Agenda – Council – November 25, 2021

Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment - Notice of Motion

Item No. 1 United Nations Race to Zero Campaign

Moved by His Worship Mayor Bowman,
Seconded by Councillor Orlikow,

WHEREAS Canada is facing a climate emergency, be it wildfires, flooding or heat waves, the country is experiencing the climate crisis in cities firsthand, and action is needed;

AND WHEREAS recognizing the urgency of the climate crisis, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Big City Mayors' Caucus (BCMC) committed to acting to keep global warming to below the 1.5 degrees Celsius goal of the Paris Agreement, which means reducing global emissions to zero or net-zero by 2050 at the latest;

AND WHEREAS in advance of the upcoming United Nations Climate Change Conference COP26, BCMC declared support for the Cities Race to Zero pledge as part of the United Nation's Race to Zero campaign and urged all Canadian cities to join Cities Race to Zero;

AND WHEREAS the Race to Zero is a United Nations campaign to rally leadership and support from businesses, cities, regions, investors for a healthy, resilient, zero carbon recovery that prevents future threats, creates jobs, and inclusive, sustainable growth;

AND WHEREAS acknowledging that climate change is a serious global challenge, the City of Winnipeg developed a community climate action plan, an initiative called Winnipeg's Climate Action Plan: Planning for Climate Change, Acting for People;

AND WHEREAS the Plan outlines the City of Winnipeg and the broader community's commitment to work together. It provides a framework to proactively, meaningfully and effectively mitigate climate change by reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions setting the goal of achieving an 80% reduction by 2050;

AND WHEREAS the City also initiated a GHG emissions reduction modeling and financial analysis project called The Community Energy Investment Roadmap which will forecast energy use and emissions, and provide an estimation of the costs and benefits of implementing actions needed to meet climate targets;

AND WHEREAS PlanWinnipeg 2045 set out to meet and exceed greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets of 20 percent by 2030, relative to 2011, and net zero by 2050, by working towards partnerships with the community, businesses, and government bodies including Indigenous, Federal and Provincial governments;

Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment - Notice of Motion (continued):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. That Council place on record its support for the United Nations Race to Zero campaign.

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