Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – March 17, 2021

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Finance – March 12, 2021

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. 1 Waiver of Temporary Patio Fee

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 12, 2021, the Standing Policy Committee on Finance submitted the following to Council:

1. That the current $500.00 processing fee to register Temporary Summer Patios for 2021 be waived.

2. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to issue refunds to any establishments that have already paid this fee for the 2021 summer season.

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 – March 17, 2021

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 12, 2021, the Standing Policy Committee on Finance submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

Moved by Councillor Gillingham,

WHEREAS in an effort to assist restaurants that have been financially impacted by COVID-19 health restrictions the City of Winnipeg waived the patio fee in 2020;

AND WHEREAS the 2021 City of Winnipeg adopted budget includes measures to assist businesses, including restaurants, dealing with the financial impacts of COVID-19, including an Economic Support Grant Program, waiving penalties on 2021 property and business taxes that remain unpaid for up to three months and an increase to the business tax threshold;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg is offering an expedited process to allow for restaurants and licensed manufacturers with tasting rooms to establish temporary patio spaces;

AND WHEREAS the city is currently collecting a reduced fee of $500.00 for the registration of Temporary Summer Patios;

AND WHEREAS restaurants are still experiencing negative financial impacts of COVID-19 health restrictions and the City of Winnipeg can assist restaurants by waiving the fee for Temporary Summer Patios for the 2021 summer season;

AND WHEREAS waiving the $500 Temporary Summer Patio fee will result in a minimal loss of revenue to the City of Winnipeg of $32,000 in 2021 that can be offset with savings in other areas of the Department.;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Standing Policy Committee on Finance recommend that Council waive the current $500.00 processing fee to register Temporary Summer Patios for 2021 and direct the Public Service to issue refunds to any establishments that have already paid this fee for the 2021 summer season.