Minute No. 355
Report – Executive Policy Committee – April 21, 2021

Item No. 2 **Request for Review of Contracts Awarded to Tree Pruning Service Providers**

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee, as amended, and adopted the following:

1. That in order to reassure the local business community that the City's procurement process is fair and unbiased, that the City Auditor as part of the 2022 Annual Audit Plan be directed to review all contracts awarded to tree pruning service providers from October 2019 thru December 2021, to ensure the contracts were awarded in accordance with city regulations, and report back to Council with the results.

Report – Executive Policy Committee – April 21, 2021

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Bowman,
That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted.

In amendment,
Moved by Councillor Nason,
Seconded by Councillor Klein,

BE IT RESOLVED Item 2 of the Executive Policy Committee report dated April 21, 2021, be amended by deleting Recommendation 1 and replacing it with the following:

1. That in order to reassure the local business community that the City's procurement process is fair and unbiased, that the City Auditor as part of the 2022 Annual Audit Plan be directed to review all contracts awarded to tree pruning service providers from October 2019 thru December 2021, to ensure the contracts were awarded in accordance with city regulations, and report back to Council with the results.

The motion for the adoption of the amendment was put.

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

Yea: Councillors Eadie, Gillingham, Gilroy, Klein, Lukes, Nason, Santos, Schreyer and Sharma 9

Nay: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Mayes, Orlikow and Rollins 7

and the motion for the adoption of the amendment was declared carried.

The motion for the adoption of the Item, as amended, was put.

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

Yea: Councillors Eadie, Gillingham, Gilroy, Klein, Lukes, Nason, Santos, Schreyer and Sharma 9

Nay: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Mayes, Orlikow and Rollins 7

and the motion for the adoption of the Item, as amended, was declared carried.

Report – Executive Policy Committee – April 21, 2021

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On April 21, 2021, the Executive Policy Committee submitted to Council that the Council Motion of March 25, 2021 be received as information.

COUNCIL DECISION:

On March 25, 2021, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee:

Moved by Councillor Nason,
Seconded by Councillor Klein,

WHEREAS in October of 2019, the City of Winnipeg experienced a significant weather event which damaged up to 10 percent of the city's tree canopy, and left parts of the city littered with downed trees and broken branches;

AND WHEREAS in order to address the clean up as quickly as possible, the city engaged the generous assistance of other cities across the country and local contractors were procured for debris management;

AND WHEREAS tree pruning industry experts have recently expressed concern over the process in the awarding of substantial bid opportunities to tree pruning contractors and their sub-contractors, whom fail to provide the required safety and certification documentation of the bid opportunities within a Five (5) day timeframe;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in order to reassure the local business community that the City's procurement process is fair and unbiased, the City Auditor be directed to review all contracts awarded to tree pruning service providers since October of 2019, to ensure the contracts were awarded in accordance with city regulations, and report back to Council within 120 days with the results.