Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – October 20, 2020

Report - Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks – October 19, 2020

Moved by Councillor

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.

Item No. 6 Library Fines and Fees

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 19, 2020, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks recommended the following to Council:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to waive overdue fines for outstanding library materials and DVD/Blu-Ray account balances to December 31, 2020.

2. That the permanent elimination of fines on overdue library materials be referred to the 2021 Budget Process.

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

Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – October 20, 2020

Report - Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks – October 19, 2020

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 19, 2020, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks passed the following motion:

WHEREAS library fines and fees can be a barrier to basic library access and have a disproportionate effect on youth and low-income households, especially those with children;

AND WHEREAS libraries across North America have adopted fine-free models and are developing policies to support the elimination of late fees and removal of debt for patrons, especially as a measure to address the impact of the global pandemic;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg is committed to improving efficiency and equitable access to service for all citizens.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks recommend to Council that:

1. The Winnipeg Public Service be directed to waive overdue fines for outstanding library materials and DVD/Blu-Ray account balances to December 31, 2020.

2. Refer the permanent elimination of fines on overdue library materials to the 2021 Budget Process.

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