Minute No. 653
Report – Executive Policy Committee – September 21, 2021

Item No. 19 Vaccine Requirement for Council and Political Staff

COUNCIL DECISION:

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

1. That a COVID-19 vaccination requirement for elected officials and their staff, within a timeframe that mirrors the City of Winnipeg staff vaccine requirement, be enacted.

2. That all Members of Council and political staff to all Members of Council are expected to be fully immunized by November 15, 2021, which means they must receive their first vaccine dose no later than September 30th and their second dose no later than October 28th in order to be fully immunized by November 15th.

3. That Council make accommodations for any Member of Council or political staff that are not vaccinated to work remotely.

4. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

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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,

WHEREAS Item 19 of the September 21, 2022 report of the Executive Policy Committee proposes to enact a vaccine requirement for City Councillors and political staff to City Councillors;

AND WHEREAS the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee does not include the Mayor or Mayor's Office staff;

AND WHEREAS any such requirement should include all Members of Council and their political staff, not just City Councillors.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Item 19 of the September 21, 2022 report of the Executive Policy Committee be referred to the Governance Committee of Council for further review and discussion, to ensure all Members of Council and political staff are included in the vaccine requirement.

With the concurrence of the seconder, Councillor Klein and with the permission of Council, Councillor Nason withdrew the motion.

In amendment,
Moved by Councillor Rollins,
Seconded by His Worship Mayor Bowman,

BE IT RESOLVED that Item 19 of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee dated September 21, 2021 be amended as follows:

- In Recommendation 2 delete "City Councillors" and replace with "all Members of Council"

- In Recommendation 3, delete "City Councillor" and replace with "Member of Council"

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

The motion for the adoption of the amendment moved by Councillor Rollins and seconded by His Worship Mayor Bowman was put and declared carried.

Councillor Santos asked to be recorded as having voted against the amendment in accordance with Rule 47(7) of the Procedure Bylaw.

The motion for the adoption of the item as amended was put.

At the request of Councillor Santos and in accordance with Rule 20 of the Procedure By-law No. 50/2007, the Speaker advised that Recommendations 1, 2, 3, and 4 would be voted on separately.

Councillor Chambers called for the yeas and nays on the vote for the adoption of the four Recommendations:

The motion for the adoption of Recommendation 1. was put.

Yea: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Eadie, Gillingham, Gilroy, Klein, Lukes, Mayes, Nason, Orlikow, Rollins, Schreyer and Sharma. 15

Nay: Councillor Santos 1

and the motion for the adoption of Recommendation 1. was declared carried.

The motion for the adoption of Recommendation 2, as amended, was put.

Yea: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Eadie, Gillingham, Gilroy, Klein, Lukes, Mayes, Nason, Orlikow, Rollins, Schreyer and Sharma. 15

Nay: Councillor Santos 1

and the motion for the adoption of Recommendation 2, as amended, was declared carried.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

The motion for the adoption of Recommendation 3, as amended, was put.

Yea: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Eadie, Gillingham, Gilroy, Klein, Lukes, Mayes, Nason, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos Schreyer and Sharma. 16

Nay: 0

and the motion for the adoption of Recommendation 3, as amended. was declared carried.

The motion for the adoption of Recommendation 4. was put.

Yea: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Eadie, Gillingham, Gilroy, Klein, Lukes, Mayes, Nason, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos Schreyer and Sharma. 16

Nay: 0

and the motion for the adoption of Recommendation 4. was declared carried.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On September 21, 2021, the Executive Policy Committee passed the following motion:

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg has now instituted a COVID-19 vaccine requirement for those working in public safety, community protection, recreation services, public transportation, and public-facing customer service roles;

AND WHEREAS this program only applies to city employees, and does not apply to elected officials or members of their political staff;

AND WHEREAS at City Hall, many public servants support the public facing political work in service roles such as Clerk's Office and technical and administrative support;

AND WHEREAS City Councillors, as municipal leaders, have an obligation to protect the health and safety of all residents they serve and should do all things possible to prevent needless hospitalizations and burden on the health care system and community;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Policy Committee recommend to Council:

1. That a COVID-19 vaccination requirement for elected officials and their staff, within a timeframe that mirrors the City of Winnipeg staff vaccine requirement, be enacted.

2. That City Councillors and political staff to City Councillors are expected to be fully immunized by November 15, 2021, which means they must receive their first vaccine dose no later than September 30th and their second dose no later than October 28th in order to be fully immunized by November 15th.

3. That Council make accommodations for any City Councillor or political staff that are not vaccinated to work remotely.

4. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.