Minute No. 618
Report - Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks – October 19, 2020

Item No. 6 Library Fines and Fees

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks and adopted the following:

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.

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

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Rollins,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks be adopted.

Moved by Councillor Klein,

That the matter be laid over to the Council meeting on November 26, 2020.

Councillor Rollins called for the yeas and nays which were as follows:

Yea: Councillors Chambers, Gillingham, Klein, Lukes, Nason, and Sharma 6

Nay: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Eadie, Gilroy, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos and Schreyer 10

and the motion to lay over the matter to the November 26, 2020 Council meeting was declared lost.

Moved by Councillor Nason,
Seconded by Councillor Klein,

BE IT RESOLVED that Item 6 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks be referred to the Winnipeg Public Service for report back with a detailed cost estimate on the cost to the City.

His Worship Mayor Bowman called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Yea: Councillors Chambers, Gillingham, Klein, Nason, Schreyer and Sharma 6

Nay: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Eadie, Gilroy, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, and Santos 9

and the motion moved by Councillor Nason and seconded by Councillor Klein was declared lost.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

The motion for the adoption of recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks was put.

Councillor Eadie called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Yea: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Eadie, Gilroy, Mayes, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos, Schreyer and Sharma 10

Nay: Councillors Browaty, Chambers, Gillingham, Klein and Nason. 5

and the motion for the adoption of the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks was declared carried.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On October 20, 2020, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks and submitted the matter to Council.

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.

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

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

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.