, I don't…I'm not against the idea of extra taxes from the residences going towards or whatever business is there that would be in those buildings in the Railside Phase 1, going towards The Forks but two things. And to be fair to residents, so there would be residents there. One, I don't know what the implications are in terms of what other tax dollars from the City would go to The Forks. It's everyone's Forks. We all…we all take responsibility for it through our tax dollars and therefore, I'm not sure as this is written whether given any special consideration to those people that live there because they're paying extra taxes. Do they automatically…would they feel they have extra entitlements by virtue of paying this proportion amount of taxes going towards The Forks? It's everybody's Forks whether people live there or not and that was one of the concerns I had with the idea of creating residency at The Forks. Also in terms of .2 of the administration recommendation, that the Chief Financial Officer be authorized to negotiate and approve terms and conditions of such a grant agreement in accordance with this report. And to protect the interests of the City, I'm not doubting that the CAO would have the intent to protect the interests of the City, but as you can see my concerns over what the interest of the City are differ from that of council since I've explained in the past why I voted against this in the first place. If I could before the vote have assurance in terms of what that would be, I might feel more comfortable but again it says leave this is to the Chief Financial Officer. I would prefer that it come back to Council so we could look at this. This is a very special circumstance. We're talking about The Forks and we're talking about property taxes going directly to The Forks and creating what I'm concerned about would be a special distinction for those that live there above those that are part of The Forks just as equally, whether they live there or not. And I would prefer this come back to Council. If someone wish to move that motion if it were to pass, then I would vote in favour of the motion, but at this point, I can't.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor, Schreyer. Any further speakers? Councillor Rollins. Yes, thank you.

Councillor Rollins: Thank you very much. I think…I appreciate the sentiment, Madam Speaker, that the whole council feels entitled and that it owns The Forks. I stand before you as the ward councillor for Fort Rouge-East Fort Garry and Forks is very firmly in my ward and so I stand wanting to recognize that you know that as a fact. And wanting to support the designated tax increment financing zone created for railside at The Fork's concept plan and I want to recognize to this council that in its wisdom, those of you that were here back in 2014, who approved the fiscal framework for construction of the public amenities and for structure for Fork's railside development. And I want to make sure that I stand to recognize that because The Fork's railside development will result in over 100 million in private capital investment in the city. It's a very substantial increase in assessed land value. There are going to be new employment opportunities that are generated through construction and revitalization of the area. More people living in the contiguous colleagues, I'll note, in the downtown, Councillor Gilroy and Councillor Santos. The people focus spaces that we've talked about at this council during my term and so I wanted to for sure stand in favour of the work that went into the Fork's railside plan by this council, this term, last term and really division that was created a long, long time ago to get us to this point, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Any further speakers? Seeing none, Mr. Mayor to close.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you, Madam Speaker. And I appreciate the fact that the local councillor is accurately pointing out that it is, in fact…and she's very fortunate to have The Forks in her ward, Madam Speaker. It is an absolute gem for all Winnipeggers. And you know, obviously the Forks is an area that all feel a sense of ownership and pride and that is a good thing. You know, I think about conversations I had with our late mayor, Bill Norrie. I had conversations with him when I used to be a volunteer at the University of Manitoba Alumni Association. And I remember having an opportunity …was one of the few times I actually had an opportunity to speak with him about our city. It was well before I had even considered…thinking about running for mayor. I remember that the pride in which he would speak about The Forks. The Forks North Portage Partnership was really a visionary initiative in a way in which structured I think is also…has served Winnipeggers very well. You know there isn't a lot of politics around The Forks the way that is structured and I think that served our community very well. I want to thank the Forks North Portage Partnership and their board for their ongoing work. I will be supporting this and look forward to seeing continued improvements to the Forks North Portage Partnership and, of course, all that's happening that's good in our downtown.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. With that, I'll call the question on Item 1. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Councillor Schreyer is noted in opposition, thank you. Next, Mr. Mayor is a report on the Executive Policy Committee dated March 17th.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE DATED MARCH 17, 2020

Mayor Bowman: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I introduce the report and move adoption of the Consent Agenda Items 1 through 8 and I'll just pull Item 6.

Madam Speaker: I'll call the question on 1 through 5, 7 and 8. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk.

