Minute No. 458
Executive Policy Committee – Notice of Motion

Item No. 1 Authority for the Submission of Intergovernmental Grant Applications

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the motion, as amended, and adopted the following:

1. That the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to report back to Council within 120 days with recommendations for a process to be utilized when external grant funding opportunities are announced and/or created, including:

    A. How and when Council members can receive timely information of the funding opportunities.

    B. How the Public Service will proceed in circumstances where application deadlines are occurring before specific Council direction can reasonably be obtained.

    C. How the Public Service will proceed in circumstances where application deadlines provide sufficient time for feedback and direction to be received from Council.

    D. Any other information required to complete a framework for decision-making in such circumstances.

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Mayes,
Seconded by Councillor Lukes,

WHEREAS Councillors were advised by email from the Winnipeg Public Service at 5:54 pm on June 18, 2020 that the Province had announced on June 5, 2020 that funding applications were welcomed under the Disaster Prevention and Climate Resiliency Program, with a deadline of June 19, 2020, and City Administration stated that it "will submit" certain projects, leaving Council no opportunity to vote on the projects prior to submission;

AND WHEREAS Councillors were advised by email at 3:50 pm on July 14, 2021 from the Winnipeg Public Service, four minutes after adjournment of the July 14, 2021 Executive Policy Committee meeting, that the Winnipeg Public Service would be submitting the City's list of projects under the Federal Government's Canada Community Revitalization Fund with a July 23, 2021 deadline, leaving Council no opportunity to vote on the projects prior to submission unless a 2/3 majority of Council agreed to suspend the rules to add it to the Council agenda;

AND WHEREAS Councillors were advised by email at 3:29 pm on March 30, 2022 that the Federal Government had announced on January 29, 2022 that applications were open under the "Active Transportation Fund", with a deadline of March 31, 2022, and that the Winnipeg Public Service would be submitting the City's list of projects, leaving Council no opportunity to vote on the projects prior to submission;

AND WHEREAS Councillors were not consulted about the proposed list of projects for any of these three funding opportunities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That for any Federal or Provincial granting opportunities where the amount being requested from the applicable fund is greater than $100,000 (considering all City proposals taken together, not for each separate application), the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to first obtain approval from Council.

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

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

In amendment,
Moved by Councillor Mayes,
Seconded by Councillor Lukes,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Notice of Motion under the Executive Policy Committee titled "Authority for the Submission of Intergovernmental Grant Applications" be amended as follows:

- Delete Recommendation 1 in its entirety and replace it with the following:

1. That the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to report back to Council within 120 days with recommendations for a process to be utilized when external grant funding opportunities are announced and/or created, including:

    A. How and when Council members can receive timely information of the funding opportunities.

    B. How the Public Service will proceed in circumstances where application deadlines are occurring before specific Council direction can reasonably be obtained.

    C. How the Public Service will proceed in circumstances where application deadlines provide sufficient time for feedback and direction to be received from Council.

    D. Any other information required to complete a framework for decision-making in such circumstances.

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

The motion for the adoption of the item, as amended, was put and declared carried.