Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – March 17, 2021

REPORTS

Item No. 13 Monthly Rebate of the Accommodation Tax

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE DECISION:

The Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Assiniboia Community Committee and directed the Winnipeg Public Service to report back within 60 days on the following:

1. A grant to all establishments including hotels, motels and inns, which are required to collect an Accommodation Tax for the City of Winnipeg, equal to 50% of the value of the Accommodation Tax, to be provided on a monthly basis in 2021.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Gillingham,

That the recommendation of the Assiniboia Community Committee be concurred in.

Yea:	Bowman, Allard, Browaty, Gillingham, Gilroy, Mayes, Rollins	7
Nay:		0

Carried

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 3, 2021, the Assiniboia Community Committee passed the following motion:

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has devastated the hotel and hospitality industry as travel and gathering restrictions have resulted in extremely low occupancy rates and a dramatic drop in revenue;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government recently announced that the next property tax assessment cycle will begin in 2023, and that hotel property taxes will remain to be based on a value of reference date of April 1, 2018, prior to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic;

AND WHEREAS assessments which do not capture the drastic drop in 2020 revenues, and the expected continued declining values in 2021 will further negatively impact the hotel industry;

AND WHEREAS the hotel industry is also forced to collect an Accommodation Tax on behalf of the City of Winnipeg, from individuals renting hotels rooms;

AND WHERAS further support is needed for the hotel industry in Winnipeg in order to maintain this vital part of the City's economy and labour market;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Policy Committee be requested to direct the Winnipeg Public Service to report back within 60 days on the following:

1. A grant to all establishments including hotels, motels and inns, which are required to collect an Accommodation Tax for the City of Winnipeg, equal to 50% of the value of the Accommodation Tax, to be provided on a monthly basis in 2021.