Item 6 – 2020 Mill Rates for the Education Support Levy and Special Levy

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Okay, are there any speakers to Item 6? Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: Very briefly, I think under this administration with the creation of the school board liaison position, we've actually done quite a bit more with the school boards than in…previous councils have. I remember Nick Martin writing a column saying I was too new here and I must not understand the antipathy and it was antipathy that the city councillors have towards school boards and I was later able to say, well, now I've been here long enough to do something about it. And we created that school board liaison position which Councillor Santos is now undertaking. This is still…this is I think a slightly…it's a mill rate setting, but I do want to say we've had a good run with the school boards. I don't know what the future is going to hold for them with provincial legislation but a number of former school trustees here and we have under the Mayor's direction I think done quite a bit to try to move our relationship to be more amicable one with the school boards.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further speakers? Seeing none, I will call the question on Item 6. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Okay, we'll now get into by-laws, Mr. Mayor.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Mayor Bowman: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move that following by-law be read…sorry, by-laws be read a first time. By-law 18/2020, By-law 19/2020, By-law 24/2020, By-law 28/2020, By-law 29/2020, By-law 30/2020 and By-law 39/2020.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 18/2020, By-law No. 19/2020, By-law No. 24/2020, By-law No. 28/2020, By-law No. 29/2020, By-law No. 30/2020 and By-law No. 39/2020.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move that By-laws numbered 18/2020, 19/2020, 24/2020, 28/2020 and 30/2020, both inclusive, and 39/2020 be read a second time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Okay, noted. Thank you, Councillor Eadie.

Clerk: By-laws numbered 18/2020, 19/2020, 24/2020, 28/2020, 2…30/2020 both inclusive and 39/2020.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Bowman: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I move that the rule be suspended and By-laws numbered 18/2020, 19/2020, 24/2020, 28/2020 and 30/2020, both inclusive, be read a third time and By-law 39/2020 be…that the same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed. It just rolls off the tongue, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Thank you, noted councillor Eadie. We'll now move into question period. Thirty minutes on the clock, please. Any questions for Mayor Bowman? Seeing none, let's move to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works. Councillor Allard on the report dated February 4th.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS
DATED FEBRUARY 4, 2020

Councillor Allard: Yes. I'd like to move the Consent Agenda.

Madam Speaker: That's Item 2. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Councilor Allard, on the report dated March 3rd.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS
DATED MARCH 3, 2020

Councillor Allard: And as well, I'd like to move the Consent Agenda Items 1 to 5.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Councilor Allard, by-laws.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL AND PUBLIC WORKS
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS

Councillor Allard: I move that the following by-laws be read a first time, By-law No. 25/2020, By-law No. 26/2020, By-law No. 27/2020.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? This is under Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works. Are they posted, Mr. Clerk? It's posted there. Okay, you're good? All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 25/2020, By-law No. 26/2020 and By-law No. 27/2020.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councilor Allard.

Councillor Allard: I move that By-laws No. 25/2020 to 27/2020, both inclusive, be read a second time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws No. 25/2020 to 27/2020 both inclusive.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Allard.

Councillor Allard: And I move that the rules be suspended and By-laws numbered 25/2020 to 27/2020, both inclusive, be read a third time and that the same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We'll now move into question period under this committee. Any questions for Councillor Allard? Seeing none, let's move on to the Standing Policy Committee on Finance. Councillor Gillingham, on the report dated March 16th.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
DATED MARCH 16, 2020

Councillor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise to introduce a report and move adoption of Consent Agenda Item No. 1.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Councillor Eadie: Nay.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: I'll be opposed all the way so I'd appreciate (inaudible).

Madam Speaker: So noted, thank you. We'll now have question period under this committee. Any questions for Councillor Gillingham? Councillor Mayes.

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
QUESTION PERIOD

Councillor Mayes: Thank you. As we begin work on budget 2021 (laughter)…

Councillor Gillingham: Move to adjourn, Madam…?

Councillor Mayes: There was a point made by Councillor Eadie today and I think by Kate Kehler, a pretty eloquent presentation the other day, the idea of a policy that would have a certain mill rate and then people are going to…assessed home value below a certain threshold would receive a rebate back…might be redundant…will receive a rebate. I'm not sure of the legality of that. I suspect Councillor Wyatt would have rebated everyone in Transcona in his day if that was…if you were able to do that, but facetious, but could we have a look into the legality of that from our staff? We actually do have some time before the next budget. It's…I mean, it's a creative idea. It's interesting. It's worth some public engagement that I think we should look into but I would first want to know, is that doable, that there could be some sort of rebate of a portion of the property tax that…I'm not sure about that, if we could get that researched.

