Monday, October 19, 2020

Dear Council Members
Executive Policy Committee, City of Winnipeg

Please accept this submission from the North End BIZ regarding opposition to the by-law amendment imposing the City of Winnipeg BIZ's with funding the Neighbourhood Economic Development Officer position.

The North End BIZ appeared before Lord Selkirk West Kildonan Community Committee on October 6th, 2020.

From the current City of Winnipeg website it indicates there are over **5000** levied businesses within the 16 Business Improvement Zones. On November 27th and December 5th the delegations and submissions listed on the Agenda, speaking in opposition of reduced BIZ capital funding and/or in opposition to the elimination of the NEDO position and/or the City budget were numerous on the Agenda, however I am only referring to the letters from BIZ's and levied BIZ members.

- Submissions & Delegations from the BIZ representatives (10) and levied business members (4).

Katia von Stackelberg, on behalf of the BIZ's and Corydon BIZ
South Osborne BIZ, Stephanie Voyce, on behalf of the Board of Directors
Joe Kornelson, Executive Assistant, West End BIZ
Councilor Eadie and the Board of Directs, Selkirk BIZ
David Pensato, Executive Director, Exchange BIZ
Sarah Atnikov, Executive Director, West Broadway BIZ
Brian Timmerman, Coordinator, Saint Norbert BIZ
Brent Thomas, Board President, Transcona BIZ
Kate Fenske, CEO, Downtown BIZ
Jennifer Mathieson, Norwood Grove BIZ

Bewy Teyems' Custom Picture Framing, 585 St. Mary's Road.
Kristina Porturica, Rituals Hair and Skin, Old St. Vital BIZ board member
Miles Gould (multiple business owner with locations in two BIZ's)
Barry Hoepner and Gloria Cardwell-Hoeppner, business owners

We have also submitted the motion made at our September 23rd, 2020 board meeting, in opposition of funding the NEDO position.

Respectfully,

Astrid Lichti
On behalf of the Board of Directors
North End Business Improvement Zone

September 23, 2020

North End BIZ, Board of Directors Meeting

Motion:

That the North End Business Improvement Zone **requests that the City of Winnipeg rescind the motion made March 6, 2020**, that:

*… Council amend the Business Improvement Zone Procedures Bylaw 8111/2002 to reflect that **Business Improvement Zones**, commencing with their 2021 budget, **must allocate funds to offset a portion of the costs of the Neighbourhood Economic Development Officer** and that the allocation of this cost to individual Business Improvement Zones be based on (adjusted) annual rental value.*

WHEREAS

1. The motion did not take into consideration that representation at the special meeting November 27, 2019 was not representative of the business community (levied businesses) but of BIZ administrators and Executive Directors and;

2. The cost of this position is first an internal budget item of the Planning, Property and Development department, and secondary a budget item of the City of Winnipeg and the North End BIZ indicated it was not paying for a Civic salary position to act as a support to the BIZ and:

3. The City of Winnipeg business community already contributes in excess of 65 million dollars per year in businesses taxes and biz levies and;

4. This type of levied arrangement was labeled by PP&D “as unique” without precedent and;

5. The consultation(s) of the possible **options** to determine cost to the BIZ’s was to be held **after** the motion was made and;

6. Proper consultation has not been possible with the levied business community members due to COVID and there will continue to be a erosion of the business community due to COVID related economics and;

7. The City of Winnipeg completed an internal audit (Sept. 2020) of the Osborne Village *Biz of its activities over the last 4 years; and*

8. The City of Winnipeg Audit Plan for 2020 includes a review of all the BIZs.

- Eileen Shewchuk, Seconded Robert McDonald, Carried unanimously.