Minute No. 588
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment – June 7, 2022

Item No. 4 Regulations for the Implementation of Grey Water Capture and Treatment Systems in Single and Multi-Family Residences

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment, and adopted the following:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to Council in 180 days on the requirements to allow for the installation of grey water capture and treatment systems in single and multi-family residences, via a permit approved process.

2. 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 Councillor Mayes,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 15, 2022, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 7, 2022, the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment concurred in the Council Motion of May 26, 2022, with the following amendment:

- In Recommendation 1, add the words “in 180 days” after the words “report back to Council”

and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

Josh Friesen submitted a communication dated June 6, 2022 in support of the matter.

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COUNCIL DECISION:

On May 26, 2022, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Water and Waste, Riverbank Management and the Environment:

Moved by Councillor Nason,
Seconded by Councillor Klein,

WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg published a document under the title of Sustainable Water and Waste where it indicated it will consider water recycling/reuse technologies such as grey-water and rainwater harvesting as an efficient way to maximize, supplement and protect its existing water supply;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg further indicated that Water use efficiency has the potential to reduce hydraulic loads on existing infrastructure by reducing flows;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg further indicated that any undertaking in support of grey water recycling/reuse technologies with the following considerations, must be safe for public

health, particularly in regards to possible cross-connection with the potable water supply, comply with all building codes, regulations and by-laws, and be subject to inspections and enforcement;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg has experienced multiple environmental negative releases of partial and non-diluted sewage in the Spring of 2022 that is simply unacceptable without additional corrective measures to support environmental stewardship;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to Council on the requirements to allow for the installation of grey water capture and treatment systems in single and multi-family residences, via a permit approved process.

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