Councillor Gillingham: Madam Speaker, thank you very much. Through you, thank you for the…thank you to Councillor Mayes for the question. I'm not sure whether the Charter allows that or not. (Inaudible) certainly look into that. And yes, we'll take it under advisement and get information back to you.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further questions? Seeing none, let's move forward. Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment. The report dated January 9. Councillor Gilroy.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON
WATER AND WASTE, RIVERBANK MANAGEMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT
DATED JANUARY 9, 2020

Councillor Gilroy: I'd like to move adoption of Consent Agenda Item No. 2, please.

Madam Speaker: Number 2, all in favour? Contrary? Carried. Any questions…we'll have question period at this time under this committee. Any questions for Councillor Gilroy? Let's move forward. Next committee is the Standing Policy Committee on Innovation and Economic Development. Councillor Orlikow on the report dated March 16th.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DATED MARCH 16, 2020

Councillor Orlikow: Yeah, I'm going to do it. I'm going to move Items 1, 3 and 4.

Madam Speaker: Is there an Item 5 as well?

Councillor Orlikow: I don't have it here.

Madam Speaker: No, it's just…I couldn't see that. Okay, so we'll move…I'll call the question on Item 1, 3 and 4. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk.

Item 2 – Winnipeg Fleet Management – Special Operating Agency – 2020 Business Plan

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Orlikow to introduce the item.

Councillor Orlikow: I just want to state for the public record. The Winnipeg Fleet Management, the business plan, it's…I am going to be supporting it with caution. I will be keeping an eye on how the implementation of their potential closure of the Waverley station…the site goes. I think we have to be…it's again, we talked about this morning a bit, some of the risk in the budget, this one…I am a little concerned about still so I'll be keeping a close eye working with the department to make sure that some of the risks are minimized.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any other speakers for Item 2? Councillor Eadie.

Councillor Eadie: Yes, Madam Speaker. Sorry, I voted for the Animal Service one. I believe I voted against this at committee, the business plans. Madam Speaker, I just…this SOA is one of the ones that really, for me, in the budget and this is the business plan that goes to what they're going to be doing for the next period of time. The level of risk involved in what they're going to be doing in terms of closing a shop and getting rid of mechanics and all this stuff, I can't support this. It's…you know what? I will be reporting every time that Public Works is not able to provide the services that they're required to with their equipment. I will point out to the budget working group why that's happening and because this…the risk here is just too heavy. So I won't be supporting it.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further speakers? Seeing none. Councillor Orlikow, do you wish to close? I can call the question then on Item 2. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We noted Councillor Eadie in opposition. Thank you. Councillor Schreyer. We'll now have question period under this committee under Innovation and Economic Development. Any questions for Councillor Orlikow, our chair? Okay seeing none, next committee is Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development. Councillor Mayes, on the report dated February 3rd.

REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON
PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT, HERITAGE AND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
DATED FEBRUARY 3, 2020

Councillor Mayes: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'll introduce the report dated February 3rd and move adoption of Consent Agenda Item 8.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Councillor Mayes, on the report dated March 2nd.

**REPORT OF THE STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON
PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT, HERITAGE AND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
DATED MARCH 2, 2020**

Councillor Mayes: I will move the report dated March 2nd, 2020 and I'll move the Consent Agenda Items 1 through 10 and 12.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Madam Clerk.

Item 11 – Nomination of Brookside Cemetery as a National Historic Site

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Mayes to introduce the item.

Councillor Mayes: I'll wait to hear from, I think it was Councillor Rollins.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Rollins.

Councillor Rollins: Madam Speaker, we've had to defend why over the past few days why we sit as a council. And an eloquent explanation by the Mayor this morning, Mayes to almost every speaker and delegation on our section 288 of our charter and our administrative guidance by-law that you know we must pass a budget, so why do I talk about this relative to Brookside? Well, we owe our democratic process for those that fought the hardest for us. Our veterans, my great, great grandfather, Madam Speaker, started the Rideau Veterans Home in Ottawa. I observe Remembrances Day as a family each and every year for my whole life and enduring as do my children. The military field of honor at Brookside gets a significant boost in budget and I want to recognize that. And I'm happy to speak in favour of this move for the first time and once more. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor Rollins. Any further speakers? Seeing none. Councillor Mayes, do you wish to close? We'll call the question on Item 11. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Great. Okay, Councillor Mayes, we'll move into by-laws.

**STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON
PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT, HERITAGE AND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS**

Councillor Mayes: Yes, I will move By-law No. 22/2020 and By-law No. 23/2020.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-law No. 22/2020 and By-law No. 23/2020.

Madam Speaker: All in favour…or pardon me. Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: Yes. I'll move the By-laws numbered 22/2020 and 23/2020 be read a second time.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried.

Clerk: By-laws numbered 22/2020 and 23/2020.

Madam Speaker: Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: I'll move that the rule be suspended and By-laws No. 22/2020 and 23/2020 be read a third time and that the same be passed and ordered to be signed and sealed.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We'll now have question period under this committee. Any questions for Councillor Mayes? Councillor Gillingham followed by Councillor Lukes.

**STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON
PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT, HERITAGE AND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
QUESTION PERIOD**

Councillor Gillingham: Thank you, Madam Speaker. One question, we just adopted a budget that includes an investment for digitizing permitting processes. I'm wondering if the councillor could, perhaps, work with the department and maybe in six months or so bring a report back to this body or the appropriate body, I guess, just on the number of the update of that digitization process and how that's going out. The…we worked you know for that for a long time. We heard the need for that I think this chamber would certainly be interested in the results of that or at least to the proper committee.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: Yes. I think I give them credit for that initiative at some earlier setting on the budget and I certainly do not take credit for that. That was really Mr. Kiernan as director led that and Stan Dueck when he was still at the City led that whole process about the digitization. So certainly, we don't know when we'll be back of course, but once we're through this and we're back, and that seems like a worthwhile to get a report back on that in six months or so. Thank you for the question.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Anything further? No? Councillor Lukes followed by Councillor Rollins.

Councillor Rollins: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. So the question directed to Councillor Mayes is in light of the significant economic downturn that we're seeing, I have reached out to many in the development community to speak about projects that are ongoing and the top concern many of them expressed to me yesterday was to keep the PP&D Department going as best we can from the standpoint of permits and approvals and so I'm just wondering, Councillor Mayes, and I don't expect that you have got deep plans or that the department has deep plans yet on how to do that, but how will you be communicating or how will we be communicating to the development community on this really important topic? Many of them have financing. They've got their own teams in place to do construction. They want to proceed. They want to keep people working, but you know these require permits, inspections, all of that. So anything you could do to enlighten us on that or how…or could you get back to us and the department get back to the community? I'm not sure but

Councillor Mayes: It's a good question, but it's a difficult one to answer since we started meeting here this morning. There's been provisional wide state of emergency invoked for the next 30 days. What would that mean to construction projects? I don't know. We haven't been through it before that I can remember. So I can certainly ask Michael Jack and others just what we can do in that regard we'd keep…it's a balancing act of course, non-essential staff, we're encouraging people to stay home. On the other hand, how do we try to keep the economic engine going? Certainly trying to get back to and I will say Madam Speaker has raised with me already the idea of is there some work that could be done at some of our civic facilities that would be otherwise scheduled later in the year? Some work…it's already…some facilities, Bonivital Pool's closed down already for example for work. Are there other facilities slated for work later in the year or maybe we could do that during a shutdown period or I'm not sure. It's a very…it's a good idea by Madam Speaker so we can look into that and get back. I should answer…Councillor Klein had a very good question last meeting about letters sent to other levels of government that were never answered. We are looking into that. One of them, Councillor Rollins may have interest in this, was a letter Councillor Gillingham and I asked Federal Minister of Veterans Affairs to respond on a matter and we did not get a response several years ago. So it was a good initiative by Councillor Klein. So I did follow up with Mr. Lemoine. We will have some answers. We will get a report together. So back to Councillor Lukes' question, yes, it's…we're in such a state of flux. I wish I could give you a more definitive answer. I can't. We'll try to find out from our folks what can be done.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Rollins and then Councillor Klein.

Councillor Rollins: Thank you. This stems for a bit of a brief discussion, Madam Speaker, that we had a…over a break regarding opportunities for this city and challenges for the City opposite the planning amendments and the City of Winnipeg Charter Amendment Act in capital regional partnership acted, the provincial government passed in the Ombudsman's budget but pertaining to permit, they're…looks like there is some early changes. That's a legislation considered as permit on what the City must give to owners of real property with confirmation of the date of their application when it was received within 20 days to determine its completion and if this city should fail to issue a permit, owners are entitled to compensation for damages within the act. The question through you, Madam Speaker, to the…to Councillor Mayes, in part, I reflected that this affirmed the direction that Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Committee and Council affirmed in many council briefs with respect to ongoing opportunities within the permit office. Does he think so, too? Does he think so, too, Madam Speaker?

Madam Speaker: Thank you, Councillor.

Councillor Mayes: What was the “too” in reference to? Can I get that clarified?

Madam Speaker: Councillor Rollins, if you could restate the question.

Councillor Rollins: That’s fair, Madam Speaker. We've just been here for so long. The…Madam Speaker, substantially I was asking…we've made some amendments including in this budget with respect to the permit office in terms of online and more to come and we've debated that within the committee…

Madam Speaker: The question.

Councillor Rollins: And so does he think that that's sufficient in terms of and in light of the act and is there more to do?

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: I have yet to even look at that. It has been a busy 48 hours. So I will be taking a look at that. I have taken a quick look at the provisions about appeals and land use appeals and landowners only being able to file appeals, which I have to say the lawyer in me kind of questions whether that's compliant with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms to only give a right of appeal to one side. But any definitive comment will be premature. The Province has tabled some pretty sweeping legislation and I decline to comment on it during the break other than to say I’ve always had problems with the way our Appeals Committee here works. So maybe if the Province has brought something new to the table, we should be considering that. Much to review in the next coming weeks and much time to do it, I suspect, at home, but I’ll try to get a better answer than that for Councillor Rollins at the next meeting. I honestly don't have anything to comment on the legislation about permits. The planning appeal's body will be complicated as well, but obviously, these are important questions and we'll take a look at them.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Klein.

Councillor Klein: Thank you, Madam Speaker and through you to Councillor Mayes for having lots of questions about the Property Planning and Development with the COVID issue upon us, I’m wondering if we could find a way to get some information back from the department on whether or not we can extend the deadline on some of the permit applications that may be in waiting right now because they may be affected with the amount of staff they can get and not achieve their deadlines which then would kick in requiring them to reapply and I know yes, I acknowledge that you have a...there's lots of balls in the air with this right now, but I’m just asking, if they could look into that and I also through you, Madam Speaker, I want to agree with Councillor Mayes that that was a great suggestion about looking at the past.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Councillor Mayes.

Councillor Mayes: Yes. I can certainly speak as best I can to the department. Obviously a lot of things are in flux right now with people being asked to work from home or people being reassigned but yeah, happy to talk to Michael Jack who has been remarkably open to all questions that I have had from our City staff so I will try to talk with him and the departmental staff about what can be done, what should be done or maybe some…some delays can be granted that would seem at first blush to make a lot of sense. We don't force people back into a process when they can't get in here for the few weeks. Councillor Klein has raised the planning commission idea many times in his period here and we had an item on the agenda about that. Now we have the Province bringing in some legislation so it does…it is going to force us to look at some of the issues and I think that's actually healthy. So I don't know what exactly the problem says on the table. I’ll take a look at that. But in terms of extending deadlines, I think this is all a work in progress right now, a very serious health crisis obviously, but serious economic impact as well. And we’ll try to do…I’ll try to advise as soon as possible.

Madam Speaker: Thank you. Any further questions? Seeing none, let’s move on to the final committee. The Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services and Parks. The report dated March 4th. Councillor Rollins.

REPORT OF THE
STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND PARKS
DATED MARCH 4, 2020

Councillor Rollins: I would like to introduce the report and move adoption of the Consent Agenda.

Madam Speaker: Okay, we'll move Item 1. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. We'll now have question period under this committee and any questions for Councillor Rollins? Seeing none, that brings our meeting to a close. Councillor Edie, will you move adjournment?

Councillor Eadie: I move adjournment, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Let's have roll call, Madam Clerk.

ROLL CALL

Clerk: Madam Speaker Councillor Sharma, His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Eadie, Gillingham, Gilroy, Klein, Lukes, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos and Schreyer.

Council adjourned at 3:44 p.m.